

Online Gathering for Worship  
Junction City United Methodist Church  
September 6, 2020

“Holy Grounds”

**Opening**

**Prelude** “Holy Ground” - Malcolm Cartwright

**Words of Welcome**

Today, let us continue to explore the Path of Jesus for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century in our lives and in our families, as we come to God in worship.

**Opening Song** “Here In This Place” - Christopher Grundy

Opening to the Spirit’s Instruction

**Scripture Reading** (Luke 9:28-36) Nadine Wiles

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, <sup>[b]</sup> they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, <sup>[c]</sup> one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; <sup>[d]</sup> listen to him!” <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

*May God’s Spirit speak to us today through these words of Scripture, the music we sing and hear, and the message shared this day.*

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Song “Come Away to Me” - Dominic Tey (Campus Students in Austin)

Sermon “Spiritually Formative Aspects of Camp Retreat and Ministries” by Guest Preacher Todd Bartlett

Song “Touch the Earth Lightly” - instrumental (Mark Lloyd Music)

**Prayers for Our World and One Another**

Let us enter now into a time of prayer for one another and for our world. We will do what is called a Bidding Prayer. I will open, and then I will bid your prayers based around various categories. During the silence after each category is bid, I invite you to add your own prayers, either aloud or in silence. I will then close with a prayer, then the Lord’s Prayer. Let us be in prayer.

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Let us pray now for all who are ill, in hospital or at home, especially those affected by cancer or COVID-19.

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Let us pray now for all medical and emergency services personnel who are responding to the best of their abilities with the resources that they have at hand.

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Let us pray now for all those who are hungry or food insecure, and for all community and religious efforts to provide food and shelter.

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Let us pray for the leaders of nations around the world, not only regarding their response to this pandemic, but also that they may do everything possible to assure the health and welfare of their citizens.

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Let us pray for all school and college governing boards, administrations and staff, all faculty, and students as decisions are made regarding

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reopening, online learning, and how to offer appropriate and equitable education in a manner that protects the health and safety of all persons.

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Let us pray for our friends, family, and neighbors for their health and well-being.

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Let us also express our thanks to God for the expressions of love and caring that we have witnessed in our families, communities, and world.

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Let us express our gratitude for life and the myriad things that gladden our hearts.

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These prayers, spoken aloud or in silence, we lift into the universal embrace of the One who is Love, and we make them in the name of the One who showed us what Love looks like in the flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord, and we now join our voices in the prayer he taught us, saying:

**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**

**Prayer Response**      “You Are My Hiding Place” -Maranatha Singers

**Benediction**      “The Blessing” lyrics, adapted

**The Lord bless you  
And keep you  
May God’s face shine upon you  
And be gracious to you  
The Lord’s Face be turned toward you  
And give you peace.**

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**May God's favor be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
And their children, and their children.**

**May God's presence go before you  
And behind you, and beside you  
All around you, and within you  
God is with you, God is with you.  
In the morning, in the evening  
In your coming, and your going  
In your weeping, and rejoicing  
God is for you, God is for you.**

**Closing Song** "The Blessing" - United Kingdom

**Closing Credits**