



UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 18, 2020 | 10:30 a.m.

Pastor - Reverend Michelle Mejia



Job and His Friends by Ilya Repin (1869)

Order of Worship - Streaming Service

WE GATHER FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

Gathering Music

It Is Well with My Soul
Bev Babcock - Organ

Welcome Message

Call to Worship

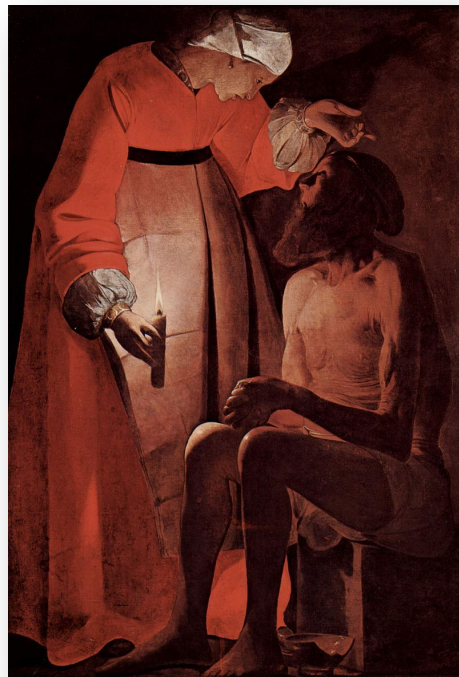
Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Blessed is the one who delights in God!
For the LORD gives wisdom;
from God's mouth come knowledge and understanding.
How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!
We come to worship seeking wisdom,
seeking understanding,
seeking God's way with humility
that we might live our lives with love and compassion.
Give us the wisdom, O Lord, to ask questions
and to question overly simple answers.
Give us the wisdom to embrace your mystery
as we worship. Amen

Verse 1

He leadeth me, O blessed thought
O words with heavenly comfort fraught
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me
He leadeth me, he leadeth me
By his own hand he leadeth me
His faithful follower I would be
For by his hand he leadeth me

Verse 3

Lord, I would place my hand in thine
Nor ever murmur nor repine
Content, whatever lot I see
Since 'tis thine hand that leadeth me
He leadeth me, he leadeth me
By his own hand he leadeth me
His faithful follower I would be
For by his hand he leadeth me



Job and His Wife By Georges de La Tour - The Yorck Project (2002)

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 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul.
Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding
that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.**



By Miltongoh.net

Scripture

NRSV

Our scripture lesson today begins with a summary of the beginning of the book of Job, which will then go into the scripture readings.

Once there was a man named Job who lived in the land named Uz. He was blameless and upright in the eyes of God. He had seven sons and three daughters and seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and many servants. Job was so extremely righteous that he even rose early in the morning to offer extra offerings on behalf of his family, in case one of his children had sinned and cursed God in their hearts.

One day, the heavenly beings presented themselves before the Lord, and the satan came too. The Lord, apparently quite proud of Job, said to the satan, the adversary, "Have you seen my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil."

The satan said, "Well, of course. Look how good his life is! You have blessed the work of his hand, and his possessions have increased in the word. But I tell you...stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord agreed to allow the satan to test Job.

First his oxen and his donkeys were carried off by another group of people, who also killed the servants with them.

Next, fire fell from the heavens and burned up his sheep and more servants.

Then his camels and another group of servants were killed by another group of people.

Just as he received that news, another messenger appeared and told him that his children had all been together when a great wind caused the house they were in to fall in on them, and they had all died.

And Job still worshiped and praised God.

Then the satan covered his body with painful sores, and Job sat among the ashes. Soon three friends heard of his troubles, and they came to console and comfort him. When they saw Job they barely recognized him and wept. They tore their garments and sat with Job on the ground for seven days, not speaking a word to Job, because they could see he was in excruciating pain.

Later, however, the friends have a lot to say.

Here is a reading of the speeches from two of his friends (Job 4:1-2, 7-9 and Job 8:3-7)

Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

²“If one ventures a word with you, will you be offended?

But who can keep from speaking?

“Think now, who that was innocent ever perished?

Or where were the upright cut off?

⁸As I have seen, those who plow iniquity
and sow trouble reap the same.

⁹By the breath of God they perish,
and by the blast of his anger they are consumed.



Marc Chagall – *Job's Despair*; Biblical lithograph

Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:

³ Does God pervert justice?

Or does the Almighty pervert the right?

⁴ If your children sinned against him,
he delivered them into the power of their transgression.

⁵ If you will seek God
and make supplication to the Almighty

⁶ if you are pure and upright,
surely then he will rouse himself for you
and restore to you your rightful place.

⁷ Though your beginning was small,
your latter days will be very great.

Hear now one of Job's responses (Job 12:1-5)

12 Then Job answered:

² "No doubt you are the people,
and wisdom will die with you.

³ But I have understanding as well as you;
I am not inferior to you.
Who does not know such things as these?

⁴ I am a laughingstock to my friends;
I, who called upon God and he answered me,
a just and blameless man, I am a laughingstock.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Michelle Mejia



Prayers

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Giving of our Gifts *If you haven't already done so, we hope you'll share your gifts.

Music Ministry

Prelude in G
Beth Ann Zinkievich – Organ

Bach

Doxology

UMH #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn of Service

There Is a Balm in Gilead

UMH #375

*There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin sick soul.*

Sometimes I feel discouraged
And think my work's in vain
But then the Holy Spirit
Revives my soul again.



