



Hamlin Memorial United Methodist Church

March 22, 2020

4th Sunday of Lent

Call to Worship Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

All: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,

Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,

All: but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Song of Praise "Forever"

Prayer of Illumination

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- ◆ We ask for your healing for those who are sick
- ◆ Be with those who are struggling in their relationships, employment, or finances
- ◆ Give wisdom to our leaders who make difficult decisions
- ◆ We pray for the oppressed of our community, state, nation and of the world

The Lord's Prayer—*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.*

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we

forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Assurance and Confession: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Pardon: Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Offering— "We Are the Church"

Please remember to come by the church office or mail in a check for this weeks offering.

Scripture Reading Psalm 137:1-6

A Moment of Reflection "The Time Is Now" Pastor Joe

Hymn of Invitation "Blest Be the Ties that Bind"

Benediction

**Pastor : Rev Dr Joe MacDonald Liturgist Cazandra Campos-MacDonald
WORSHIP TEAM : Robin Gregory, Jack Kirkland, Megan Terry.**

A Word From the Pastor

Since the creation of humankind, one of God's deepest longings is to be connected with people in a relationship that endures through the ages. Unfortunately, human beings are prone to abandon their relationship with God at the first sign of trouble: whether trouble takes the form of a serpent in the garden, or a sickness across the globe.

Yet no matter the circumstances, God has always worked to bring people back into a relationship. When Jesus came to earth, the world finally got to see God, talk to God, and touch God in ways that they had never experienced before. Jesus came to show the world that God was real, and is really with us in the midst of our suffering and struggles.

This worship service was designed to help our church members remember that the presence of Jesus Christ is with us, no matter where we are. More specifically, this guide was developed to address the call to limit social gatherings due to the pandemic outbreak of COVID-19.

As members of the household of God, we know how difficult it is to have to change our normal routines, and have to keep a social distance from the people we love and serve in our families, congregations, and communities. Like you, we look forward to the time when life will "go back to normal."

In the meantime, we have come to appreciate how these circumstances created an opportunity for us to strengthen our personal connection and relationship with God, and with our loved ones in our own homes. Therefore, we created this guide for you to use in your own home, so that you and your family (and perhaps a neighbor or two) can stay connected to God and one another in worship.

With Christian Love and Grace,

Pastor Joe

Important Numbers and Website Information

Church Website—<http://hamlinmemorialumc.org>

Church E-mail—hamlinmemorialumc@gmail.com

Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/hamlinmemorialumc/>

Church Phone Number—806-481-3689

Information through text—Freida Neie 575-760-7890

Psalm 137:1-6

*Alongside Babylon's streams,
there we sat down,
crying because we remembered Zion.*

*2 We hung our lyres up
in the trees there*

*3 because that's where our captors asked us to sing;
our tormentors requested songs of joy:
"Sing us a song about Zion!" they said.*

*4 But how could we possibly sing
the Lord's song on foreign soil?*

*5 Jerusalem! If I forget you,
let my strong hand wither!*

*6 Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth
if I don't remember you,
if I don't make Jerusalem my greatest joy.*

(CEB)