

March 8, 2020

10:00 am

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 121)

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

People: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

People: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*Song of Praise “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Celebration Hymnal No. 11

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Heavenly Father, we look up to You as we pray today, for You are high and lifted up in reality and in our praise of You. Your word teaches that You made heaven and earth, and You made us in Your image, a little lower than yourself. You know us completely, far better than we know ourselves. You know our needs. You anticipate every problem that will cause us to struggle in the days ahead. You keep Your eyes upon us day and night, ever ready to come to our rescue. Direct our paths, so we will not stray into evil. Protect us from Your enemies and ours, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson

Genesis 2:15-17

Second Lesson

John 4:5-42

*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

Anthem

Sermon “The Graveyard is No Place for the Living.” Rev. Dr. Eugene A. Blair

Song of Reflection “Jesus Is Lord of All” Celebration Hymnal No. 599

Pastoral Prayer

The 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 and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.*

Choral Response

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn of Going Forth “Come, Every One Who Is Thirsty” Celebration Hymnal No. 720

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

“Make Us One”

Make us one Lord, make us one
Holy Spirit, make us one
Let our love flow, so the world will know
We are one in you; we are one in you.

*Postlude

*We invite you to stand if you are able.

First Lesson

Genesis 2:15-17

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Second Lesson

John 4:5-42

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in

Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Word of God for the people of God.

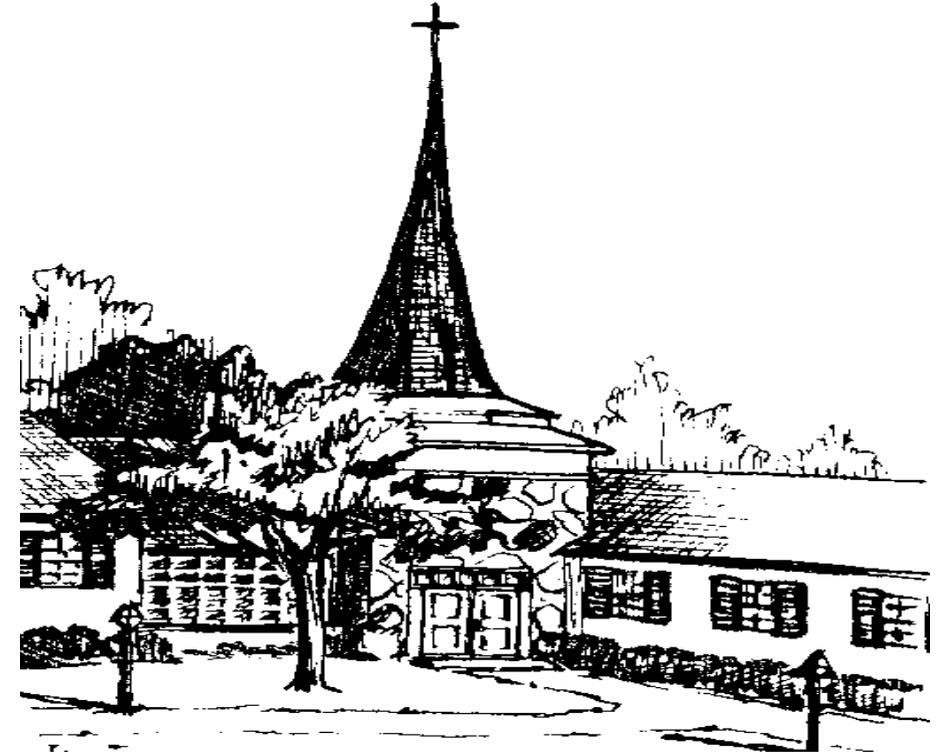
All: Thanks be to God.

WELCOME!

Church Covenant

We are banded together as a Christian Church to maintain the worship of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer; to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to develop in ourselves and others a consciousness of our relationship and duties to God and each other; to create a spirit of love for truth, a passion for righteousness and enthusiasm for service; to respect and protect all of God's creation. To this end we pledge our loyalty to Christ and covenant with God and with each other to strive to express God's spirit in our individual and corporate life; to live together as Christians and to submit ourselves to the government of this church, working, giving, praying for its increase, purity and peace, seeking in every way to make it a power for the building up of the Kingdom of God.

March 8, 2020



DEARBORN CONGREGATIONAL

16350 Rotunda Drive

Dearborn, MI 48120

313/271-8552 (Office)

Church e-mail: dccucc@gmail.com

Website : <http://www.dccdearborn.org>

Brian Sampson, Music Director

To reach Rev. Blair, please us his cell phone number; 1-734-748-6039.

Please use his gmail for email messages at Jabulaney3@gmail.com.

