Parish News • May 7, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,

Greetings from Pastor Craig! My heart was glad last Sunday as I heard those worshipping in-person lift their voices in song. And then to stand in front of the congregation, those in the sanctuary and those online, to preach the Good News of our faith. What a truly wonderful day!

What a contrast to one year ago when I stood in the pulpit each Friday to preach a sermon to an empty church. And to wonder when we would be able to gather in our sanctuary again.

Well, we are part way back, about 40% of our congregation worshipping together; wearing masks and sitting at safe distances. Still no coffee fellowship time or greeting our neighbors at the beginning of the service. Still no boys and girls coming forward for children's time or all of us gathering at the altar railing for communion. And still no music from our choir. Our Administrative Council is keeping a close eye on when it is prudent for these activities to resume.

Meanwhile, we rejoice for what already is, even as we wait for what will be. This Sunday we'll begin the worship service with Psalm 98, which are the words that inspired Isaac Watts to write a poem that has been adapted for the Christmas Carol – "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come."

Psalm 98 is not an isolated "explosion of joy" in the Bible, but is tucked in a location in the Book of Psalms that clearly indicates the writer wants us to remember the two most important events in their history: God delivering them from the two bleakest times in their memory – slavery in Egypt and the fall of their nation at the time of Jeremiah. So, Psalm 98 is the joyful response of a people who remember how bad things can get and how God has delivered them from these national disasters.

We rejoice as the threat of Covid-19 continues to be more and more contained. We are glad to be back together in our sanctuary after nearly a year of being more or less closed. We wait in hope for what is

yet to come in all aspects of our society.

Item #1: We've tried several times without success to link our camera again to the Ely United Methodist Church Facebook page. This is necessary for us to Live Stream with our camera. If we're unable to resolve the connectivity issue, we may need to create a new Facebook page for our church.

In the meantime, we will Live Stream the service this Sunday on my laptop as we did last week, beginning at 9:55 a.m.

We apologize for the delay; we are doing our best to fix this problem. If you know of anyone who has above average knowledge of Facebook, would you refer them to us? Thank you!

Please continue to call Jeanne Tomlinson at 218-235-8470 if you wish to attend worship in-person. This next part is new. When you call, please let us know if there are non-family members that you would be willing to sit with because you spend time with them outside church. This helps us increase the number of people who can sit in the sanctuary and keep social distance.

Item #2: A special thank you to Mark Olson for shoveling our sidewalks this winter during November, December, and April and to Nick and Evan Wognum, who shoveled January, February, and March. Also special thanks to Phil Hegfors who plowed the parking lot at church and the parsonage driveway.

We are looking for people to mow the church lawn this summer. If you are interested, please call the church at 218-365-3355 or Margie Olson at 218-365-4319 or 218-235-0220, leaving a message at any of those numbers, if necessary.

Thank you!

Item #3: Please find this week's *Prayer Wall* either enclosed for those receiving *Parish News* through the mail or attached for those receiving *Parish News* electronically.

Finally, I am grateful for the many different ways you are staying

connected with our church, whether through our *Parish News* mailings, other email messages, texting, phone calls, attending worship online or in-person, saying hello when we see each other on the street, etc..... We are doing our best to reach out to each of you. Thank you for your flexibility.

I recognize all of us are choosing how and when we're going to reengage with our life as we did before this all began over a year ago, and this includes attending worship and other church events in-person. We miss seeing those of you who are choosing to wait longer before you return, but understand – this is a personal decision for each of us.

In the meantime, please contact me in the following ways with any questions or just to visit. Email at elyumc.elymn@gmail.com or by phone at 218-365-3355 (church) or 218-365-3716 (parsonage), leaving a message if necessary. Or stop by the church to visit during my office hours, which are 9:00 – Noon; Tuesday, Thursday; and Friday.

Hear now these words from Psalm 98.

¹O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. ³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. ⁴Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. ⁵Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. ⁶With trumpets and the sound of the hornmake a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. ⁸Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy ⁹at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

With God's blessings and my very best wishes and Happy Mother's Day!

Pastor Craig Haberman

The Ely United Methodist Church Prayer Wall

May 7, 2021

This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.

James 5: 15-16



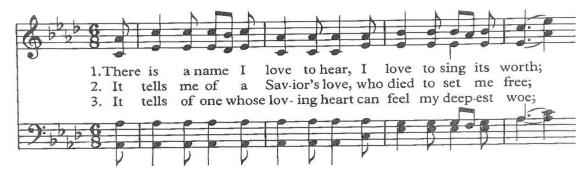
"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him (or her) up....The prayer of the righteous is pwerful and effective."

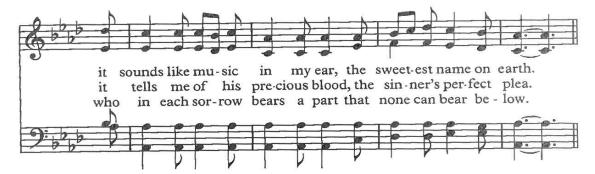
We lift up the following in prayer...

