



**Shadow
Rock UCC**

JESUS AND POP CULTURE

2019

JOURNEY OF THE SPIRIT

***When Jesus becomes a joke...
is that a good thing?
Is that a Biblical thing?***

March 31, 2019

Thoughts About “Snarky Jesus” for Journey of the Spirit

This morning, we’re giving Jesus permission to be funny, even a little bit obnoxious. How do we respond? Can the same humor that makes us squirm help someone connect to faith and community?

Prelude

Shared by Our Great Band

Greetings and Announcements

Shared by Rev. Ken Heintzelman

Strengthening Connection

Call to Worship (please stand if you are comfortably able)

Led by Mike Gattorna

One: We gather this morning, acknowledging that all of life can be a lesson to us if we allow it. We acknowledge that our community feels a special call to interact with meaning and intention with art and culture.

All: We gather this morning, acknowledging that our covenant asks us to balance work and word, worship and study.

One: Journey of the Spirit is a time to refine and refresh that balance!

All: Our gatherings will include snickering laughter and puzzled expressions as we give ourselves permission to find holy humor and sacred sarcasm.

One: May this time together in worship and study open

our eyes to the meanings and theologies of the culture all around us.

All: May our Journey of the Spirit enliven us all and bring us grace.

Singing Our Faith

The Rebel

by Richard Avery & Donald Marsh

Spoken parts at the beginning of each verse shared by choir members.

1. He was a rebel, yes, a rebel!
He changed water into wine, he was human and divine,
And he sold a revolutionary line.
He was a rebel. He was a rebel. Let's join the rebel!
2. (Spoken Line) He was a rebel, yes, a rebel!
Common people were so glad, pious leaders just got mad.
When he ate and drank with people they called bad.
He was a rebel. He was a rebel. Let's join the rebel!
3. (Spoken Line) He was a rebel, yes, a rebel!
He suggested that my foe was somebody I should know,
Was somebody I could love not overthrow.
He was a rebel. He was a rebel. Let's join the rebel!
4. (Spoken Line) He was a rebel, yes, a rebel!
He said I would not be weak if I turned the other cheek
When somebody struck me, I would be unique.
He was a rebel. He was a rebel. Let's join the rebel!
5. (Spoken Line) He was a rebel, yes, a rebel!
He said you're as good as me,
Though you're from a strange country,
Though you're red or white or black as ebony.
He was a rebel. He was a rebel. Let's join the rebel!

Centering Prayer

Led by Mike Gattorna

The Prayer of Jesus

Read in unison, led by Mike Gattorna

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

Learning Something of Value

A Word About Life



Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Matthew 8:18-22

Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. A scribe then approached and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Another of his disciples said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Word About Life for Today

Shared by Rev. Ken Heintzelman

Musical Interlude

Shared by Our Great Band

What We Need and What We Give

Celebrations

Led by Rev. Ken Heintzelman

This is our time to share the celebrations of our lives:
birthdays, anniversaries, words of kindness
and works of peace and justice.

Celebration Song

We shall be known by the company we keep
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires.
We shall be known by the ones who sow and
reap the seeds of change
From deep within the Earth.

It is time now; It is time now that we thrive.
It is time we lead ourselves into the well.
It is time now.

And what a time to be alive!
In this great turning we shall learn to lead in love.
In this great turning we shall learn to lead in love.

Invitation to Give

Shared by Mike Gattorna

We pause to acknowledge the abundance of creation. We
give with joy, knowing that we have enough. We live with
joy, knowing that we are enough.

Offering and Offertory

By Lady Gaga and Jeppe Laursen ~ Shared by the Cornerstone Chorale

Born This Way

Words for Mission

Please stand if comfortably able

Led by Rev. Ken Heintzelman

One: Our time in community continues, even as we go separate ways. This week, may God's dream for the world be strengthened by our actions.

All: **Let us go forward together with love in our hearts and peace beneath our feet!
May we find with each other good humor and encouragement for the journey.**

One: These are the times.

All: **We are the people.**

One: All of Creation is blessed!

All: **May we love all and serve all!**

One: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Amen.

All: **Amen.**

Sending Forth Song

I Shall Not Be Moved Traditional

I shall not be, I shall not be moved
I shall not be, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
I shall not be moved.

We shall not be, we shall not be moved
We shall not be, we shall not be moved
Just like those trees planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

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