

# Newtonville United Methodist Church

## Sunday Worship for September 6, 2020

Gathering Music: Mark Miller "Lead Me, Guide Me"

Welcome and Announcements: Pastor Steven Smith

Call to Worship: Liz McGeough-Gamache

Hymn: Gather Us In

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away.  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken. Gather us in, the blind and the lame.  
Call to us now and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty. Gather us in, the proud and the strong.  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly. Give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water. Here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion. Give us to eat the bread that is you.  
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away.  
But here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever. Gather us in and make us your own  
Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

Opening Prayer: Kathy Franklin

***Sing: You satisfy the hungry heart, with gift of finest wheat; come, give to us o Saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.***

In you, gracious God, the widowed find relationship, the orphaned find a parent, the fearful find a friend. In you, the wounded find a healer, the penitent find a pardoner, the burdened find a counselor. In you, the miserly find a beggar, the despondent find a laugh-maker, the legalists find a rule-breaker. In you, Jesus the Christ, we meet our maker, and our match.

***Sing: You satisfy the hungry heart, with gift of finest wheat; come, give to us o Saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.***

And if some need to say, "help me," and if some need to say, "save me," and if some need to say, "hold me," and if some need to say, "forgive me," then let these be said now in confidence by us. O Christ, in whose heart is both welcome and warning, say to us, do to us, reveal within us the things that will make us whole.

***Sing: You satisfy the hungry heart, with gift of finest wheat; come, give to us o Saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.***

And we will wait; and we will praise you, as we pray together as Jesus taught:

**Loving Creator we honor you, and we honor all that you have made. Renew the whole world in the image of your love. Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed. Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the**

**past; give us courage to follow your call in this moment. For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need, in this world and in the world to come. Amen.**

***Sing: You satisfy the hungry heart, with gift of finest wheat; come, give to us o Saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.***

Children's Message: Karin Wheatley

Scripture and Message: Bruce France, Director of Capital Area Council of Churches

### Without Seeing You

[refrain] Without seeing you, we love you; without touching you, we embrace; without knowing you, we follow; without seeing you, we believe.

1. We return to you deep within, leave the past to the dust; turn to you with tears and fasting; you are ready to forgive. [refrain]
2. The sparrow will find a home, near to you, O God; how happy, we who dwell with you, forever in your house. [refrain]
3. Forever we sing to you of your goodness, O God; proclaiming to all the world of your faithfulness and love. [refrain]
4. For you are our shepherd, there is nothing that we need; in green pastures we will find our rest, near the waters of peace. [refrain]

Prayers of the Community: Pastor Dee Lowman

### He Leadeth Me

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
by waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. [Refrain]

3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. [Refrain]

4. And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me. [Refrain]

Benediction: Pastor Steven Smith

***In-person worship resumes on September 13. Reservations are required.  
Please go to [www.numc.net](http://www.numc.net) for more information and instructions.***