



+ Those who are able are invited to stand.

You are invited to respond with the **Bold** responses.

THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Gracious God, we commend to your care all families. We pray that each home may be a home where love is felt. We pray for homes where, instead of love, hurt, abuse, and suffering abide. We pray for children, youth, and adults, recognizing their importance and the gift of every age as we grow.

May your grace be present to all.

Grant us wisdom to know where there is no love, courage to act out of love for others, and peace to trust in your grace. Help us to live so that the commandments of love for you and love for others are shown in the ways we live together. Amen.

Good Morning! Welcome to Worship!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE

+CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *UMH 732*

Come, We That Love the Lord, v. 1

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord, and thus surround the throne.

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Pastor*

Hear the sound of singing families. They celebrate the Creator and lift their hearts in hope, as birds fly from branches wet with morning dew to greet the dawn. See the sun light up the world and the trees on West Virginia mountains, standing humbly in the majesty of the Spirit as the world bows before the Maker. The heavens proclaim God's love, and we are among family this day who behold God's glory. Alleluia! Let us worship God!

+INVOCATION *Responsively*

God of all creation, you have promised a new heaven and a new earth; embracing this hope, we look to you for newness of life today. We have tasted that the Lord is good, and we ask for courage to be your disciples:

Help us to abide in you as you abide in Christ.

Help us to grow in our love for one another that we may be known by our love.

Make us bearers of good fruit that glorifies your name. All things we ask in the name of the risen Lord. Amen.

+HYMN OF PRAISE *UMH 88*

Maker, in Whom We Live, vv. 1, 3, & 4

THE PEOPLE OF GOD CELEBRATE FAMILY

LITANY FOR FAMILIES *Responsively*

God of all times and places, we ask you to attend to this prayer and the voices, heard and silent, who pray.

For families who struggle to speak to one another in love, (pause)

For families who delight in being together, (pause)

For families who want to live with less in order that others might have more, (pause)

For families who do not have enough to dress warmly or to go to bed without hunger, (pause)

For families who read your word together, (pause)

For families who find it hard to spend any time together, (pause)

For my family (pause)

For the families in this congregation (pause)

For the First Church family (pause)

For the families in my community (pause)

For the families around the world, for all families, we pray that love will grow in them so that Christ's love will shine through them.

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES *Responsively*

Gracious God, who created the families of the earth, we commend to your care all of the families of this congregation, all of the families of this community, and all of the families of this world. We pray this day that each home may be a home where peace is practiced. We pray for those homes where there is no peace – where there is war, danger, violence, hurtful words, and unceasing activity. We pray for children, youth, and adults. We pray for parents, stepparents, and foster parents. We pray for those who are single and those who are married. We pray for those in caring relationships and for those who feel they have no one who cares for them or loves them. May your grace be present to all.

Grant us wisdom to seek God's peace in our homes, in our communities, and in our world.

Grant us courage to work for peace in our homes, in our communities, and in our world.

Grant us hope so, when we see only the mean actions of humans,

we remember your presence

and the promise of peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Unison

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, forever. Amen.

THE CHURCH LISTENS IN PRAYER AND WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME

Happy the Home When God Is There, v. 2 UMH 445

Happy the home where Jesus' name is sweet to every ear; where children early speak his fame, and parents hold him dear.

WIGGLETIME

THE WORD IN MUSIC

Chancel Choir

THE WORD

SERMON

Rev. Steven Meadows

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO SHARE GOOD NEWS

+HYMN OF DEDICATION

UMH 399

Take My Life, and Let It Be

+COMMISSION AND BLESSING

+POSTLUDE

...and the worship continues.



Thanks, Mom!

*The heavens proclaim
God's love, and we
are among family*

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Festival of the Christian Home—Mother's Day
8 May 2022
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