



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.

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands
and voices, who wondrous things have done, in
whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers’ arms has blessed us on
our way with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

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.”

+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 *Responsively*

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, forever. 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 *UMH 821*
Psalm 100, singing Response 1 (in hymnal)

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 WORSHIPS BY GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY PRAYER *Responsively*

Compassionate Shepherd, You do not abandon your
flock, even when we wander or divide. You gather us in
Christ, our righteousness, and teach us to live in unity,
mercy, and peace. As we bring these gifts, may they be
signs of our desire to follow your way—offering
compassion where there has been hurt, justice where
there has been harm, and hope where there has been
despair.

**Strengthen us to live as people waiting not in fear,
but in faith—serving the reign of Christ not just with
words, but with lives shaped by generosity and love.
In the name of the One who gathers and leads us
always. 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 Children are invited to the Chancel
for Wiggletime.*

THE CHURCH LISTENS

WIGGLETIME *...then, it’s on to Children’s Church*

THE WORD

CALL TO PRAYER *Carolyn Brown, piano*

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 our plenty with those in need. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for this church family and for the praises you have put in our mouths and in our hearts. Help us work to ensure 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*
Director: Carolyn Brown

SERMON *Rev. M. Steven Meadows*

THE CHURCH SCATTERS AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

+HYMN OF COMMITMENT *UMH 102*
Now Thank We All Our God

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

+BENEDICTION *Pastor*
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 with thanksgiving. Go in peace and may God's peace be with you always. **Amen.**

+POSTLUDE *Dan Martin*

...and the worship continues.

First United Methodist Church
wishes you a very...



*Now Thank We
All Our God,
with Hearts,
and Souls
and Voices!*

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Christ the King/Thanksgiving Sunday
23 November 2025
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