

September 15, 2024, Celebration Service (8:50 AM)

Prelude

Gathering Song: Sunshine Gospel Singers: *Give the World a Smile*

Welcome

Congregational Hymns

*Blessed Be the Name of the Lord* (Celebration Hymnal #52 Vs. 1 & 4)

*Lord, Speak to Me* (United Methodist Hymnal #463 Verses 1 & 2)

*Thy Word is a Lamp* (United Methodist Hymnal #601 Verses 1 & 2))

Joys

Thanksgiving Prayer

Offertory: Celebration Choir *Blessed are the Peacemakers*

Doxology 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Call to Prayer

*Into My Heart* (Cokesbury Hymnal # 190)

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Prayer Response

*He Is Lord* (United Methodist Hymnal #177)

†Prayer of Illumination

**O God, Wisdom of the universe, open our hearts and minds to the scriptures today. Grant us the gift of wisdom, that we may discern your way and live justly and graciously amid the struggles of this world. Amen.**

Scripture James 3:2-12

For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it

takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.

So also, the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell.

For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can saltwater yield fresh.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks Be to God!**

Sermon *Doers of the Word*

Invitation to Christ and the Church

Invitational Hymn

*Jesus Shall Reign* (United Methodist Hymnal #157 Vs 1, 3 & 4)

Receiving of New Members

(Congregational Response)

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you at Christ 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. Amen.**

Benediction (The Light of Christ Taken into the World)

Benediction Response

*Blessed Be the Name of the Lord* (Celebration Hymnal #52 Chorus)

Postlude