

## RESPONSIVE READING Exodus 20: 1-17 Bob Wood

Leader: God spoke from the mountain and said:

“I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the  
house of  
slavery; You shall have no other gods before me.”

**People:** *Almighty God, write your law upon our hearts.*

Leader: “You shall not make for yourself an idol.  
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the  
Lord your God. Remember the sabbath day, and keep  
it holy.”

**People:** *Almighty God, write your law upon our hearts.*

Leader: “Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not bear false witness.  
You shall not covet...anything that belongs to your  
neighbor.”

***All: Almighty God, write you law upon our hearts.***

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 3: 4b-14 (Message Translation) Bob Wood

<sup>4</sup> even though we can list what many might think are impressive credentials. You know my pedigree: <sup>5</sup> a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; <sup>6</sup> a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting Christians; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book. <sup>7</sup> The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash - along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master,

firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant - dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ <sup>9</sup> and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ - God's righteousness. <sup>10</sup> I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself. <sup>11</sup> If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it. <sup>12</sup> I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. <sup>13</sup> Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward - to Jesus. <sup>14</sup> I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.

## TITHES AND OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY (stand)

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Lois Davis*

## THE SHEMA

SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 21: 33-46*

*Pastor Jackie*

MORNING MESSAGE      *"That I May Gain Christ"*

*Pastor Jackie*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & INTERCESSORY PRAYER

## INVITATION

## CALL OF CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***God, we confess that although we knew better, we have sinned. We have not loved you or our neighbors the way we should. We have not always honored you with our time. We’ve coveted other people’s stuff. And sometimes we have called you out of your name. Generous God, you have given so much to us, and we have offered back such small amounts in return. We have often served you as part-time followers, giving a fraction of our time and resources to your mission and an overwhelming share to our own indulgences. We strive to do better, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead - pressing on to the goal of serving Christ with all our being. Lord, forgive us. We apologize for the pain we’ve caused you. Forgive us of our sins and help us to live in ways that give you joy - in Jesus’ name, amen.***

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, there is good news today! God is faithful and just and has forgiven each of us for all of our mess. The things you were embarrassed about - God has forgiven you. The thing no one else knows about - God has forgiven it! You have been given the peaceful gift of another chance. Hallelujah! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thank you God!

***People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!***

***All: Glory to God! Thank you Jesus! Amen.***

1. My life flows on in endless song,  
above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the clear, though faroff hymn  
that hails a new creation.

**Refrain:**

***No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?***

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing?

**(Refrain)**

3. What though my joys and comforts die?  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.

**(Refrain)**

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing?

**(Refrain)**

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

INTROIT “How Great Thou Art” Video

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (stand) Pastor Jackie

Leader: Gather us in,  
the lost and the lonely,  
the broken and breaking,  
the tired and the aching  
who long for nourishment  
found at your feast.

People: **Gather us in,**  
Leader: The done and the doubting  
the wishing and wondering,  
the puzzled and pondering  
who long for the company  
found at your feast.

People: **Gather us in,**  
Leader: the proud and pretentious,  
the sure and superior  
the never inferior  
who long for the leveling  
found at your feast

People: **Gather us in,**  
Leader: the bright and the bustling,  
the stirrers, the shakers,  
the kind laughter makers  
who long for the deeper joys  
found at your feast.

People: **Gather us in,**  
Leader: from corner or limelight,  
from mansion or campsite,  
from fears and obsession,  
from tears and depression,  
from treasured successes,  
to meet, to eat,  
to be given a seat,  
be joined to the vine,  
be offered new wine,  
become like the least,  
be found at the feast.

All: **Gather us in!**

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (stand)

\*THE LORD’S PRAYER (stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*God of new life, with joy we have received this sacrament of bread and cup, giving you thanks for Jesus Christ, our peace and our hope. Unite your church throughout the world in continuing Christ’s ministry of love and servanthood, that your name might be praised in all earth. Amen.*

SENDING HYMN “Lord, I Want to be a Christian” UMH 402

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

BENEDICTION

**Worship Leaders**  
Rev. Jackie Freeman

Liturgist: Bob Wood  
Ushers: Mildred & Stayton Weldon  
Special Music: Lois Davis  
Music Leader: Sarah Ritchea



## CALENDAR

Mon. Oct. 5	9:30am	Easy Does It (Exercise Class)
	6:30pm	Nomination Committee—Zoom
Tues. Oct. 6	YouTube	Sacred Spaces Devotional
Wed. Oct. 7	9:30am	Easy Does It (Exercise Class)
	7:00pm	Bible Study—Zoom
Thur. Oct. 8		
Fri. Oct. 9	9:30am	Easy Does It (Exercise Class)
Sat. Oct. 10		
Sun. Oct. 11	10:30am	Worship
	2:30am	Rabke UMC
	6:00pm	Book Study—Zoom

C.A.M.A.L. House  
Collection:

October  
Canned Fruit

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

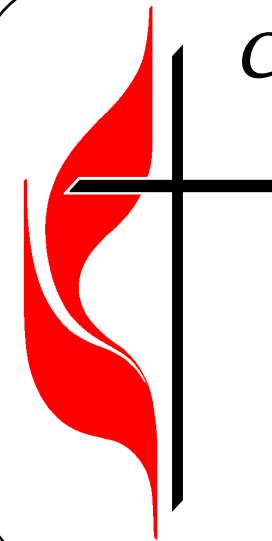
- **Virtual Blessing of the Animals**—YouTube Sunday, October 4
- **Church Office** **FACEMASK REQUIRED** for all visits.  
Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00am – 3:00pm (Closed during lunch)
- **Visits with Pastor Jackie**  
Come meet and talk with Pastor Jackie.  
A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or you can call Pam at the church office to set up a time. Facemasks are required when visiting the office.
- **Devotionals – Weekly on our YouTube Page**  
**Sacred Spaces**  
Tuesdays Evenings  
**AM Praise**  
Friday Mornings
- **Trunk ‘R Treat**—Details Soon or call Colette Barth at 361-676-5484
- **Pumpkin Patch**—Cancelled
- **Shoebox Ministry**—Call Colette at 361-676-5484
- **Bible Study & Book Study**  
Beginning in October on Zoom
- **Check the website@** [www.cuerofumc.org](http://www.cuerofumc.org)  
The website has current information and messages from the Pastor.

**YouTube channel@ First United Methodist Church Cuero**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCej19h0LC2ltOerV56cxYVQ>



**Pastor Appreciation Month**



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***Rev. Jackie Freeman—Pastor***  
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Pam Zengerle—Office Administrator  
***[secretary@cuerofumc.org](mailto:secretary@cuerofumc.org)***

October 4, 2020  
18th Sunday after Pentecost



**WORLD**  
**COMMUNION**  
**SUNDAY**