



CROSSROADS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connecting People • Igniting Hearts • Transforming Lives

Crossroads UMC Worship 08-29-2021

Words of Welcome

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we come to add our human voices to the chorus of praise raised by your creation! We come as we are knowing that you accept us and are ever mindful of our cares and joys. Still in us now the many voices that clamor for attention, that we might center ourselves upon you. Speak to us in word and melody, that we may be renewed in our faith and strengthened for your service. This we pray through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray, Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Praise

New Testament Lesson

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some legal experts from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. They saw some of his disciples eating food with unclean hands. (They were eating without first ritually purifying their hands through washing. The Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat without first washing their hands carefully. This is a way of observing the rules handed down by the elders. Upon returning from the marketplace, they don't eat without first immersing themselves. They observe many other rules that have been handed down, such as the washing of cups, jugs, pans, and sleeping mats.) So the Pharisees and legal experts asked Jesus, "Why are your disciples not living according to the rules handed down by the elders but instead eat food with ritually unclean hands?"

He replied, "Isaiah really knew what he was talking about when he prophesied about you hypocrites. He wrote,

This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far away from me.

Their worship of me is empty

since they teach instructions that are human words.



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You ignore God's commandment while holding on to rules created by humans and handed down to you."

Then Jesus called the crowd again and said, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing outside of a person can enter and contaminate a person in God's sight; rather, the things that come out of a person contaminate the person."

"It's from the inside, from the human heart, that evil thoughts come: sexual sins, thefts, murders, adultery, greed, evil actions, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, insults, arrogance, and foolishness. All these evil things come from the inside and contaminate a person in God's sight."

Sermon
Sermon Series

Dirty Hands & Clean Hearts
Soul Food
Pastor Scott Walters

Pastoral Prayer

Benediction



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