



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Gathering with thankful hearts as God's people to be inspired to live as a community 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.

MOMENTS OF CENTERING

I am Christ in you, the hope of Glory. The One who walks beside you, holding you by your hand, is the same One who lives within you. This is a deep, unfathomable mystery. You and I are intertwined in an intimacy involving every fiber of your being. The Light of My Presence shines within you, as well as upon you. I am in you, and you are in Me; therefore, nothing in heaven or on earth can separate you from Me!

As you sit quietly in My Presence, your awareness of My Life within you is heightened. This produces the Joy of the Lord, which is your strength. I the God of hope, fill you with all Joy and Peace as you trust in Me, so that you may bubble over with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. *—from Jesus Calling, p. 332.*

THE CHURCH GATHERS IN 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 94*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

+THE CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*

Let us gather together in thanksgiving to God.

For God has made us and this earth which gives us nurture.

Let us gather together in gratitude to one another.

For we are the bearers of God's blessing and love for the earth and its people. Let us praise God; let us join hands; let us reach out in care and courage so that the goodness of life may be for all God's children.

+HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING *see insert*

All of Life Is filled with Wonder

+INVOCATION *Leader*

God of every blessing, you crown the year with every good thing. We praise you that you have ever fulfilled your promise that, while earth remains, seedtime and harvest shall not cease. We praise you for nature, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea, and for the providence that year by year supplies our need. We thank you for all your blessings. And with our thanksgiving, accept our praise, O God. For the eternal riches of your grace in Christ our Lord, to whom, with you, Almighty God, and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor and worship, for ever. **Amen.**

THE CHURCH AFFIRMS ITS FAITH

CALL TO PRAISE *UMH 160*

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart, v. 1

Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks, and sing; your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

THE PSALTER *Psalms 100*

RESPONSE *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart, v. 5 UMH 160*
Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forever more. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

THE CHURCH LISTENS

THE WORD

CALL TO CHILDREN'S SERMON *UMH 131*

We Gather Together, v. 1

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

WIGGLETIME

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

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER *UMH 131*

We Gather Together, v. 3

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER *Responsively*

In thanksgiving and praise for the love of Christ and the great things the Lord has done, let us pray to God who is our eternal home. *(A brief silence is kept.)*

We give you thanks, O God, for your church and for the wondrous ways in which you have dealt with your people. Continue to inspire the church to be a blessing in our communities and in our world. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the diversity of the world's people, for all nations and their leaders. Grant

to all your wisdom and grace, that a quiet and peaceable life would be possible for all people. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for your abundant blessings to us and for the bounty of the world's resources. Help us to share of our plenty with those in need. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for this congregation and for the praises you have put in our mouths and in our hearts. Help us work to insure that people in our community have sufficient food, clothing, and shelter. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

From the depths of our hearts, we lift to you, O God the petitions that are so personal that we can only pray in silence. *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for bringing the promise of comfort to those who grieve. We remember with praise and thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest at peace in your eternal home. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Your reign, O God, endures forever, and in Christ we are free to be your saints and servants. Hear our prayers for the sake of him who died and rose again, who lives with you in the company of all the saints and who taught us to pray:

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.

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Now Thank We All Our God

SERMON

Rev. M. Steven Meadows

**THE CHURCH SCATTERS AS
THE BODY OF CHRIST**

+HYMN OF COMMITMENT

UMH 327

Crown Him with Many Crowns

+SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Acolytes

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

+BENEDICTION

Though the days increase in their darkness, the Lord of light and love reigns supreme. May the power of God's love be in your hearts and reflected in your lives now and always. Go in gratitude and may God's peace be with you. **Amen.**

+POSTLUDE

Dan Martin

...and the worship continues.

First United Methodist Church

wishes you a very...



*Give thanks to the Lord,
for the Lord is good;
the Lord's love endures forever.*

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Christ the King/Thanksgiving Sunday
20 November 2022
Rev. M. Steven Meadows, pastor
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