

## Welcome!

We are so happy to be here together! Here are a few guidelines for how we can worship safely together:

Please stay seated until the ushers come to guide you out of the Sanctuary. If you would like to make your offering while you are here today, there is an offering plate by the door. You may also continue to give using our website or by mailing a check.

In order to help keep everyone safe, please take your bulletins and any trash with you when you leave.

This service will be livestreamed on YouTube and a recording will be posted on social media for watching at a later time.

### Discussion Questions

- Giving Up Our Assumptions, John 4:1-42

“Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water. The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?’”

This week, we will look at how assumptions can hide truth from us. What was the last assumption you made? Maybe it was about the weather today or if your car keys were where they should be. What about assumptions regarding other people? Have you made any of those lately? How could assumptions get in the way of listening to God?

As you ponder these things in preparation for Sunday, I would love to hear what God is saying to you. Call me at 256-353-6941 or email me at [miriam@centralunitedmethodist.com](mailto:miriam@centralunitedmethodist.com).



Love GOD



Love OTHERS



SERVE the World

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## Giving Up Freedoms

March 7, 2021

Musical Gift  
“Lord of All Life”

Broughton

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Hymn “Sanctuary”  
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary  
Pure and Holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for You

Prayers of the People

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Special Music “There is A Higher Throne” *Arr. R. Grass*

Bible Reading — Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22  
—[Prayer]

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple those who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves, as well as those involved in exchanging currency sitting there. He made a whip from ropes and chased them all out of the temple, including the cattle and the sheep. He scattered the coins and overturned the tables of those who exchanged currency. He said to the dove sellers, “Get these things out of here! Don’t make my Father’s house a place of business.” His disciples remembered that it is written, Passion for your house consumes me.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message — “Giving Up Freedoms” *Rev. Miriam Smith*

Closing Hymn #297 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noon-tide heat, and the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;  
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:  
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Benediction

Musical Gift “Joy Unceasing and Infinite Praise” *Birchwood*

Organist: Virginia Paul

“Lord of All Life” - Broughton c. 1997 Lorenz Publishing Co.

“There is A Higher Throne” - Arr. R. Thankyou Music (PRS) (admin. Worldwide by EMI CMG Pub)

“Joy Unceasing and Infinite Praise” - Birchwood c. 1997 Lorenz Publishing Co.

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