





Empty Hands, Marlene Dumas, 1953.

June 14, 2026

Reflections

“The men and women who are truly filled with light are those who have gazed deeply into the darkness of their own imperfect existence.”

Brennan Manning, *The Furious Longing of God*

“The poverty of which Jesus speaks isn’t a religious disposition or the attitude of remorse, but a state of disaster and loss of all worldly security. The ‘poor in spirit’ Jesus extols have had their spirits quelled by tragedies and hit rock bottom — their intrinsic givens offer no way out of their circumstances. Jesus regards as blessed those who have no safety nets left and who cannot help themselves (namely, everyone).”

Todd Brewer, “Comfort to Afflicted Saints”

“God’s grace, as revealed in Jesus Christ, is not tied to any human criterion of worth. If anything, God inverts our precious hierarchy of deserving and behaves in the most noncomplementary fashion imaginable, giving superabundant attention, approval, and love — his very self — to the wrong sort of people.”

David Zahl, *The Big Relief*

“In short, since rich store of every kind of good abounds in [Jesus], let us drink our fill from this fountain and from no other.”

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Order of Worship

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Who Is Like the Lord Our God?

Our Father, He lifts from the ashes
He raises the poor and the lost;
He seats them to dine at his table,
To feast without money or cost.
The lonely he settles in families
The barren, a mother he makes;
O happy the heart of the stranger
Who's welcomed by this King of Grace.

Who is like the LORD our God?
Who with glory fills the sky?
But humbles himself with the broken to dwell
Who is like our God?

Though equal to God in His glory,
Christ Jesus became like a slave;
He humbled himself in obedience
To Death, and the Cross, and the Grave.
Victorious, he rose to the highest;
In glory, the Savior was raised.
His name above all names exalted;
The heavens and earth sing His praise

O Saints, fix your eyes on the Savior
And count all your righteousness lost.
Be found in his love and his favor,
And share in his death on the cross.
That all of his power in victory,
Imparted to you, may abound;
And sharing the suff'rings of Jesus,
You share in his glory and crown

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!

**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!**

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!

**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor!**

For he delivers the needy when he calls,
the poor and him who has no helper.

**He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.**

From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.**

**Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory!
Amen and Amen!**

from Psalm 72

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Come, Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners poor and wretched
Weak and wounded sick and sore
Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity joined with power
He is able He is able
He is willing doubt no more

Come ye needy come and welcome
God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance

Every grace that brings you nigh
Without money without money
Come to Jesus Christ and buy

Come ye weary heavy laden
Bruised and broken by the fall
If you tarry till you're better
You will never come at all
Not the righteous not the righteous
Sinners Jesus came to call

Let not conscience make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream
All the fitness He requires
Is to feel your need of Him
This He gives you this He gives you
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam

Lo The Incarnate God ascended
Pleads the merit of His blood
Venture on Him venture wholly
Let no other trust intrude
None but Jesus none but Jesus
Can do helpless sinners good

PRAISE SONG

Rising Sun

Praise Him all you sinners
Sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God

We lift high His glory
Shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

Praise His Name forever
Speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, too often we believe that our hard work should earn us comfort, conveniences, and control. Too often, we rely on our own abilities to craft and maintain a life independent from You. Forgive us. More than anything else in the world, we need You! May we be poor in spirit that by Your Spirit we might receive the Kingdom of God, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

RENEWAL SONG

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,

He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and often failing,
He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHILDREN DISMISSED

LIFE TOGETHER

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“Blessed Are Those at the Bottom”

Ethan Smith

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:1-3

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE

The Lord Our God Is Good

5

The Lord our God is good The Lord our God is good Full of
kind-ness and com-pas - sion Mer-ci-ful and just The Lord our God is good The

The musical notation is for the song 'The Lord Our God Is Good'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is on a single staff. The lyrics are: 'The Lord our God is good The Lord our God is good Full of kind-ness and com-pas - sion Mer-ci-ful and just The Lord our God is good The'. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second line starts with a measure rest (5), then G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The chords indicated above the notes are: D, A, D, G, D, A. The chords indicated below the notes are: G, D, F#7, Bm, G, A, D.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

He Is Among Us (The Least of These)

You'll find Me with the broken and the weak
In the spaces in between
You'll hear My voice cry out with those who weep
Only if you're listening

Whatever you do for the least of these
You do it unto Me

You'll find Me with the ones without a voice
The forgotten and ignored
My blessing is on those who love the poor
'Til you open up the door

Alleluia! He is among us, he is among us.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

COMMUNION SONG

Come All Ye Pining, Hungry, Poor

Lord, we adore thy boundless grace,
The heights and depths unknown,
Of pardon, life, and joy, and peace,
In thy beloved Son.

Come, all ye pining, hungry poor,
The Savior's bounty taste;
Behold a never-failing store
For every willing guest.

O wondrous gifts of love divine,
Dear Source of every good;
Jesus, in thee what glories shine!
How rich thy flowing blood!

Here shall your numerous wants receive
A free, a full supply;
He has unmeasured bliss to give,
And joys that never die.

SENDING

SENDING SONG

All Things New

Come Lord, and tarry not;
Bring the long-looked-for day;

O why these years of waiting here,
These ages of delay?

Come, for Thy saints still wait;
Daily ascends their sigh:
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come":
Dost Thou not hear the cry?

O come and make all things new,
Come and make all things new,
O come and make all things new.
Build up this ruined Earth,
Come and make all things new.

Come, for creation groans,
Impatient of Thy stay,
Worn out with these long years of ill,
These ages of decay.

Come for love waxes cold,
Its steps are faint and slow;
Faith now is lost in unbelief,
Hope's lamp burns dim and low.

Come, Lord, and wipe away,
The curse, the sin, the stain
And make this broken world of ours,
Thine own fair world again.

Come and begin thy reign,
Of everlasting peace,
Come, take the kingdom to Thyself,
Great King of Righteousness!

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

LIFE TOGETHER

FAMILY UPDATES

Congrats to Sydney and Alex Cannon on the birth of Olivia Grace: Meal plan in Looking Up.

HOPE FOR THE CITY

June Sunnyside Men's Clothing Drive: Gently used clothing + shoes: Rack by office.

World Refugee Day Awareness Events - June 9 & 16: Details in Church Center.

YoungLives Ministry Needs: See Looking Up for details.

CHURCH LIFE

Women's Summer Book Study - Wednesdays 7:30-9pm | June 10: Register now.

Men's Book Study - Wednesdays 12pm or Thursdays 5:30am | June 10: Rm 209.

Have a working vehicle you're not using? Please reach out to the Deacons.

PARENTS & CHILDREN

Summer Youth Group - Today & 28 4:30-6pm: Rising 6th + current youth.

CFA Lunches - Wednesdays 11:30-12:30: Rising 6th + Current youth; self-pay.

Middle School Boys Bible Study - Wednesdays 10:45-11:30: Rising 6th-8th: CFA.

High School Boys Book Study: Rising 9th+ invited: See Youth email for details.

Kids Connection - *June Verse* - Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.
Matthew 5:8

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF JUNE 9, 2026

	Actual to Date	Budgeted	Difference	
Income	\$595,663	\$602,343	-\$6,680	-1.11%
Expense	\$688,322	\$702,031	-\$13,710	-1.95%
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$92,659	-\$99,689		

ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET: \$1,558,309

MAKING ROOM FOR MORE UPDATE

Campaign Goal	Campaign Commitments	Gifts Received Beyond Commitments	Total Funds Received to Date
\$9.4 million	\$5,243,302	\$745,243	\$4,789,442