

January 7, 2024, Celebration Service (8:50 AM)

Prelude

Gathering Music: Sunshine Gospel Singers: *When We All Get Together with the Lord*

Welcome & Communion Speaker

†Congregational Hymns

Spirit Song

Every Time I Fell the Spirit

Freely, Freely

Joys

Thanksgiving Prayer

Offertory: Celebration Choir: *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*

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 *Lead me Lord*

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

†Prayer of Illumination

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Scripture Mark 1:4-11

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Going Out*

Celebration of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?**

**Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.
(United Methodist Hymnal #723)**

In remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Communion Hymn *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

Invitation to Christ and the Church

Invitational Hymn *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

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 *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*