



Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, NC

May 17, 2020

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

328 UMH

Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Call to Worship

Leader: Live in God's love!

People: Let that love be poured out for all God's people!

Leader: Bring hope and peace to all whom you meet.

People: We are called to be God's witnesses.

Leader: Celebrate and rejoice.

People: Praise be to God who has called, healed, and given us a ministry of peace.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Lord of wondrous light and power, we come to you this day to learn of your will for our lives. Heal our wounds; lift our spirits; give us courage and confidence to boldly serve you in all that we do. AMEN.

Hymn *Love Divine, All Love Excelling* 384 UMH (verses 1 & 4)

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;

Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;

Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.

Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

We Worship with God's Tithe and Our Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory *The Gift of Love* 408 UMH, verse 1

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
And sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

Reflective Reading

Scripture John 14:15-21

Sermon "The Reality of Love" Rev. Kelley Groce

Affirmation of Faith: A Modern Affirmation

Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church,
apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

People: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

Hymn *In Christ Alone* 3105 WS, verses 1 and 4

*In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and
storm.*

*What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, may all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme or plan can ever pluck me from his hand.
'Til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

Benediction (Acts 17, 1 Peter 3, John 14)

Wherever we are, we are in God.

Wherever we are, we are in Christ, and Christ is in us.

Wherever we are, the Spirit abides with us and in us.

We go forth in peace and hope, upheld by God in every way.

Let us go forth in faithfulness and trust.

May all see the Divine in and through us.

Choral Benediction *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* 402 UMH, verse 1

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Our Condolences to Mike Crabtree on the deaths of three uncles in the past month and a half.

Prayer Concerns: Sally Goin, George Cranford, Becky Ensign's father-in-law, Chuck Sartore, and David Lucas' mother, Sue Lucas.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or only with the pastoral staff.

Centenary UMC Ad Council Meeting – Sunday, May 17 at 4:00 PM via Zoom – Contact Kelley at 336-314-7351 if you did not receive a link or are having trouble connecting.

Meals Delivered – Thanks to the hard work of Alex & Juli Hurin, and several others, meals of Chicken Pot Pie, Shepherd's Pie, Cheesy Beefy Noodle Bake, Quarts of Brunswick Stew, Peach Dump Cake, Apple Crisp, and delicious Brownies have been delivered to our congregants at Friends Homes West, Friends Homes Guilford, Well Spring, UMAR residencies, and at individuals homes. If you would like a meal delivered, contact Alex Hurin at 336-457-0130. Entrees are \$6 each, \$4 for Peach Dump Cake or Apple Crisp, and \$1.50 for Brownies.

Join us May 28 for 'ALL IN For UMAR' - Grab lunch and join us at noon on Thursday, May 28 for ALL IN for UMAR. This 30-minute virtual event will highlight UMAR's mission and ministry for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities across western North Carolina. Be ALL IN for UMAR as we help people LIVE, WORK and THRIVE through housing, vocational services, art programs and community services.

Visit www.umarinfo.com on May 28 and follow the link to witness first-hand the inspirational impact of UMAR in our community; event will feature updates, moving reflections, music and dancing from residents. All are welcome and encouraged to join.

Bible Study –Tuesdays at 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM using Zoom to meet together virtually, until such time that we may meet together at the church. Send an email to kgroce@wnccumc.net to receive an email invitation to Zoom. You may also listen in by phone. Contact the church if

you would like to participate 336-299-9643. You may purchase the book [Interpretation Bible Studies: Psalms](#) through [ChristianBooks.com](#) or follow along in your Bible. We hope that many of you will join us to gain courage, strength, and inspiration from the Psalms.

Tithes & Offerings to the Church – Many thanks to all who have remained faithful in giving their tithes and offerings to the church during this difficult time. You may mail your check to the church office: Centenary UMC, 2300 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403. You may also give through your bank's online bill pay option. Consult your bank for directions. Or, you may give online through our SubSplash platform using a credit or debit card. Follow the directions on the Centenary UMC website under [Tithes & Offerings](#)

Mother's Day Offering for UMAR – It's not too late to send in a Mother's Day Memorial or Honorarium for UMAR. Make checks payable to Centenary UMC, put UMAR memorial (or honorarium), and the name of the person you are honoring. Mail to Centenary UMC, 2300 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403, OR you may give online by credit or debit card through the SubSplash platform. Be sure to make a note in the memo line. Go to the website for more information www.CentenaryUMCGreensboro.org Gifts will be acknowledged in the June issue of the *Centenarian*.