

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, August 12, 2018)

Share:

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you are called:

We cannot do this alone, we dare not try this alone, so we gather as God's people.

We come to build up Christ's Body, in humility and gentleness, with patience and love.

We rejoice in our oneness in Christ; we share the grace offered to us.

Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

Read these words from a hymn today:

Let us build a house where love can dwell, and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Read this scripture from worship:

Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD
require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly
with your God?

Acts 8:26-39 (The Message)

²⁶⁻²⁸ Later God's angel spoke to Philip: "At noon today I want you to walk
over to that desolate road that goes from Jerusalem down to Gaza." He
got up and went. He met an Ethiopian eunuch coming down the road.
The eunuch had been on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and was returning to
Ethiopia, where he was minister in charge of all the finances of Candace,
queen of the Ethiopians. He was riding in a chariot and reading the
prophet Isaiah.

²⁹⁻³⁰ The Spirit told Philip, "Climb into the chariot." Running up alongside,
Philip heard the eunuch reading Isaiah and asked, "Do you understand
what you're reading?"

³¹⁻³³ He answered, “How can I without some help?” and invited Philip into the chariot with him. The passage he was reading was this:
As a sheep led to slaughter, and quiet as a lamb being sheared,
He was silent, saying nothing. He was mocked and put down, never got a fair trial. But who now can count his kin since he’s been taken from the earth?

³⁴⁻³⁵ The eunuch said, “Tell me, who is the prophet talking about: himself or some other?” Philip grabbed his chance. Using this passage as his text, he preached Jesus to him.³⁶⁻³⁹ As they continued down the road, they came to a stream of water. The eunuch said, “Here’s water. Why can’t I be baptized?” He ordered the chariot to stop. They both went down to the water, and Philip baptized him on the spot. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God suddenly took Philip off, and that was the last the eunuch saw of him. But he didn’t mind. He had what he’d come for and went on down the road as happy as he could be.

Talk together, responding to these questions:

What are some different ways we speak up about our faith and share with others?

What do these scriptures tell us to do?

What does inclusion look like? How does Jesus embrace inclusion?

What kind of house/home are we seeking to build at/through Opequon Church?

Pray together:

Holy God, as I move through this new day, I pray that you will keep me in union with the faith and knowledge of Jesus. I long to mature into the stature of Christ. Help me to speak the truth in love today, that I may grow into him, my Savior, my Teacher, and my Friend, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bless one another:

Take each person's hand and say. "God's grace is for you, God's love is upon you, God's call is within you. Be kind to yourself and others this week as a child of God."