



**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ENFIELD (ENFIELD, CT)  
20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ☞ OCTOBER 18, 2020  
GUIDE FOR IN-PERSON AND ONLINE WORSHIP**

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Gathering**

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**\*Joyful Noise in Praise of God – *Be Thou My Vision***

*(We'll be making a joyful noise through congregational percussion instead of congregational singing.)*

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art...*

**Opening Prayer**

**All-knowing God,  
we gather together with praise and thanksgiving  
for who You are, and for all that You have done for us.  
You know us better than we know ourselves—  
all our thoughts and actions—  
and yet You love us.  
No matter where we go or what we do,  
Your love encircles us—ahead and behind—  
gently leading and guiding and blessing.  
We praise You for Your love  
and Your faithful presence in our lives.**

**May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds  
as we worship together— examine our attitudes and actions,  
lay bare the things we need to confess,  
challenge us with Your Word,  
and guide us on to paths that lead to life.  
For we are Your people, called by Your name. Amen.**

**We Proclaim and Respond to God's Word**

**\*Gospel Reading – John 8:31b-32**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup>Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**Musical Reflection** – *You Have Searched Me, Lord, And Know Me* (solo)

You have searched me, Lord, and known me!  
All my life is in your care.  
When I lie awake in evening,  
You are always with me there.  
When I rise to greet the morning  
In an attitude of praise,  
What I learn from you is humbling:  
You already know my ways.

Lord, I try to learn your wisdom,  
But I cannot understand.  
Yet your love is all around me;  
I am part of all you've planned.  
Let me sing your praise each morning,  
Let me serve you all day through,  
And in evening, make me peaceful,  
Knowing this: I'm loved by you!

**Psalm Reading – Psalm 139**

- <sup>1</sup>You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.  
<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.  
<sup>3</sup>You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup>Before a word is on my tongue, you, Lord, know it completely.  
<sup>5</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
- <sup>7</sup>Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?  
<sup>8</sup>If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.  
<sup>9</sup>If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup>even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.  
<sup>11</sup>If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,”  
<sup>12</sup>even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.  
<sup>13</sup>For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.  
<sup>14</sup>I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.  
<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place,  
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup>Your eyes saw my unformed body;  
all the days ordained for me were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.  
<sup>17</sup>How precious to me are your thoughts, God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
<sup>18</sup>Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—  
when I awake, I am still with you.  
<sup>19</sup>If only you, God, would slay the wicked!  
Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!  
<sup>20</sup>They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name.  
<sup>21</sup>Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord,

- and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?  
22 I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies.  
23 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

## **Sermon – “Search Me, God” – Guest Preacher: Rev. Donna Yanosy**

### **Silent Reflection**

### **Concerns and Celebrations from the Online Community**

### **Intercessory Prayer**

### **Lord’s Prayer**

## **We Give Thanks for God’s Gifts**

### **Giving Our Tithes, Offerings and Other Gifts**

### **Offertory Prayer**

**As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment,  
may we become imitators of you, Gracious God,  
who holds nothing back from us,  
but is generous and gracious with all that is yours.  
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## **We Go Forth In God’s Name**

### ***\*Joyful Noise in Praise of God – Take My Life and Let It Be***

*(We’ll be making a joyful noise through congregational percussion instead of congregational singing.)*

*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.*

*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.*

### **Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.

### **Sending Ritual – Sharing Christ’s Peace with Each Other & the World**

\*Please feel free to stand – wherever you are!

Credits: Prayers & litanies adapted from prayers posted on Lectionary Liturgies (<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>) written by Thom Schuman; and prayers posted on re-Worship.blogspot.com. “Be Thou My Vision” [verses 1-2, UMH 451]; “Take My Life and Let It Be” [verses 1 & 3, UMH 399] from The *United Methodist Hymnal* (© The United Methodist Publishing House, 1989) “You Have Searched Me, Lord, and Known Me” written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (© 2014 by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church), used with permission.