*There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin sick soul.*

Don't ever feel discouraged,
For Jesus is your friend,
And if you look for knowledge
He'll ne'er refuse to lend.

*There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin sick soul.*

If you can't preach like Peter
If you can't pray like Paul
Just tell the love of Jesus
And say He died for all.

*There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin sick soul.*



Passing of the Peace

Blessing

Postlude

Shalom to You

UMH #666

Beverly Babcock –Organ

**To share your offering, you may use this link: <https://www.uumcp.org/electronic-giving>*

Another option is to mail your offering to the church office:

3621 Campus Drive | College Park, MD 20740

Opening prayer written by Emily Berkowitz. Worship flowers donated by Frances and David Notley; arrangement created by Marie Venero.

Favorite Scripture

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?*

Micah 6:8

Micah 6:8, is one of Julie Ponting's favorite scriptures. Julie says, "God's instructions mention **justice**, **kindness**, and **humility**. If we live by these instructions, we can make the world a better place. It's a responsibility but also a reassurance, because we walk with God — not behind him or ahead of him, but side by side. And if we look ahead to the New Testament, we see the perfect embodiment of all three qualities in Jesus.



While on a school trip to NYC with one of my kids many years ago, the tour bus passed by a building on 5th Avenue, facing Central Park. Just above the first floor, the last part of Micah 6:8 is inscribed ("walk humbly with thy God) and serves as a testament to all who pass by there. I loved that... smack in the middle of the chaos of this huge city, a public reminder of what God expects of us, and a verse to use as a daily reminder of how to live a good life."



Anonymous Byzantine illustration. The [pre-incarnate](#) Christ speaks to Job

Announcements – October 18, 2020

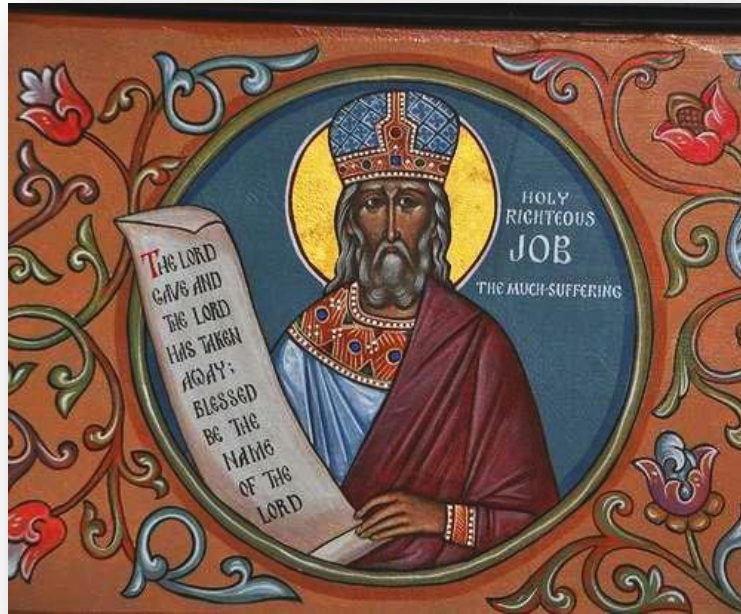
Inspired: Falling in love with the Story of Scripture

Have you ever wondered how all the stories of the Bible fit together? Have you ever thought about what it has to do with us today? Our sermon series about the Bible, which will last for eight weeks, will have us traveling from Genesis through Revelation. We will take a look at the overarching stories of the Bible, see how God's grace is at work throughout scripture in each time and place, and reflect on how all the stories come together as one continuous story of God's people.

ALL SAINTS DAY As in the past, we would like to remember our loved ones who have passed on during the past year, in our All Saints Day observation. If you have someone you would like us to remember, could you please send a high-resolution picture to the church office of your loved one? You may also send a photo through the mail.

HYMNS and GATHERING You won't want to miss our next musical evening! Put Thursday Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. on your calendar now, so you can plan on Zooming with Millicent Scarlett for a music-filled evening of fellowship and fun.

OFFERING ENVELOPES Please let the church office know if you would like to receive envelopes for your offering in 2021. We will order them for those who wish to use them in 2021.



PRAYERS AND COMMUNION WORSHIP Today, October 18 at 5:00, we are pleased to offer an outdoor, safely- held, communion service. We need to register those who come, so please complete the form that you received via email this week. Also, plan on bringing your own lawn or folding chair, if possible. Although we will have the pre-packaged communion for your use, you are welcome to bring your own communion elements, if you prefer. Check the website by 4:00, in case of inclement weather, to see if we need to postpone our service.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL. Children, preschool through age eight, will meet this afternoon, October 18, at 4:00 for a story and lesson, fun activities, and fellowship with others. Parents are asked to stay with their children and for all to wear masks. We need to register those who come, so please complete the form that you received via email this week.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Join our Sunday School class (via Zoom) for a discussion of scriptures, sharing of insights, and time of fellowship. We meet Sundays at 11:15 after our worship service. Details are in the email blast from this week.

WEDNESDAY PRAYERS Join Pastor Michelle and members of your church family in a time of sharing prayers on Wednesdays at noon, via a conference call. The phone number will be emailed to you prior to the meeting time. For questions, please contact the church office: office@uumcp.org

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Prayer Requests: prayers@uumcp.org

Michelle Mejia, Pastor: revmichelle@uumcp.org

