

ORDER OF WORSHIP AUGUST 2, 2026

(11:00) “Just Jazz” Pre-Service Music **Jazz to Go** (Linda Davidson, flute; Robert Lah, piano; Terry Burns, bass; Cal Haines, drums)

One For Dave	Lah
Nostalgia in Times Square	Mingus/Arr. Lah
Blue Rondo ala Turk	Brubeck/Arr. Lah

WELCOME

Pastor Kelli

PRELUDE

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings

(11:00) Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown Scottish Folk/Arr. Lah. Jazz to Go

*CALL TO WORSHIP

George Meinecke

Friends, please rise to your feet, or rise in your heart, as we offer our Call to Worship before God.

One: People of God, we are loved beyond measure by our Creator.

All: We gather to receive and reflect that love.

One: Christ calls us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

All: We open our lives to God's transforming grace.

One: The Holy Spirit is at work within us, shaping us day by day.

All: We seek to grow in faith, hope, and love.

One: Let us worship the God whose perfect love casts out fear.

All: We come with joy, ready to be changed by love. Alleluia! Amen.

Please remaining standing for our Gathering Hymn, Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.

***HYMN** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling UMH 384

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

George Meinecke

You may be seated [pause for folx to settle.]

Friends, please join me as we pray together our prayer for transformation and new life.

God of perfect love, thank you for loving us just as we are. Continue your work within us and help us become who you created us to be. Replace our fear with faith, our judgment with compassion, and our indifference with love. Teach us to love you more

deeply and our neighbors more fully. Transform us by your Spirit, that our lives may reflect the love of Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

George Meinecke

Siblings in Christ, hear the good news: God's love reaches us before we seek it, Christ's grace welcomes us as we are, and the Holy Spirit continues to shape us in love; thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

George Meinecke

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us exchange signs of Christ's peace with one another.

***HYMN** Blest Be the Tie That Binds (vs 1,4) UMH 557

SCRIPTURE LESSON

George Meinecke

You may be seated.

Today's Scripture Lesson comes from the first letter of John, chapter four, verses sixteen through twenty-one.

One: Listen for the Word of God.

All: Our ears are open.

1 John 4:16-21

¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love^a because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

One: Friends, this is the Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM The Gift of Love arr. Lloyd Larson Karah Ingraham, soprano

SERMON Methodism Still Matters: Love Made Perfect

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** Where Charity and Love Prevail UMH 549

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Kelli

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Pastor Kelli

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Pastor Kelli

One of the great truths of our faith is that everything begins with grace. God's love comes first. Our response comes second. Our giving today isn't about earning God's favor; it's simply one way we say, "Thank you." As we receive our morning offering, may we give with gratitude and joy.

OFFERTORY

Dr. Daniel Cummings

***DOXOLOGY** Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94

HOLY COMMUNION UMH 17

Invitation to the Table

Pastor Kelli

One: The Lord be with you.

George Meinecke

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through every generation, you have called ordinary people
to do extraordinary things through your grace.
When we wandered, you remained faithful.
When hearts grew cold, you kindled new fire.
When the world longed for hope, you raised up witnesses to your love.

In every age, you have renewed your church,
 calling us back to the love we had at first.
 Through the faith of those who came before us,
 through the witness of this congregation,
 and through the movement called Methodism,
 you have continued your work of grace in the world.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.
 Jesus proclaimed good news to the poor,
 welcomed those who had been pushed aside,
 healed the brokenhearted,
 and called people into a life of love and grace.

When religion became routine,
 Jesus called people back to the heart of faith.
 When fear ruled the day,
 Jesus taught the way of courage and compassion.
 Through his life, death, and resurrection,
 you opened the way to new life for all people.

On the night in which Jesus offered his life for us,
 Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread,
 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor Kelli

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
 poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, 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.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and cup.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his love and sent by his grace.

Revive us where we have grown weary.
Renew us where we have lost our way.
Rekindle in us the love that first called us to follow.
Make us people of hope in a hurting world,
people of courage in fearful times,
and people of love wherever you send us.

By your Spirit, unite us with Christ,
with one another,
and with all your people in every time and place,
until that day when we feast at your heavenly banquet
and all creation is made new.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings

(11:00) Dziekuge

Brubeck/Arr. Lah

Jazz to Go

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Pastor Kelli

***SENDING HYMN**

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

TFWS 2223

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING*POSTLUDE**

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings

(11:00) Blackbird Lennon-McCartney/Arr. Lah. Jazz to Go