



When In Doubt...!

Pastor Arnie Johnson

Sunday September 16, 2018

Peterborough United Methodist Church

If you are a first time visitor please see the welcome card in your pew for more details and tips. Welcome!

www.PeterboroughUMC.org

Peterborough United Methodist Church

~Wiggling is appropriate & welcome.

*Those able are invited to stand in praise.

PRELUDE		Organist
INTROIT		Choir
WELCOME		Pastor
MINISTRY MOMENTS		Liturgist
OPENING PRAYER		Liturgist
L:	O God, from whom every gift derives, we gather to worship You this day.	
P:	You are an awesome God, greater than our comprehension or our imagination.	
L:	You are beyond any word we could ever use to describe You.	
P:	And yet, through Jesus, we know the intimacy of Your vast Love. We have come to You today in thanksgiving and praise, to know that You are God and to place our lives anew into Your perspective.	
L:	Enlarge our vision this hour with Your Word.	
P:	Instill in us, again, Your hope in place of our despair, Your peace where our hatred threatens, Your joy amidst any depression and sense of defeat.	
A:	May Your love transform our apathy to gratitude and praise. May Your Holy Spirit surround and dwell within us now, and forevermore. Amen.	

~*HYMN **This is the Day** **UMH 657**

~*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Psalm 117) Liturgist

L: Praise the LORD, all you nations!

P: Extol him, all you peoples!

L: For great is his steadfast love toward us,

P: and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

A: Praise the LORD!

~*APOSTLES' CREED (Ecumenical Version) **UMH 882**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and
earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who**

was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**universal

SCRIPTURE

Liturgist

Luke 5:21-26 NRSV Pew Bible NT p 76

Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home." Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Choir

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor

JOYS, CELEBRATIONS, REQUESTS, AND CONCERNS

Pastor

Breakthrough, Celebrations, Community, Healing,
Families, Guidance, Provision, Requests, & Safe Travel

JOYS Gracious Lord we ask that you,

All respond: Bless this joy.

CONCERNS Lord, in your mercy,

All respond: Hear our prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

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, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness

SPECIAL MUSIC He's Still Working on Me Pastor Arnie

*DOXOLOGY "Traditional Old 100th" UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God (or him) all creatures here below;
Praise God (or him) above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**
(Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.)

~*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (9 Psalm 32) Liturgist

O Lord, our God, your steadfast love surrounds those who trust in you. We are grateful for your faithfulness, even when we struggle to commit ourselves and our loved ones to your care. In times of trouble, your Spirit lifts us and carries us through. We rejoice that you call us to be part of this congregation where your love in Christ is made manifest. We dedicate our gifts and offerings to bless our neighbors through the caring ministries of this church. In the name of our risen Savior, Amen.

SCRIPTURE Liturgist

Philippians 4:4-9 NRSV Pew Bible p 242

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE Choir

~*HYMN **I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath** **UMH 60**

MESSAGE When In Doubt...! Pastor

~*HYMN **To God Be the Glory** **UMH 98**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL Pastor

~POSTLUDE Organist

What Does it Really Mean When People Lift Up Their Hands at Church?

By **Brooke Metz**, Student, Wake Forest University

The band's playing. Everyone's singing. Some people even have their hands lifted up in the air.

If you've ever been to church, you probably know what I'm talking about.

When I was younger, I thought the people waving their hands all over the place were kind of weird. It just seemed awkward and unnecessary. As I got a little older, I thought I'd figured out the reasoning behind the action — to demonstrate joy and praise to God through worship. It was a way to be connected to Him by simply reaching out.

I wasn't wrong about that last part. Worship is certainly a way to feel God's presence, and it can be powerful for people in different ways. Some people (like me) prefer worshipping through our instruments instead of singing. Others are content to simply stand and enjoy the knowledge that God is right there in the room with us as the church unites as one voice and one body. And some like to reach their hands out to the ceiling, like they're trying to blend the physical and spiritual sensations.

