

Drawn In

LIVING THE CREATIVE LIFE WITH GOD

Sermon Series Begins
January 10, 2021



Sunday, January 10, 2021

*As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew,
children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun.
Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.*

Offertory

Jessica Bollinger

An Imaginative Word: "There is a Vitality" by Martha Graham

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

"There is a vitality, a life-force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action. And because there is only one of you in all of time, this expression is unique. And if you block it...the world will not have it. It is not your business to determine how good it is nor how valuable nor how it compares with other expressions. It is your business to keep it yours clearly and directly, to keep the channel open...whether you choose to take an art class, keep a journal, record your dreams, dance your story or live each day from your own creative source. Above all else, keep the channel open!"

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:14-21

Jerrie Simonton

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Message

Dream

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Invitation to Creativity & Prayer with *Goodness of God*

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

All: *[hum or sing softly]* I love You, Lord, for Your mercy never fails me. All my days, I've been held in Your hands. From the moment that I wake up, until I lay my head, oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

[Leader leads the congregation in prayer]

All: *[hum or sing softly]* And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good. With every breath that I am able. Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Hymn

Precious Name

UMH #534, v. 1

*Take the name of Jesus with you, child of sorrow and of woe;
it will joy and comfort give you; take it then, where'er you go.*

Refrain: *Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of Heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of Heaven.*

Benediction

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Prelude

Jessica Bollinger

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

"Let Us Be Drawn In" Melody & Call to Worship

Leader: *[hum or sing softly]* In the world of the driven

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: Let your love be a given

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem. For the sake of the living

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: All creation began with the dream of God, the will and intention for life to exist in the void. All of our actions are born out of desire, out of a dream and vision for the future. This is our birthright: to imagine and to create. What brings you alive? What truly moves your soul in the deepest way? What you create out of that answer is your dream!

Leader: *[hum or sing softly]* In the world of the driven

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: Let your love be a given

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem. For the sake of the living

All: **Let us be drawn in**

Leader: Let us pray together:

All: *[spoken]* **Creating God, you called forth all that exists in a moment of divine brilliance. Open us again to that spark which you ignited in each of us at our creation so that we might generate more life-giving energy in this world. Draw us into your story of hope. Give us the courage to dream. Amen.**

Hymn

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

UMH #150, v. 1,4

*God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
We your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.*