



Epworth United Methodist Church

Nourish Faith. Do Good. Welcome All. Be Church.

A YEAR OF LOVE



Mother's Day

"A Mother's Love"

May 12, 2019 • 10:30 a.m.

EpworthMPLS.org

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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND LIFE

(Please use this time for preparing your mind, body and soul for worship)

*CALL TO GATHERING

~Barnabas in Churches (edited)

Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us,
comforting and carrying us in her arms:

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you. (Isaiah 66:13)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us.

God knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children:

Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! (Isaiah 49:15)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

David wrote that in God's presence, he was quiet and at peace,
trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms:

*But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within me* (Psalm 131:2)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself as a mother, longing to wrap his arms around us,
like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings:

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...

*how often have I longed to gather your children together,
as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing*
(Matthew 23:37)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry

and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care:

...but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children

(1 Thessalonians 2:7)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

*OPENING HYMN

"As the Deer"

#2025 FWS

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

umcdiscipleship.org

This day we gather with eager hearts, hungry for your Word, yearning for the joy you promise in love. O God, together we hold a vision of your kingdom, a people of prayer and open hearts, a loving Body of Christ eager to learn and eager to share. you bless us, O God, and shine upon us with the mercy of your salvation. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE Hosea 11:3-4; John 21:15-19 (*NRSV*)

CHILDREN'S HYMN "***Tell Me the Stories of Jesus***" (vs 1) #277 UMH

CHILDREN'S TIME *Surprising*

HONORING OUR TEACHERS

CHILDREN'S HYMN "***Tell Me the Stories of Jesus***" (vs 2) #277 UMH

SERMON *A Mother's Love*

TIME OF REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN "***A Mother Lined a Basket***" #2189 FWS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*◇ please see back*)

Our God 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.

THE OFFERING

*SUNG RESPONSE "***Give Thanks***" #2036 FWS

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his son. (Repeat)
And now, let the weak say "I am strong," let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat) *Give Thanks.***

WE TAKE GOD'S WORD WITH US INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN *"In Unity We Lift Our Song"*(vs1,2,3) #2221 FWS

*BENEDICTION ~re:worship

May the Lord who brought us to birth by his Spirit, strengthen us for Christian life. May the Lord who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day. May the Lord whose steadfast love is constant as a mother's care, send us out to live and work for others. And the blessing of God be with you and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

*POSTLUDE