But lifting your hands doesn't always imply joy or praise. Biblically, the gesture is actually a sign of surrender.

In Exodus 17, when the Amalekites try to attack the Israelites, Moses must find a way to defend the people. He holds up the staff of God at the top of a hill, hands raised—in surrender.

Moses knows they cannot defend themselves against the Amalekites without God. He knows the power of the Lord is the only way to save the Israelites, so he holds up his hands as if to proclaim his own unworthiness, as if to say, "We can't do this on our own. We need You."

The next verse confirms that idea: "As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning."

With God on their side, the Israelites have the victory. But when Moses stops surrendering to God, the enemy swoops in, ready to attack.

Surrendering is what makes them powerful.

This idea is found all throughout the Bible. Another powerful example is in 2 Corinthians, when Paul talks about his “thorn in the flesh,” or weakness. He seems grateful the thorn is there, saying he can now “boast” of his weakness because he is made strong through it. When he is weak, he must call on God, who then empowers him to overcome the obstacle.

Paul and the Israelites got the victory. But first they had to acknowledge their own weakness.

When we admit we can't do anything without God, we actually become stronger through that confession because we invite God to strengthen and guide us. And once you have Him on your side, you can't be defeated.

When Moses lowered his hands, the enemy won. That physical sign of keeping his hands in the air no matter how hard it was for him revealed his devotion to God and that he knew he needed God's help. So in a way, it is still a sign of praise — but more in terms of realizing our own unworthiness.

When people raise their hands during worship at church, whether they know it or not, they are admitting that they are weak and without any power aside from the power they receive through the Holy Spirit. They're praising God by physically and publicly demonstrating to Him that they need Him.

When I think about this, I remember how when I was a little kid I used to think people raising their hands looked awkward or even kind of weird. But the people worshipping don't care how they look. They're surrendering to God—and becoming empowered through it.

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/brooke-metz/what-does-it-really-mean-2_b_6890136.html

Sunday, September 16, 2018

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP AT PUMC TODAY:

Pastor: Pastor Arnie Johnson
Liturgist: Heil Lindquist
Organist: Gene Brochu
Choir Director: Wendy Dunning

EVENTS:

Events this week:

Sun Worship Service 10a
Sun Adult Bible Study 11:30a
Mon Confidential Meeting 6-8p
Wed Office Hours 9-12
Wed Choir rehearsal 11:30a
Wed Covenant Discipleship Group 6:30p
Thu Office hours 9-12

Announcements & Upcoming:

Sep 21 Open Mic Night
Sep 23 Free Community Breakfast 8a
Sep 23 Sunday worship with Bishop Young Jin Cho
Sep 25 Newsletter submissions due
Sep 25 PUMC Book Group 1p *location tbd
Sep 26 Prayer Shawl Group 1p
Sep 27 Church/Admin Council 6:30p
Sep 29 Men's Monthly Breakfast 7:30a

Oct 2 UMW Meeting 11:30a *time change
Oct 8 Holiday Stroll Craft Workshop 10a
Oct 12 Church Conference

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome you to our service.

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out the information card in your pew and place in the offering basket or hand it to an usher.

If you are interested in becoming part of the church family or wish to give a message to the pastor please check the appropriate box on the card.

We have a weekly email and a monthly newsletter, you can sign up for our mailing list on the web site.

We seek to make worship accessible and inclusive!

- Our nursery room is in the hallway past the fellowship hall, an attendant is present.
- During service children are invited to use Busy Bags, available in the front pew.
- Children's Sunday School begins during worship.
- A changing table is available in the hall/ADA bathroom.
- Large print books and magnifiers are in the front pew.
- Speakers amplify worship throughout the building.

Rev Card can be contacted at
pumcpastor@peterboroughumc.org or (703) 309-5221.

Please join us for Christian fellowship in the Marion Bagley Memorial Fellowship Hall following worship.

Peterborough United Methodist Church
www.PeterboroughUMC.org

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Office hours: Thursdays
9am-noon
Sunday service: 10am

