



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

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 177*
He Is Lord

**He is Lord, he is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord.**

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*
What a joy it is to welcome you this day!

We are grateful and happy to be here.
Christ, the Good Shepherd, invites you to walk with him.

**We accept that invitation, confident in his
guidance.**

Be ready to serve the Lord in all that you do, for his
love has been poured upon you.

**Open our hearts and spirits this day, Lord, to
receive your holy words and to be challenged in
our service to you.**

+INVOCATION *Leader*

Thank you, loving God, for bringing us to this time of
worship. Refresh us and heal us again. Remind us of
the many ways in which you have blessed our lives
with your abundant love and your presence. Guide our
hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words and
our souls may be stirred into active service to your
people. In the name of the One who leads us to life,
we pray. Amen.

+HYMN OF PRAISE *UMH 178*

Hope of the World

THE CHURCH AFFIRMS ITS FAITH

EPISTLE LESSON *I John 3:16-24*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Responsively*

This is the good news which we have received, in
which we stand, and by which we are saved.

**Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised
on the third day, and appeared first to the
women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to
many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One
of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn
from the dead, in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God was pleased to swell
by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by
the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God.
Amen.**

RESPONSE *UMH 140*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

THE CHURCH WORSHIPS BY GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY PRAYER *Responsively*

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with
gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your
Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-
sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and
offerings, we are reminded of the importance of
generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our
lives.

**May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have
experienced in Christ and our commitment to
steward them faithfully for the work of your
kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice,
mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy
name, we pray. 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

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME *UMH 191*

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me
so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he
is strong. Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus
loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me
so.**

WIGGLETIME

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

THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER *UMH 420*
Breathe on Me Breath of God, v. 1

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Responsively*

Sisters and brothers, confident in God’s love, grace, and mercy, let us pray for the world and for our needs. Holy God, you created us in Christ Jesus for good works. Help those who profess faith in the Risen Lord to do good in the world, following the way of life you have prepared for those who believe in him. For the church of Jesus Christ,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Your children walk by your light, doing what is true. Yet salvation is not earned by good works, but through trust in your grace. Dispel from your children arrogance of heart, that the world may be drawn to your truth by their humble witness.

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

In every age you call forth women and men of integrity to lead your people in the way of righteousness. Help every follower to fulfill their calling; give them courage to speak the truth in love. For every follower and believer of the Resurrection,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, your reign encompasses all the earth, though the nations may rebel against your justice. Save the nations from the wrath of their disobedience. Help them to dwell in peace and promote the common good. For governments and leaders,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

You hear the cry of the sick and the afflicted. You hear the weeping of the grieving, and weep with them all. Save them from their distress, heal them of their disease, and deliver them from the anguish

of suffering, and may your peace be present and theirs. For all who sorrow in distress,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

O God, in Jesus Christ, receive our prayers, grant us what we need, save us from perishing, and bring us to everlasting Resurrection life.

And with the confidence of the children of God, we pray as Jesus taught us...

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*

SERMON *Rev. M. Steven Meadows*

THE CHURCH SCATTERS AS
THE BODY OF CHRIST

+HYMN OF COMMITMENT *UMH 419*
I Am Thine, O Lord

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

+BENEDICTION PRAYER *Responsively*
Go forth in God’s care, taking love wherever you go.

We will abide in God’s love.

Go forth in God’s name, taking Christ wherever you go.

We will abide in God’s love.

Go forth in God’s grace, sharing mercy with everyone you meet.

We will abide in God’s love. Amen.

+POSTLUDE *Dan Martin*

...and the worship continues.

