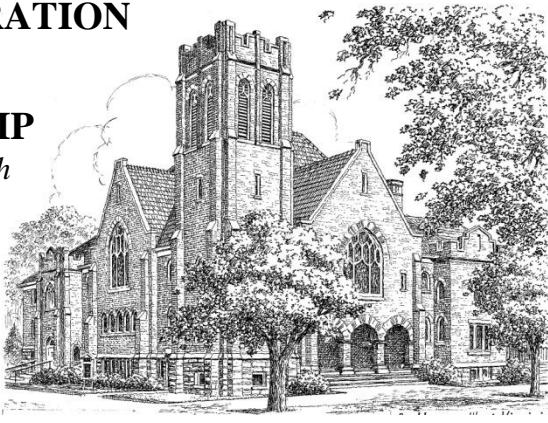


CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*To shine with
the Light of
Jesus Christ
so that
others will
know and
love him*



+ Those who are able are invited to stand.

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

THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

We have each been fashioned for a unique purpose; each been given unique gifts; each been blessed with varying abilities. During times of turmoil and transition, we can choose to become stagnant, or we can choose to be transformed by God's love. When we choose transformation, we choose to fully share in the vision of a community led by the Spirit—a community of love, gentleness, self-control, joy, patience, peace, faithfulness, kindness, and generosity.

When we follow Christ, we take up his mantle, moving forward together. May we all say,
"I will follow you wherever you go."

Thanks be to God.

GOOD MORNING! WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*

Welcome to worship today. Bring your joys and burdens to the Lord.

For God hears the cries of our hearts and heals our wounded souls.

Remember the wondrous deeds that God continues to perform in your life.

Let us be thankful for all the mercies and tenderness that God offers to us.

Come, praise the Lord with all your heart and soul.

Let our voices raise in a powerful concert of praise and thanksgiving.

+INVOCATION *Responsively*

Holy One, we come before you today:

full of hope,
full of desire,
full of promise.

Help us take up the mantle of faith you have laid before us, that we may use our own gifts of the Spirit to face the challenges before us. Help us face the turmoil within and around us, that we may face the future unafraid. Show us your way, your truth, and your life.

Amen.

+ HYMN OF CELEBRATION *UMH 62*

All Creatures of Our God and King, vv. 1, 5, 7

THE CHURCH AFFIRMS ITS FAITH

THE PSALTER *Psalms 77:1-2, 11-22a*

THE MODERN AFFIRMATION *UMH 885*

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic, and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to the Father's children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in our example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

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.

RESPONSE *UMH 396*

O Jesus, I Have Promised, vv. 1, 4

- 1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend. I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.**
- 4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be. And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.**

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME *UMH 141*

Children of the Heavenly Father, v. 1

Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

WIGGLETIME

The children are invited to the Chancel.

THE WORD IN MUSIC

Chancel Choir

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

SERMON

The Church Scatters to Share Good News

+HYMN OF DEDICATION

UMH 140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

+BENEDICTION

May the transforming love of God work in your lives,
today and always.

Go forth into the world with peace, love, and joy.
Follow Jesus wherever he leads you.

Fulfill the promise found in the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

+POSTLUDE

*Go in peace and may the Love of God surround you
everywhere you go.*

...and the worship continues.



Trust in Me with all your heart and mind, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Me, and I will make your path straight (*Prov. 3:5-6*). Such complete and utter confidence in Me has been your goal for years, but you continue to struggle with this. The main culprit is your mind's ravenous appetite for understanding, fueled by a strong desire to feel in control of your life. You want to trust Me wholeheartedly, but you feel stuck.

Beloved, your desire to rely on Me wholly is a worthy goal. Now also believe that I am providing training through your life experiences, and that many of the difficulties your encounter are designed to help in this endeavor. Allow Me to do this supernatural work in your heart.

The Holy Spirit will help you think trusting thoughts, but the Spirit requires your cooperation. Instead of relying on your understanding to help you feel in control, ask My Spirit to control your mind. Then, wait confidently to see results. As you look to Me—trusting Me, talking with Me—I straighten out the path before you.

-from Jesus Lives, p. 98.

**WHEN THE WATERS SEE YOU, O GOD, THEY ARE AFRAID
YOU LEAD YOUR PEOPLE**

3rd Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day 26 June 2022
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**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**