March 8, 2020

Welcome to Pastor, Dr. Eugene Blair. A special Congregational meeting was held following Sunday's, March 01, 2020 sermon. After a brief question and answer period, a vote was taken to approve Rev. Blair as our new interim Minister. As we have been Blessed with a very energetic Minister, it is time to move Dearborn Congregational Church forward to bring God's word to the people. Looking forward to everyone being a part of our future. Pastor Blair will have office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

~Pastoral Search Committee Chair, Jim Haling

Dr. Eugene A. Blair
Ann Arbor, MI
Jabulaney3@gmail.com

Eugene Blair currently serves as an Intentional Interim Minister with dual standing in the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. He served nine years as program staff and district superintendent in the Detroit Annual Conference. From 1994-2004, he served as the pastor of the newly formed Resurrection United Methodist Church in Chicago and the Director for Congregational Development for the Northern Illinois Conference.

His pastorates include two new church starts. He served as a teaching missionary from 1992-93 at what is now Kenya Methodist University (Nairobi, Kenya). He was Dean of The Upper Room Chapel and the International Director of Spiritual Formation and Chrysalis (Youth Walk to Emmaus) for the General Board of Discipleship from 1987-1992. He has traveled and studied in several countries in Africa where he has also led spiritual formation events and consultations.

Dr. Blair studied at Bethel University and Seminary in St. Paul, MN (BS), the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (M.Div.), and the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit (D.Min.). For a number of years, he was involved with the Academy for Spiritual Formation. Before entering the ministry, he was a police officer and community organizer.

Dr. Blair has written several books over the years including *Maybe God is Trying to Tell You Something-Listening for Your Call to Ministry* and *What Kind of Man is Joseph, and What Kind of Man Are You? (A Bible Study for Men on Matthew 1 and 2)*. He is a member of the Academy for Spiritual Formation Forum.

Dr. Blair lives in Ann Arbor, MI with his wife Dawn and two daughters: Nia will be a junior at Tennessee State University and Imani will be a sophomore at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor. Dawn is a 3rd grade teacher in Ann Arbor. Dr. Blair is also a youth counselor and teacher at the Washtenaw County Juvenile Detention Center. One of Gene's special interests is using mindfulness and spirituality with juvenile offenders and youth in drug recovery. He also runs an after school and summer camp STEM program for elementary students, Bricks 4 Kidz.

Welcome to Pastor, Dr. Eugene Blair. A special Congregational meeting was held following Sunday's, March 01, 2020 sermon. After a brief question and answer period, a vote was taken to approve Rev. Blair as our new interim Minister. As we have been Blessed with a very energetic Minister, it is time to move Dearborn Congregational Church forward to bring God's word to the people. Looking forward to everyone being a part of our future. Pastor Blair will have office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

~Pastoral Search Committee Chair, Jim Haling

Dr. Eugene A. Blair
Ann Arbor, MI
Jabulaney3@gmail.com

Eugene Blair currently serves as an Intentional Interim Minister with dual standing in the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. He served nine years as program staff and district superintendent in the Detroit Annual Conference. From 1994-2004, he served as the pastor of the newly formed Resurrection United Methodist Church in Chicago and the Director for Congregational Development for the Northern Illinois Conference.

His pastorates include two new church starts. He served as a teaching missionary from 1992-93 at what is now Kenya Methodist University (Nairobi, Kenya). He was Dean of The Upper Room Chapel and the International Director of Spiritual Formation and Chrysalis (Youth Walk to Emmaus) for the General Board of Discipleship from 1987-1992. He has traveled and studied in several countries in Africa where he has also led spiritual formation events and consultations.

Dr. Blair studied at Bethel University and Seminary in St. Paul, MN (BS), the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (M.Div.), and the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit (D.Min.). For a number of years, he was involved with the Academy for Spiritual Formation. Before entering the ministry, he was a police officer and community organizer.

Dr. Blair has written several books over the years including *Maybe God is Trying to Tell You Something-Listening for Your Call to Ministry* and *What Kind of Man is Joseph, and What Kind of Man Are You? (A Bible Study for Men on Matthew 1 and 2)*. He is a member of the Academy for Spiritual Formation Forum.

Dr. Blair lives in Ann Arbor, MI with his wife Dawn and two daughters: Nia will be a junior at Tennessee State University and Imani will be a sophomore at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor. Dawn is a 3rd grade teacher in Ann Arbor. Dr. Blair is also a youth counselor and teacher at the Washtenaw County Juvenile Detention Center. One of Gene's special interests is using mindfulness and spirituality with juvenile offenders and youth in drug recovery. He also runs an after school and summer camp STEM program for elementary students, Bricks 4 Kidz.

