



# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Gathering as God's people to be inspired to  
live as the church, the Body of Christ*

+ Those who are able are invited to stand.

UMH-United Methodist Hymnal FWS-The Faith We Sing

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

## THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

God, you are wrapped in mystery, shrouded with light,  
unseen, but ever with us.

Yet, you care for us--keeping us safe, protecting us,  
and answering us when we call. You are the true  
riches in our lives. Open our hearts to one another and  
to the needs of the world, that we may share your  
abundance, and find true life in your love.

Our hope is in you, source of goodness and life.

***Thanks be to God! Welcome to Worship!***

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE *Dan Martin*

SERVICE OF LIGHT *The Acolytes*  
*Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world."*

+CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *UMH 658*  
*This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made*

**This is the day the Lord hath made; he calls the  
hours his own. Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad,  
and praise surround the throne.**

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Don't be afraid in the night--God is watching over  
us.

Don't worry as the day breaks--God is with us.

Don't be concerned in the middle of the day--God  
takes care of us.

Don't fret as the day ends--God is still beside us.

In every moment, God is there.

Best of all, God is with us now!

+INVOCATION

God our Redeemer, you promise deliverance to  
those who love you. Draw unto us as we draw unto  
you in worship. Open our eyes to see, our ears to  
hear, our minds to comprehend, and our spirits to  
encounter the revelation you have for us this day.  
Transform us with the truth of your love and grace,  
in the name of the one who loved us and gave his life  
for us.

**Amen.**

+ HYMN OF CELEBRATION *UMH 61*

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

## THE CHURCH IN MOMENTS OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

We fool ourselves if we think that our ways are  
hidden from God. For that reason, let us confess our  
sin, trusting in the mercy of God our Maker.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Responsively*

How can we look at this world and not sing of your  
praises, O God? The beauty and majesty of the world  
is overpowering! Yet we have a tendency to take all  
that you do for us for granted. We treat the world  
with callous indifference and with little regard to the  
future. We insist on war as solutions for problems  
rather than peaceful striving. We turn our backs on  
people in need; the weak and downtrodden go  
unnoticed in our midst. We always believe that  
someone else will care for those in need. How  
foolish we are, O God! How ignorant we have  
become!

**You have given to us all that we need. You have  
blessed us with the witness of Jesus Christ who  
came so that we might learn how you would  
have us live, in honor and peace. Forgive us.  
Heal our hearts and spirits. Make us fully aware  
of all our blessings and our responsibilities.  
Give us again a spirit of the joy of your  
salvation. Help us be agents of peace and hope  
to others. For we offer this prayer in Jesus'  
Name.**

PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls. The  
demons of arrogance, indifference and apathy are  
being cast out. New life is offered to you in Jesus  
Christ. Rejoice! Be Glad! For God's love is poured  
out to you this day.

**Amen.**

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 RESPONSE *Cyril and Felecia Johnston.*

## THE CHURCH CELEBRATES

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM,  
CONFIRMATION OF FAITH OF NEW  
MEMBERS

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION  
*Andrew Paul McDowell Evan Carter McDowell*

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME *Responsively*  
Members of the household of God, I commend these  
persons to your love and care. Do all in your power

to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

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### THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME *UMH 147*  
*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

*Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.*

1. **Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.** *Refrain*

### WIGGLETIME

*Following Wiggletime, the Children are invited to join the Leaders in Linger Hall for CHILDREN'S CHURCH.*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Cyril and Felecia Johnston*

### THE WORD

SERMON *Rev. Steven Meadows*

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### THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO SHARE GOOD NEWS

+HYMN OF DEDICATION *UMH 178*  
*Hope of the World, vv. 1, 4, 5*

+SERVICE OF LIGHT *The Acolytes*  
*Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."*

+BENEDICTION *Pastor*  
Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.  
Live boldly, trusting God with everything you are and everything you have.  
Take hold of the life to which God calls you.  
Go forth, rejoicing in God.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

+POSTLUDE *Dan Martin*

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...and the worship continues.

