

## TUMC Worshiping Together on Sunday March 29, 2020

Rev. Amy Overton-Harris

*I want to remind you that churches have been closed for all activities through April 30. The Bishop reminds us that this closure includes outdoor worship as well. It is vital for us to take this and the stay at home order very seriously as the risk grows every day.*

Randy Byers shares this on the coronavirus:

The point is not will I become sick from the coronavirus by moving around in my community. The real point is if I become sick from the coronavirus, I will have spread it to others and used up valuable resources that are needed to save the lives of others who became ill doing tasks that are vital to our community and society. The big point here is we live in a community where the way we live impacts not only our immediate family and friends but our country and our world. So please self-isolate as much as possible so others my live.

Dear Friends,

May the blessing of God, the love of Christ and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you this day.

### Opening Song

Click this link for the song "Ancient Words"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPz-6SfrloU>

### Opening Prayer

We pray for our communities -that snapshot of humanity with all ages, backgrounds, education, employment status, politics and religious viewpoint who are our neighbors in the streets where we live.

We pray for all of them; not only those we know by name and chat to through the day, but also less familiar faces about whom we know so little and pass by with just a smile. All in need of your love at this time.

Bless their homes and families, and let your love and peace so shine within this community that smiles turn to conversations, and strangers become friends. We pray this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen

As always we are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers.

THIS WEEK:

- Wes Tanac and family on the passing of his Father.
- Mildred Wells as she suffers with debilitating back pain.
- Monte Harrell and family with water damage at home.
- Any who are suffering with the Covid 19 virus.
- Health Care and essential workers.
- Those who have lost their jobs and businesses.
- Those who have inadequate housing and resources.
- Those who work remotely from home.
- Parents who are homeschooling.
- Teachers who are distance teaching.
- Children who can't see why life is different for now.

**(please send any additional prayer requests to Amy)**





Hal Gerard - I Lift  
My Eyes Up - Take 2.



^ double click on square above Hal's name for the prayer song he wrote, sang and mixed for us. What a gift for our prayers each day.



Some things we are thankful for: (please send me additional things you know about)

- Neighbors who are giving gift cards to those in need.
- The guy down my street who is handing out toilet paper and cleaning supplies.
- Restaurants giving out free food.
- Companies shifting production to make more medical supplies.
- Those who are donating hundreds of thousands of pounds of food to food banks.
- Donations in the millions for disaster relief and emergency grants.
- A Providence Hospital Board member who donated 2 million for equipment and supplies.
- For the thousands of volunteers sewing masks for covid-19 patients and health care workers.

**Good for your Soul:**

- \*Go outside your house several times a day and breathe deeply.
- \*Wave to your neighbors.
- \*Call a friend each day.
- \*Listen to music that feeds your soul.
- \*Don't binge on every news item.
- \*Send a card to someone every day.
- \*Stay HOME and Stay SAFE, we will get through this together.





### **And let us join together in the Lord's Prayer:**

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed by 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For  
thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  
Amen



After long and detailed work, Sherris Harrell just finished this cross stitch. As she laid it out, it occurred to her that this sentiment and sign of spring is an answer to prayer. Indeed... Let your Faith be bigger than your fears.

### **Scripture for Today: Luke 4:16-19**

<sup>16</sup>He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: <sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the LORD is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor."

### **Reflections from Rev. Amy**

*At this very moment, I am looking at the newspaper for today. Yes! We still get a hardcopy newspaper, my husband Tim, just CAN'T give it up! My kids say "Dad, you are so old!" Ha haa. He takes it in stride, while putting the newspaper up to cover his face.*

*Here is what strikes me in the newspaper today, advertisements! Tons of things are being advertised. Now of course, I realize that these places of business set these ads to be run quite some time ago, and it funds the newspaper business, but it got me thinking. While we are all at home for the time being, I can't help but notice how my definition of what is essential is changing. Of course, in addition to being at home, we are worried and afraid of what each day will bring. So frankly, I don't really care about:*

***" a free 24inch Barre Shelf with Teak Tray with an installation of a Walk-In bath"  
or a "free estimate and in-home demonstration of Leaf Guard Gutters,  
complete with a 99cent installation charge".***

