

Drawn In

LIVING THE CREATIVE LIFE WITH GOD

Sermon Series Begins
January 10, 2021



Sunday, January 24, 2021

Prelude Jessica Bollinger

Welcome & Announcements Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Let Us Be Drawn In Melody & Call to Worship Rev. Rachel Carosiello

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: God's act of creating all that is, God's act of entering our lives in the person of Jesus, God's everyday act of creating new life—all these are acts of bringing that which is not into being—all acts of originality. To create is to assert ourselves in a way that is risky, that invites stepping into the unknown. Jesus told a story about people who did different things with the "talents" given to them. The one who took a risk and utilized those talents multiplied his gift in the world. What can you do to risk what God has given you to expand love and grace in the world?

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: **Risking God, you created something from nothing. Open us to move into the unknown future with confidence so that we might live into your vision for this world you continue to create. Draw us into your possibilities. Give us the courage to act. Amen.**

Hymn **Trust and Obey** UMH #467, verses 1,2,4

*When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!*

*While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.*

Refrain: *Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

*Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. **Refrain.***

*Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go,
never fear, only trust and obey. **Refrain.***

Offertory Jessica Bollinger

An Imaginative Word: "Invocation" by Cynthia Winton-Henry Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Here's an idea. Let us make something out of nothing. No, not nothing. Let us gather up everything that we ever were or are or will be. Let us be Shapers, Creators, Makers of Some Thing, Some World, Some Living. Let us dare to succeed at it, dare to fail at it, dare to fly on the wings of this moment. Let us improvise our dreams. Let us leap boldly from the shoulders of our lives, our histories, our loves, our disasters. Here's an idea. Let us play ourselves out! (The real work) Let us do nothing at all. It may not matter. Let us run the risk of naked individuality. Let us go out wildly, not just as one, but as a union, an ensemble. Here is an idea. When we make our worlds, let us commit to them, hold still with them, let them go when it is time. Let us breathe, let us sing, let us laugh, let us dance, let us see what will be when we invoke God, Creativity, and Power.

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:24-30 Kevin Mitchell

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Message Risk Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Invitation to Creativity & Prayer with *Goodness of God* Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Verse 1: *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.*

Verse 2: *I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire. In the darkest night, You are close like no other. I've known You as a Father. I've known You as a Friend.
And I have lived in the goodness of God.*

Chorus: *All my life You have been faithful. 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.*

Bridge: *Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now. I give you everything,
'cause Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.*