

Peace UCC
February 28, 2021
Traveling Lightly: A Journey Through Lent
Phone– connection, community

Prelude “Oboe Arioso” Franklin D, Ashdown'
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Welcome

Opening Words Worship Ways

One: Watch and listen for the wonders of our God.

Many: Our God is among us.

One: Watch and listen for the goodness of our God.

Many: Our God moves among us.

One: Watch and listen, for God is here.

Many: Our God dwells among us.

Opening Response “Make Us One” Carol Cymbala

Prayer of Invocation

Words: Ruth Duck **Music:** Wild Mountain Thyme, Irish Folk Tune

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living**

**As you love may I love
in receiving and in giving.**

Spirit, open my heart.

The Witness of Music Jim McKee

Readings

Matthew 18:15-20

‘If another member of the church^{*} sins against you,^{*} go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.^{*} But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a **Gentile and a tax-collector**. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’

The Threads in My Hand by Howard Thurman

Only one end of the threads, I hold in my hand.
The threads go many ways, linking my life with other lives.
One thread comes from a life that is sick; it is taut with anguish
And always there is the lurking fear that the life will snap.
I hold it tenderly. I must not let it go...

One thread comes from a High-flying kite;
It quivers with the mighty current of fierce and holy dreaming
Invading the common day with far-off places and visions bright...

One thread comes from the failing hands of an old, old friend.

Hardly aware am I of the moment when the tight line slackened and there was nothing at all – nothing...

One thread is but a tangled mass that won't come right;
Mistakes, false starts, lost battles, angry words – a tangled mass;
I have tried so hard, but it won't come right...

One thread is a strange thread – it is my steady thread;
When I am lost, I pull it hard and find my way.
When I am saddened, I tighten my grip and gladness glides along its quivering path;
When the waste places of my spirit appear in arid confusion, the thread becomes a channel of newness of life.

One thread is a strange thread – it is my steady thread.
God's hand holds the other end...

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn “We Are Your People” Tune: First English Columbus
Brian Wren & John Carter

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom come, your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

How Shall We Join God's Work in the World

Gracious God, we give thanks.
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join
Your work in the world. Amen

Closing

Postlude “Celebration for Trumpet” Robert W. Thygerson
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