- Ruth Ryberg family & friends Her brother, Bobby, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- Joe Barmess & wife, Judy Update: Close friends of Jeanne & Jay, Joe is now off the ventilator and out of the ICU and in a normal hospital room. Thanks for all the prayers.
- Linda Frisell's family & friends Her brother, Todd, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- Deanie Kuehl's sister, Terri Had surgery last week. Pray for comfort and full recovery.
- Kay Ojala Her kidney transplant surgery went well and she and the donor are both recovering at home
- **Debbie Granberry & family** Jeanne's and Jay's college friend, who lost both her husband to Alzheimer's & her mother within 6 days last week. Pray for comfort and peace.
- Mary Leonas Kathy Brandau's mother, Mary Leonas, is not doing well. Pray for healing.
- Marla Tezek Linda Hane's sister-in-law had back surgery and needs prayers for recovery
- Earl Bulinski family & Friends Earl passed away. Pray for peace and comfort
- Art Hane Bill Hane's brother is dealing with Parkinson's and is now at home. Prayers for comfort
- Darryl Johnson Don Johnson's brother is recovering from receiving 1 stent with 2 more to be inserted
- Jeff Close Sheri Rue's brother, Jeff, is having some health issues. Please pray for healing.
- Lee Tessier family & friends Lee passed away from complications after surgery.
- Rod & Tootsie Loe Rod and Tootsie are living together at Carefree Living. Rod is back from hospital
- Robert Buckner Marge Olson's brother fell and broke his hip and is need of healing prayers
- Mike Haney Mike is struggling with his loss of strength and treatments for brain cancer.
- Emma Smrekar Carolyn Fendt's great granddaughter is receiving chemo and radiation treatments
- Those who have contracted the COVID-19 Virus and Family Members
- All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus

We include all the United Methodist Churches and Pastors, both active and retired, in our MN UMC Annual Conference as we work in extraordinary ways to keep our congregations and communities free from infection by the COVID-19 virus.

Prayer requests are compiled from our church prayer chain, from our Sunday morning church congregation using the prayer request forms located in the pew welcome pads, and the North Star District Prayer List. Prayer requests will remain on the Prayer Wall through four weeks unless removed earlier because the prayer is known to be no longer necessary. People may ask that prayers be renewed on the list for subsequent 4-week periods. The Prayer Wall is finalized each Thursday for the Sunday morning service.









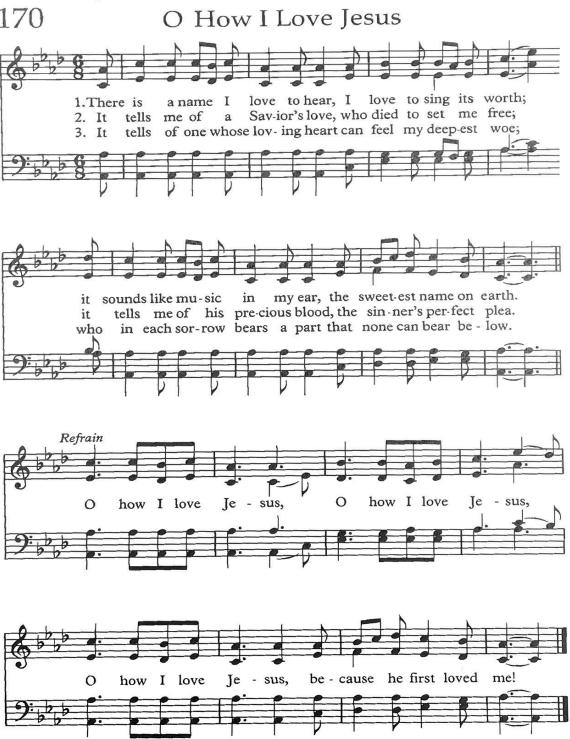
WORDS: Frederick Whitfield, 1855 MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody O HOW I LOVE JESUS CM with Refrain

Psalm 98

- O sing to the Lord a new song,
 for the Lord has done marvelous things!
 God's right hand and holy arm
 have gotten the victory.
- The Lord has declared victory, and has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- The Lord has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. R
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the Ruler, the Lord!
- Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell in it!
- Let the floods clap their hands;
 let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord,
 who comes to judge the earth.
 - The Lord will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. R



WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931 (Lam. 3:22-23) MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1988 BUNESSAN 55.54 D



WORDS: Frederick Whitfield, 1855 MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody O HOW I LOVE JESUS CM with Refrain







Cherokee OOH NAY THLA NAH, HEE OO WAY GEE.' E GAH GWOO YAH HAY EE. NAW GWOO JOE SAH, WE YOU LOW SAY, E GAH GWOO YAH HO NAH.

praise

Navajo NIZHÓNIGO JOOBA' DITTS' A' YISDÁSHÍÍTÍNÍGÍÍ, LAH YÓÓÍÍYÁ, K'AD SHÉNÁHOOSDZIN, DOO EESH'ÍÍ DA ŃT'ÉÉ.

first

DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HE TSOW'HAW DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HEE. BAY DAWTSAHY TAW, GAW AYM OW THAH T'AW, DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY H'EE.

God's

sing

Creek PO YA FEK CHA HE THLAT AH TET AH NON AH CHA PA KAS CHA FEE KEE O FUNNAN LA KUS UM E HA TA LA YUS.

Choctaw SHILOMBISH HOLITOPA MAI ISHMMINTI PULLA CHA HATAK ILBUSHA PIA HA IS PI YUKPALASHKE.

gun.

be

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon.; phonetic transcription Cherokee, Kiowa, AMAZING GRACE Creek, Choctaw as sung in Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; Navajo phonetic transcription by Albert Tsosi (1 Chr. 17:16-17) MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody; harm. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900

when

than

we'd