*I am not trying to dump on these particular companies, I am sure that they have quality people and products. And at the same time, it is clear to me that I don't care about those things 'RIGHT NOW'. I can only imagine that for the vast majority of us, our priorities in life have become very clear to us. And bathtubs and new gutters are likely not on our list.*

*My family, my friends, my church folk..... all so dear to me and truly the priority at the moment. My doctor son, Petter, on the front lines in the emergency room at Hennepin County*

*Hospital in Minneapolis, my RN sister-in-law with a full patient load at Providence Portland..... My guess is that each one of us could easily create a substantial list of people for whom we hope and pray each day.*

*In our Scripture passage for today, Jesus heads to his home town and stands before the congregation in the Temple. And he lays out his calling, what is essential to him:*

*<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the LORD is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor."*

*Jesus surely knows about how much we love our family, friends, faith communities, but he also makes clear that our calling also includes ALL the people. Especially those who tend to get left behind to fend for themselves. The poor, the prisoners, the blind, the oppressed.....*

*It was shocking and disheartening to me that the federal 'stimulus' aid package got held up by some US senators proposing doing less for low-income workers.*

*"Their goal was a cruel motive "to block trillions of dollars in aid amid the corona virus pandemic to deprive low wage workers of needed help." "And 3.3 million Americans applied for unemployment benefits were dismissed a 'not relevant' by Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin." (Oregonian)*

*Now truly, I have been told on a number of occasions," to stop being a bleeding-heart for others when we should just take care of our own." (quote from my brother.) I believe in the calling of Jesus in our lives. And I believe that "our own" is the ALL of creation.*

*God's power and love are most clearly seen in what we do for and with others. It shines when it builds people up, when our love, resources and actions help everyone, especially the least among us. The chief power of Jesus is to declare that God sees ALL of us, not just those that "the world" sees as important. We all count, we all matter.*

*Our calling is about the common good. We have an opportunity in the midst of this time, to see, not what is mine, but what is ours, not that my cupboard is full, but that yours is too. Let us ponder this Scripture and calling in our hearts as we listen to this incredible music by Anthem Lights.*

*Peace and grace be with you all,  
Rev. Amy*

**Click the blue link below** for this medley by Anthem Lights:

*"Amazing Grace, Be Thou My Vision, Come Thou Fount"*

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=worship+song+%22Be+Thou+My+Vision%22+with+upbeat+music&docid=608028121542233255&mid=203AD9A841850456338C203AD9A841850456338C&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

### **Offering time**

Although we are not gathered together in one space, we invite you to continue your gracious offerings to our congregation. There are several options while we are apart. You can use Automatic Bill Pay which you can set up with your bank. Tim and I use this option and it is very convenient, our monthly pledge is mailed from the bank directly to the church. Of course, you can always send a check snail mail if you wish. Those of you who would like to donate electronically, our treasurer Wes Tanac, has the electronic giving option set up on our web site ([www.tualatinumc.org](http://www.tualatinumc.org))

find this button [DONATE CLICK HERE](#) TO DONATE ON LINE. **Tim and I just made our extra offering using this method. It worked GREAT!**

Thank you so much for your generosity for the life of our church family, staff, and our ongoing ministry together. With your help we will be able to make employee payroll for the month of April. Bless you.



My daughter sent me a postcard with these words:

"Good things are still to come in your life.

Have faith, keep your head, check on your people,

Keep watch over the world, and we will all get through this."

And from my grandchild, Ithilien

The front of the postcard read:

"if you look closely you will see, Hope is close and love is near.

And kindness can be found in all seasons."

And he wrote:

"You are safe, we are safe. I miss you, see you soon!"

#### **Closing Prayer:**

May the blessing of God give us strength for this journey.

May the Spirit of wisdom give us vision for the road ahead.

May the love of Christ make us caring companions as we are

Together in Spirit and Love.

*Melinda Beyers will send additional worship music in another email.*

*Special thanks to all our Musicians: Melinda, Kathy, Hal and Dan*