

**HUMBLE
YOURSELVES
THEREFORE
UNDER THE
MIGHTY HAND
OF GOD, SO
THAT HE MAY
EXALT YOU
IN DUE TIME.**

1 PETER 5:6, NRSV



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Sunday May 17, 2020

GREETINGS

God is good **all the time.**
All the time **God is good.**

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What does fire represent in the Bible?

A.) refining B.) thirst C.) Holy Spirit D.) testing

***HYMN "Love The Lord"**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let the righteous be joyful!
Let them rejoice before God!

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

Sing to God, all peoples of the world!
Sing praises to God most high!

**From the sanctuary of heaven,
God gives life and renews the face of the earth!**

Let the righteous be joyful!
Let them rejoice before God!

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Spirit of Glory, Spirit of God, bless us with a word of life this day to
restore, support, and strengthen us as we seek to be one with you. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 NRSV

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

. . . Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

TIME OF PRAYER

How Is It With Your Soul?

Call to Confession

Brothers and sisters, God not only desires our repentance, but longs to offer us forgiveness. Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you eternally.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we do not always bring honor and glory to your name.

We are rebellious and weak; we flee before your goodness. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and mercy of Christ, that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve your world.

(Time of silent prayer.)

Assurance

Sisters and brothers, the Spirit of God is resting on you, to restore, support, and strengthen you. Therefore, be at peace in the One who forgives and loves you. With Jesus the Christ we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

ANSWER TO THE QUESTION OF THE DAY: What does fire represent in the Bible?

A.) refining B.) thirst C.) Holy Spirit D.) testing

Offerings: *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity – sending your offering to the church (709 W. Pine St., New London, WI 54961); or by giving online at www.WisconsinUMC.org. If you, or someone you know, is struggling to put food on the table or to meet expenses, please contact Pastor Joyce (920-982-4703).*

OFFERING PRAYER

Glorious God, bless these gifts and our lives together that all we are and all we offer may give glory to you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MESSAGE

“Fiery Ordeal?”

Rev. Joyce Rich

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Sisters and brothers, God loves and cares for each of us.

We cast all our anxiety on God, and stay alert.

Remain steadfast in faith with Christ,

who supports and strengthens us in all things.

May the abundance of God bless us, the strength of Christ keep us, and the Spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, shine upon us forever. Amen. **And Amen.**

HYMN “Blessed Assurance”

Announcements:

Readings For Next Week: Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:6-14

Liturgical resources drawn from: *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1*, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.