



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Gathering 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.

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

Through every age and in every place, Jesus in whose name we gather calls disciples with a simple invitation, words of challenge: "Come follow me."

And where is it that we go with Jesus?

- ✘ *Jesus leads us among enemies and strangers, causing us to regard all persons as potential friends.*
- ✘ *Jesus leads us into uncharted places of spiritual wilderness where the Word and will of God are the only reliable guides.*
- ✘ *Jesus leads us to lose ourselves just so we might be found, just so grace might become real.*
- ✘ *And Jesus leads us to the apparent dead-end of a cross to reveal a highway to new life.*

*We gather to worship Jesus, our risen Lord, who leads us. May we gain the wisdom and the courage to follow... **Thanks be to God! Welcome to Worship!***

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Renee Warner*

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 73*

O Worship the King, v. 1

**O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.**

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*

Eternal God, hallowed be your name.

As we begin this day, we praise your glory.

Renew our bodies as fresh as green pastures and morning flowers.

Open our eyes, as the sun casts new light upon the darkness of the night. Deliver us from all that binds us.

Like the birds of the sky, give us wings to begin the journey anew. As a mighty stream running endlessly, restore to us the joy of your salvation.

We thank you for the gift of this Lord's Day, a new day to worship and praise you, and to share Your love as you love us.

+INVOCATION *Renee Warner*

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. In these moments of worship, remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround and strengthen us now with your perfect love, especially as we humbly gather in your presence with one another. Fill us with a love so strong, with such growth that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. **Amen.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE *UMH 126*

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

THE CHURCH AFFIRMS ITS FAITH

THE PSALTER *Psalms 22:25-31*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Unison*
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, the Spirit is worshipped and glorified and has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

RESPONSE *UMH 70*

Glory Be to the Father [Gloria Patri]

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

THE SOLO *Renee Warner*

THE CHURCH WORSHIPS BY GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

God loves us so much that Jesus was sent to be the atoning sacrifice for our sin. The balm of love was offered for our healing so we might be reconciled to God and one another. What will we offer in thanksgiving for so great a gift? May the One who loves us the most bless these thanksgiving gifts we offer.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Unison

Generous God, may the gifts we return to you cause your name to be celebrated among the nations. May the lives that we live cause your name to be celebrated in all generations. May our offerings be signs of our praise to you, forever and ever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Dan Martin

+DOXOLOGY

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 CHURCH LISTENS

THE WORD

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.

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME *FWS 2040*

Awesome God

**Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, pow'r, and love.
Our God is an awesome God!**

WIGGLETIME

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

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

SERMON

Rev. M. Steven Meadows

THE CHURCH SCATTERS AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

+HYMN OF COMMITMENT

UMH 545

The Church's One Foundation

+SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Acolytes

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


+BENEDICTION PRAYER

God, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. **Amen.**

+POSTLUDE

Dan Martin

...and the worship continues.



O happy ones and holy!
Lord give us grace that we
on high may dwell with Thee.

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