A Service of Song, Word, & Table

October 19, 2025

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Let All the World in Every Corner Sing Vaughan Williams, arr. Craig Courtney Good News

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace on our hearts.

This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

We glorify our God, who yearns for justice,

not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

This is the place where God

will write compassion on our souls.

We give thanks to God for unceasing grace; we remember God's persistence in saving us.

This is the place where God

will breathe the Word into our lives.

*HYMN A Mighty Fortress is Our God UMH 110

* A READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 18:1-8

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

Thanks be to God!

(11:00) ANTHEM Bless His Holy Name Mark Shepperd Chancel Choir/Mass ApPeal Handbells

HOMILY

MUSICAL RESPONSE What a Friend We Have in Jesus (vs 1,3) UMH 526

Call to Reconciliation

Seeking to follow Jesus, we often wander down the wrong roads. Impatient with God's schedule, we rush off to do things our way. Let us confess our foolishness, that we might receive God's hope for our lives.

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

Your words are given to us, Author of Life, so we might be reformed, but we are intent on changing others. Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are focused on conforming to our culture. Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we hold our old ways tight to our chests.

Forgive us, God of Wonder. Do not remember our sins, but continue to touch us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, even as you were so tenacious in offering us your grace and life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus reminds us that we are to be resolute in our lives of faithfulness and service. The good news is that God is steadfast in filling us with love and grace. We are forgiven people. May we live as sisters and brothers in Christ, God's children in word and deed, in hope and joy. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

REGATHERING HYMN Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying TFWS 2193

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Like your words, O God, the tangible gifts with which we are blessed are not to be hoarded or hidden away for rainy days. Rather we offer them so they might bring healing, hope, grace, and peace to all around us, your children. In Jesus 'name, we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

(11:00)Be Thou My Vision arr. Mitchell Eithun Mass ApPeal Handbells

DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING May the God of this day and all the days to come be with you! May God be with you as well! Children of the new covenant, offer your hearts to God. We open them to the One who writes the good news on them. People of God, join in praising the One whose Word is within you. Glad songs are sung to the One we know in our deepest souls.

'The days are surely coming,' you announced to chaos, God of power, dividing it into morning and night, sowing seeds of humanity and other life into the rich loam of your creation. You took us by the hand to show us the place where we might have life, ever feasting on your bounty of love. But we drank deeply of sin's sour wine, our teeth set on edge by the sound of death scraping its fingernails across our souls. You sent the prophets to us, your hopes written on their hearts, but since we did not fear you, we had no respect for them. So you took Jesus by the hand, asking him to proclaim the good news that you would forget our sins, you would forgive our foolishness.

With all who have wandered from your path, with all who have the new covenant on their hearts, we sing our songs of praise to you:

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.

He did not shrink from your command, God of hope, but obediently, Jesus became one of us so we might know you face-to-face.

When the law no longer wanted to be seen with us, he became our constant companion.

Wiser than our enemies, sin and death, he defeated them at the cross, the empty tomb the sign of his victory.

As we remember his persistence in offering grace to us, as we celebrate the joy of life with him, we speak of the mystery we know as faith:

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

As for us, we pray you
to send your Holy Spirit to us,
to bless the gifts of your love
and to transform your gathered people.
What we know, what we believe,
we have learned at your knee,
gathered up into your lap,
your call to wholeness a taste so wondrous
we share it with all who are broken;
your cup of grace sweeter
than the honey of our hopes.

And when we are gathered together into the kingdom you have built in eternity, we will join our voices with our siblings, crying out to you day and night forever, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN IN YOUR HEART LANGUAGE)

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.

R3 Amen, amen, amen.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Dr. Daniel Cummings

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* **SENDING HYMN** Standing on the Promises UMH 374

BENEDICTION

Here in this place, God transforms us into disciples, so we may share the grace etched upon our hearts. Here with these people, compassion is written on our hearts, so we may join Jesus in bringing justice to all. Now, in these moments, the Spirit is breathed into us, so we can be as persistent as God in bringing hope to the world.

POSTLUDE

Dr. Daniel Cummings