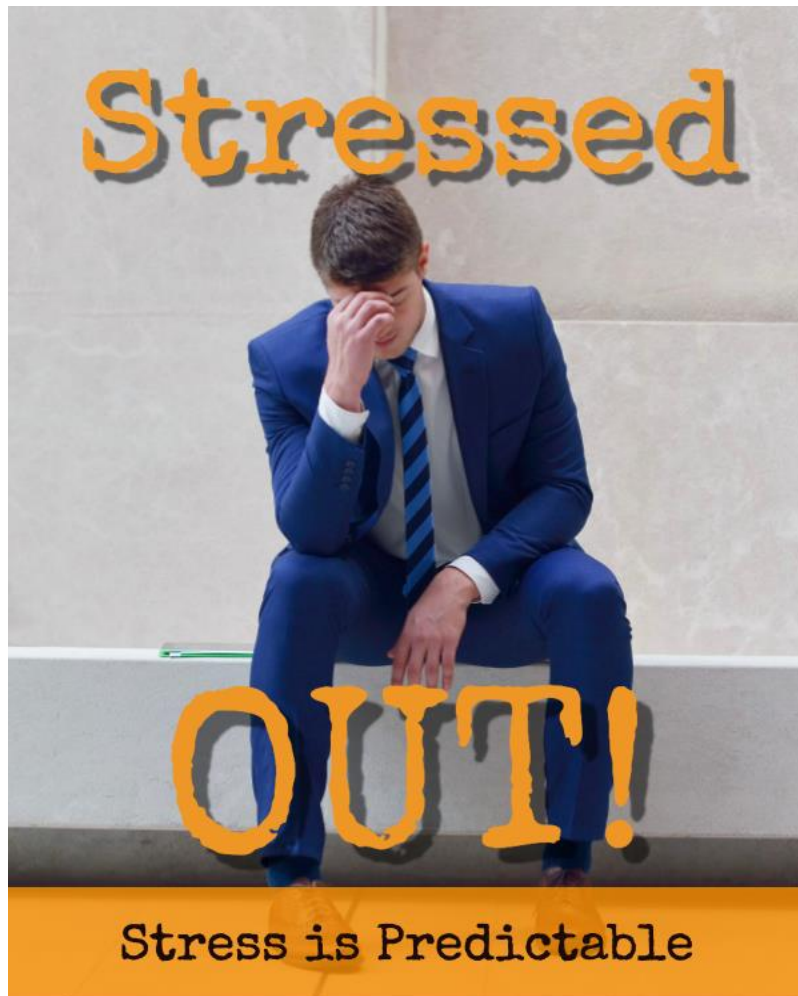


May 24, 2020  
Pastor Shane Russo  
Liturgist: Carmen Russo



Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

You are never left outside God's house.

**There is always room for us.**

Jesus himself has prepared a place for each of us.

**When our time comes, we will be welcomed and made whole in Christ.**

Make your hearts ready to receive the goodness of the Lord.

**We are ready to step into service for God. AMEN.**

*\*Hymn      Come Christians Join to Sing*

## Pastoral Prayer

The brightness and dazzle of Easter has dimmed in our midst, O Lord. We have allowed ourselves to slip back into old habits and attitudes. Bring to us again your Resurrection Spirit, that we might know of your abiding love and presence. We want to place our trust in Jesus. We want to be of service to you by serving others; but our courage and strength waiver, and we wonder if we can do the work you have set before us. It would be very easy for us to turn away. Turn us around, Lord. Remind us that, as we have brought the names of those people who are near and dear to us, who need your healing mercies and comforting love, we, too, stand in need of the same compassion. We need your love. We need your guidance. You are the cornerstone. You are the strength to whom we can turn when our own strength has ebbed. Build us up to be a people of honor, integrity, and compassionate service to others; for we pray this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

## The Lord's Prayer

### Honoring God with our Tithes and Offerings and Praises

Invitation to give

Offering Prayer

God, everything we have has been given to us. We give back a portion this morning in the hope and expectation that you will use it to further your loving presence in this world.

Give online at [www.sebringumc.com](http://www.sebringumc.com)

*Doxology*

*Hymn          Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Scripture          James 2-12 (The VOICE translation)

**2-4** Don't run from tests and hardships, brothers and sisters. *As difficult as they are, you will ultimately find joy in them; if you embrace them, your faith will blossom under pressure and teach you true patience as you endure. And true patience brought on by endurance will equip you to complete the long journey and cross the finish line—mature, complete, and wanting nothing.* **5** If you don't have all the wisdom needed *for this journey*, then all you have to do is ask God for it; and God will grant all that you need. He gives lavishly and never scolds you for asking. **6** The key is that your request be anchored by your single-minded commitment *to God*. Those who depend only on their own judgment are

like *those lost on the seas*, carried away by any wave or picked up by any wind. **7** Those *adrift on their own wisdom* shouldn't assume the Lord will *rescue them or* bring them anything. **8** *The splinter of divided loyalty shatters your compass and* leaves you dizzy and confused.

**9** If you are a brother of humble means, celebrate the fact that God has raised you up. **10** If you are rich *and seemingly invincible*, savor the humble reality that you are a mere mortal who will vanish like a flower that withers in the field. **11** The sun rises with a blazing heat that *dries the earth and* causes the flower to wither and fall to the ground and its beauty to fade and die. In the same way, the rich will fall and die in the midst of their busy lives.

**12** Happy is the person who can hold up under the trials of life. *At the right time*, he'll know God's sweet approval and will be crowned with life. As God has promised, the crown awaits all who love Him.

Special Music      *Be Thou My Vision*                      performed by Angela Russo

**Sermon**                                      **Stress is Predictable**

Hymn              *All Creatures of Our God and King*

\*Benediction

Go in peace, and may the peace of God, which shines brightly and vanquishes our darkness, always be with you. Go, knowing that God is your rock and your refuge. You are not alone. God is always with you. AMEN.

Thank you for joining us in worship today!

