

# Embracing the Gifts of God- Imparted Equity and Diversity

March 7, 2021

## Opening Song

Give Us Clean Hands

We bow our hearts  
We bend our knees  
Oh, Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes  
From evil things  
Oh, Lord we cast down our idols

So give us clean hands  
And give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
And give us clean hands  
And give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another

Oh, God let us be  
A generation that seeks  
Who seeks Your face, oh, God of Jacob  
Oh, God let us be  
A generation that seeks  
Who seeks Your face, oh, God of Jacob

## Gathering Words

Megan Wurst

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.  
Help me to pray  
And to concentrate my thoughts on you; I can't do this alone.  
In me there's darkness, but with you there's light;  
I'm lonely, but you don't leave me; I'm feeble in heart, but with you there's help;  
I'm restless, but with you there's peace.  
In me there's bitterness, but with you there's patience; I don't understand your ways,  
But you know the way for me. *-Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Prayer from Prison*

## Welcome

Pastor Chris

We invite you to mail or drop off your offering to the church office or use online giving available at [eastportumc.org/give](http://eastportumc.org/give)

## Community Highlights

**Introduction to Our Lenten Study**

Pastor Chris

**Song**

We Believe in the Name

We believe in the saving power  
In the saving power  
Of your name

His name is justice  
A mighty fortress  
A balm for the weary  
Our refuge and our strength  
His name is power  
Our strong deliverer  
We believe in Jesus name  
We believe in the name

We believe in the healing power  
In the healing power  
Of your name

**Word**

Mark 8:31-38

Megan Wurst

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon/Study**

*Embracing the God-Imparted Gifts of Equity and Diversity*

Pastor Chris

**Song**

Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.  
You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

**Our Prayers**

*Remember to reach out to and pray for those who are listed in our bulletin.*

**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.**

## **Song**

Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

3. Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.

Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

2. Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.

## **Benediction + Sending**

Pastor Chris

## **Postlude**

Gather Us In

1. Here in this place new light is streaming  
Now is the darkness vanished away  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings  
Brought here to you in the light of this day  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken  
Gather us in, the blind and the lame  
Call to us now and we shall awaken  
We shall arise at the sound of our name

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery  
We are the old who yearn for your face  
We have been sung throughout all of history  
Called to be light to the whole human race  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty  
Gather us in, the proud and the strong  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly  
Give us the courage to enter the song

3. Not in the dark of buildings confining

Not in some heaven light years away  
But here in this place the new light is shining  
Now is the kingdom, now is the day  
Gather us in and hold us forever  
Gather us in and make us your own  
Gather us in, all peoples together  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

**Please pray and care for the following:**

Those unable to join us on a regular basis: Marie Sims, Betty Storton, Anita Andrews,  
Ernie Mutschler, Donna Nuckles, Barbara Hiller

*Submit prayer requests by calling or emailing the church office or by using the online check-in form. Each request remains for a month unless submitted again.*

Robert Gibbons facing some medical issues.

Friend of Holly Green Ficca diagnosed with cancer.

Holly Green Ficca's brother Jim.

Rusty Mack lost an uncle recently, Richard Mack.

Hailey, a friend of Lynne Rittenberg, is having a number of health concerns.

Molly Grace Young (31), former student of JoAnn Kulesza, who successfully fought breast cancer, now diagnosed with lung cancer.

The Silk Family.

Joanne Cristofel who is recovering from hip surgery.

Vince Musgrove, a friend of Charlotte Kerns, who has been given a metastatic cancer diagnosis.

Tommy Eicher's daughter, Kelly.

For Emily Jelassi who underwent surgery this past week.

The family of Henry S. Bliss Jr, (Jerry Lesley's brother-in-law and Tammy Lesley's brother), who passed away February 22.

Charlotte Kerns grand-nephew (Anthony 16yo), struggling with heart related health issues.

For Mike's brother Greg.

Dick Mason ( Evie and Sally's brother) for health concerns.

Marty and Myrna's son Larry's brother in law, Sandy Teal, who is in hospice.

Sue Rideout-Moore, friend of Sherrie Little, for eye health concerns.

Robin Casey, Barbara Schwarz's cousin.

Rose Kallenbach and her son, John Kallenbach, friends of Barbara Schwarz.

Jeff Schultz, and his family, as he undergoes cancer treatment (including surgery).

Mike Gerhart, brother-in-law of Mike Wurst, diagnosed with rare eye disease.

Harriet Macey is in the hospital.

**March Birthdays**

**March Anniversaries**

Mar 1	Christy South	Mar 16	Ernie & Virginia Schultz
Mar 2	Evelyn Beall	Mar 21	Jim & Judy Bradford
	Nancy Williamson	Mar 31	Rawle Green & Barbara Schwarz
Mar 3	Jean Wilcox		
	Katherine Wilcox		
Mar 5	Ernie Schultz		
	Stephen Jones		
Mar 8	Carol Emory		
Mar 9	Carol Ann Stevens		
Mar 10	Andy Little		
Mar 11	Chris Broadwell		
Mar 13	Jill Peddicord		
Mar 14	Vern Renshaw		
Mar 18	Paulette Schwallenberg		
	Sue Hadaway		
Mar 19	Eric Smaridge		
Mar 26	Barbara Nutwell		
	David Hill		
Mar 27	Catherine Elliott		
Mar 29	Thomas Owen		
Mar 31	Jennifer Smith		
	Sue Nasatka		

### **Announcements:**

Next time you're out grabbing groceries, would you please pick up an extra item to add to "Ethan's Grocery store" at our community food pantry? Here are the top 10 needed items: kids toothbrushes, toothpaste, safety razors, shaving cream, liquid and bar soap, Clorox wipes, dish soap, dishwasher pods, kitchen sponges, diapers size 2-6.

Mark your calendars to join us at Thomas Point at 6 am for our **Easter Sunrise Service** on April 4.

**Listen by phone!** You can now listen to the church service by calling 1-410-233-3163 any time during the week. Simply dial the number and you'll hear the same thing as those of us who join by YouTube.

**Zoom Coffee Hour** at 11am following this Sunday's service, here's the link for this time of fellowship:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87105655451?pwd=TEtRNWVrc1Qzek92d3VtdGRFbElxUT09>

Always check for mid-week updates and the Spire at: [eastportumc.org/news](http://eastportumc.org/news)