



## BECAUSE GOD

August 23, 2020, 11 am worship

Click the link below to interact live on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HomerUnitedMethodistChurchAlaska/>

OR

Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/z2o1ZrOCjsE>

### Centering

- Welcome!
- Open your Bible to Matthew and have this Worship Guide handy
- Light a candle and breathe deeply for you are on holy ground!

### Prelude

*I Love You, Lord*

Ola Mullikin

WORDS: Laurie Klein  
MUSIC: Laurie Klein  
CCLI Song #25266  
CCLI License # 11365960

**Opening Prayer** (Modified from Rebecca Gaudino, Abingdon Worship Annual 2020)

**Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
remind us of your power and mercy,  
replenish our courage and vision,  
renew our identity as your people,  
and reinvigorate our faith.  
In your name we pray. Amen.**

### BECAUSE GOD<sup>1</sup> Series Introduction

Jesus performed miracle after miracle - feeding, healing, walking on water. We can get caught up in "how" they occurred. What if we're asking the wrong questions? Instead of asking how they happened, what if we ask how can we let them motivate us to live out our faith every day? Why did Jesus perform these miracles? What are we supposed to learn from them? Why were these stories passed down to us? The how is simple: Because God. The why is our motivation to live as people of faith.

### Scripture

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' <sup>14</sup>And they said, 'Some

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<sup>1</sup> Series from UMC Discipleship Ministries (<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/because-god>)

say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup>He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.' <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Message**

Who Do You Say?

Pastor Lisa

### **Song of Response**

*Jesus, Name Above All Names*

Ola Mullikin

WORDS: Naida Hearn  
MUSIC: Naida Hearn  
CCLI Song #21291  
CCLI License # 11365960

### **Back to School Blessing**

Raise your backpacks, folders, notebooks, computers, pens, or other school supplies to be blessed.

Dear God, as children, teachers, administrators, staff, and parents all prepare for the school year, we ask that you keep them safe, give them joy in learning, and help them create lasting friendships. Bless the supplies they raise up, that they may be used for the important work of education. We are grateful for the gifts of technology that can keep us connected even when we are far apart. Bless the masks students and teachers will wear to honor the sacred breath you give us all. Bless the custodians who will keep the buildings clean and sanitized. Bless the bus drivers who carry such precious cargo. Bless the teachers who give their time so selflessly. Bless the administrators and grant them wisdom. Bless the parents and families who are making difficult choices this year. And bless the hearts, minds, and souls of the students, that they may continue to grow in knowledge and compassion every day. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Joe Talbott

**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 trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Offering**

Thank you for your generous donations which support the missions and ministries of the church.

Give online: <https://www.homerumcalaska.org/Donate.html>

Give by check: Homer UMC, 770 East End Road, Homer, AK, 99603

### **Benediction**

As we go forth today, may the precious name of Jesus guide, guard, and protect you, today and every day. **Amen.**