

## First Sunday after Epiphany – January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 9:15 AM

### Gathering Music & Announcements

Call to Worship	<i>I Know Whom I Have Believed How Firm a Foundation</i>	UMH 714 vs 1-3 UMH 529
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### Prayer-Creed for Doubters (inspired by Mark 9:14-29)

When we expend great efforts on a good cause  
and see little result for our labour,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we profoundly and faithfully seek the healing of a friend,  
but to no avail,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we witness by word and deed to the Gospel  
yet see no obvious fruits,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When disasters happen to the faithful,  
while unbelievers flaunt their prosperity,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we pray with anguish over a lost soul  
but see no change for the better,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we get so frustrated with our own failures  
that we become carping critics of others,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we seem tempted beyond that which any mortal should have to bear,  
God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

When we are weary of body and soul,  
and feel like retreating into a closed-off piety,

God of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Mary and Jesus,  
**We believe in you, please save us from our unbelief.**

**For yours is the kingdom of unlimited opportunities,  
the innovative and resilient power of saving love,  
and the surging glory of the love which never ends**  
Amen!

### **Words of Affirmation**

**I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves  
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,  
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power  
to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,  
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty  
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,  
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations  
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**      **Joshua 2; James 2**

**Sermon**      **Rahab**      **Rev. Deb Lampton**

***Rahab's Lullaby***      **Jillian Lader/Kristen Brought**

***He is God above, He is God below, He is God of everything between.  
There's no place you'll be where He cannot go. Look at my face,  
these eyes have seen: I know the Lord.***

### **Communion & the Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Chorus**      ***Impossible Things***

***For impossible things, you do impossible things;  
You open my eyes, that I will survive this impossible thing.***

### ***I Know Whom I Have Believed***

I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he hath made known, nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.

**But I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day.**

I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart, nor how believing in his word wrought peace within my heart. **Refrain**

I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing us of sin, revealing Jesus through the word, creating faith in him. **Refrain**

### ***How Firm a Foundation***

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid, I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply, the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, through all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake.

**Continuing Prayers:** Art Benson, Paul Bowden, Cora Cole, Pat Grahe, Betty Grimm, Stephanie Juchs Heidbreder, John Hieber, Libby Horn, Nancy Jenkins, Wes Jenkins, Lynn King, Tim Knabe, Carol Lingelbach, Ted Lingelbach, Wayne Mason, Bruce Middlekauf, Dick Moen, Sally Moen, Alice Paradise, Jack Potter, Pat Potter, Ron Stearn, Steve Strawbridge Sr., Shirley Yantz

**The Rev. Ed Hammersla**, retired pastor of BAUMC, and former Annapolis District Superintendent, died Dec. 31. Condolences may be sent to his wife, Elizabeth Hammersla, at 3154 Gracefield Road, Apt. 213, Silver Spring, MD, 20904.

