

**A Service of Song, Word, & Table**  
August 31, 2025

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

Texts: Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come to worship our God,  
to listen to the One who calls us here.

**We come trusting God to lead us in the coming days,  
as surely as were our grandparents in the faith.**

We come to worship our God,  
to shout with joy to the God of all people.

**We come to the Creator of all things,  
to be bathed in the waters of life.**

We come to the Feast of God's faithful,  
to be fed by the One who never forsakes us.

**We come to worship our God,  
to sing aloud to the One who saves us.**

**\* HYMN**

**A READING FROM THE \_\_\_\_\_**

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**HOMILY**

MARTIN REEVES

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

**CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECEPTION OF PARDON**

Despite all the ways we speak of sin - failures, mistakes, intended acts, Scripture tells us that we are stubborn-hearted, wanting only our way. But if we pause to listen to God, if we open our mouths (and our hearts) to confess our sin, God will fill our emptiness with forgiveness and hope. Let us pray together, as we say,

### **Unison Prayer for Forgiveness**

**We are always uncomfortable, Watching God, when you notice how we want to sit in the seats of honor. We can be so proper, so good, so well-off, that it is easy to imagine we are superior to the poor. We are so busy completing our 'To Do' list each day, that we forget to do good when we have the chance.**

**Forgive us, Welcoming God. Fill our emptiness with your grace and humility that we would spend our lives alongside Jesus, our Lord and Savior, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, the oppressed.**

*Silence is kept*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

This is the good news: after what God has done for us, what can anyone or any thing do to us? We are new people, graced by our loving God.

**Forgiven, embraced, welcomed by our God, we will offer open hearts and serving hands to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **REGATHERING HYMN**

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, we are offered opportunities to reach out to those who are in need of hope, healing, and friendship. This is why you pour out your blessings upon us, trusting that we will share from our abundance to bless others, even as we have been blessed. Receive the gifts we offer, multiply them, and use them in the work of grace and justice. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

### **OFFERTORY**

**\* DOXOLOGY**

UMH 94

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of God, lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the God who welcomes us at this Table.**

Let us sing aloud to God.

**We will offer glad songs of thanksgiving to the One who delivers us.**

We would sing aloud  
our songs of joy to you,  
Master of the Universe.  
Out of the emptiness of chaos,  
you brought forth creation,  
    plentiful with all we need,  
    graced with gifts beyond imagination.

Offered the place of honor  
in your good Garden,  
    we filled our souls with worthless lies,  
    moving out of glory's neighborhood  
    into the junkyard of the world.  
Prophets brought your word of judgment,  
and your gracious invitation to come home,  
but we would not listen  
to the advice they offered to us.  
Then you sent Jesus,  
who humbled himself  
that we might be exalted.

Therefore, we come to your Table singing,  
our voices joining with those  
in every time and in every place,  
lifting our glad songs to you:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God our strength!**  
**All creation shouts for you to you.**  
**Hosanna in the highest!**

**We welcome the One who shows hospitality to strangers.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, Mothering God,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Life.  
Glorified as your True Child,  
    he came to show hospitality  
        to all the strangers of the world.  
Deserving of the seat of honor,  
    he humbled himself  
        to serve the guests.  
Refusing to let us be left  
in the ruthless hands  
of sin and death,  
    he entered that prison  
        we call the grace  
            to set us free to live with you.

As we remember his life and death,  
as we come to the Table of the resurrection,  
we speak of that mystery we call faith:

**Dying, you took the seat of dishonor;  
Rising, you humbled yourself to be exalted;  
Coming again, you will honor us in the presence on the One  
    who invites all to sit at the Table of grace.**

Send your Holy Spirit  
upon the Bread and the Cup,  
simple gifts from creation  
which grace us with your life,  
and upon those who gather  
around your Table.  
Fed with the finest wheat,  
    may we go forth to fill the lives  
    of all whose emptiness  
        imprisons them.  
Having tasted the cup of joy,  
    may we bring the sweet honey of hope

to those parched by despair.  
Welcomed without question  
at your Table of grace,  
may we open our hearts  
to throw a party for all  
who have been forsaken by the world.

And when we gather around the Wedding Feast in glory,  
with all the poor, the broken, the prisoners, the oppressed -  
we will open our mouths to receive your joy,  
and sing aloud to you  
our praise for all eternity:  
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

## **MUSIC AT COMMUNION**

## **INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

### **\* SENDING HYMN**

### **\* BENEDICTION**

Having listened to God's words, we are sent to serve others.

**Today and tomorrow, we will follow where God leads.**

Having joined in songs of praise and hope, we will carry these gifts into the world.

**Today and tomorrow, we will serve beside Jesus.**

Having been filled with the Spirit of justice, we will go to be with all who struggle.

**Today and tomorrow, we will bring justice and peace to those around us.**

## **POSTLUDE**