

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune

Handel/Wolff

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who are seeking life and hope not because you have earned it, but because grace calls your name.

We come as we are, welcomed by the boundless mercy of God.

Once we were lost—but God, rich in mercy, has made us alive together in Christ.

By grace we are saved. Not by our striving, but through God's gift. Let us worship the God of amazing grace!

OPENING HYMN NO. 363

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

OPENING PRAYER

God of Amazing Grace, we come before you with nothing to prove, and everything to receive. We confess how often we forget that it is your grace—not our goodness, not our achievements— that makes us whole. Remind us today that we are your workmanship, created not by our own hands, but by your love, for your purpose. Let your grace flood our hearts, stir our spirits, and shape our lives. Open us to the mystery and miracle of grace— a grace that heals, restores, and sends us out in love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is grace made flesh. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE No. 191, vs. 1

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ANTHEM Amazing Grace Jay Althouse

Summer Choir

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 2:1-10

MESSAGE The Necessity of Grace

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the grace of God freely given, never earned, always at work. We were once lost in our own striving, but God, rich in mercy, reached out in love and made us alive together in Christ. We believe that by grace we are saved not through our works, but through faith in the One who redeems. We believe grace goes before us, awakens us, and transforms us. It calls us to good works not to earn God's favor. but to live out God's love. This is the gift of God the ground of our hope, the song of our lives, the heart of our faith. Amen.

PRAYER HYMN TFWS NO. 2152 Change My Heart, O God

TIME OF PRAYER

THE 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.

OFFERING

You may give your offering by text -Text UMCWC \$50 to 73256, by using the QR code on your screen, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY Prelude Milan

OFFERING RESPONSE NO. 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

CLOSING SONG This is Amazing Grace

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness Whose love is mighty and so much stronger The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order Who makes the orphan a son and daughter The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

BENEDICTION

Go now in the strength of God's grace—grace that goes before you, walks beside you, and carries you when you fall. Let it humble you, free you, and change you. Let it spill from your life into the lives of others. And may the God of all grace—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—bless you and keep you, today and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller Reader: Evelyn Allen

Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case

Summer Choir Director: Joe Buglio

Organist: Steve Campitelli

Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark, Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, Brad Rush, Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, August 17

9:30 AM - Children's and Youth Sunday School 1:00 PM - Wilmington Blue Rocks Baseball Game

5:00 PM - El Buen Sunday School

6:00 PM - El Buen Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, August 18

7:00 PM - El Buen Men/Women's Group (Rm 7) 7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

Tuesday, August 19

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café

Wednesday, August 20

7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Prayer Journey

8:00 PM - El Buen Bible Study (Rm 10)

Thursday, August 21

9:00 AM - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Rm 207)

Saturday, August 23

8:00 PM - El Buen Prayer Vigil (Rm 10)

PRAYER NEEDS

The full list of prayer concerns can be found on the round table in the Gathering Area. Requests are also sent through our "Prayer Link". To receive the prayer link contact Luanne Sims (Isimsumcwc@gmail.com). To submit a prayer request, please sign the form in the friendship folder or contact Pastor Cyndi (pastorcyndi@umcwc.org).

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one confidential lay caring ministry for people who are going through a tough time. If you would like more information about how one of our trained Stephen Ministers can walk with you during this time, contact Kelly Lynn (Kelly@umcwc.org).

Next Sunday - Blessing of the Backpacks - Children, youth, and college students are invited to bring their backpacks (optional) to the worship service. We will pray for a school year filled with growth, safety, and peace.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Special Class, "Our Methodist Roots", - Pastor Cyndi will teach this four week class from 11:15 am—12 noon on Sundays, Aug. 10, 24, and 31. This class is for anyone who is interested in learning more about our Methodist heritage. Anyone interested in becoming a church member should also plan to attend.

Church Picnic - Save the date - Sunday, September 7 at West Goshen Park. Worship will be in the park at 10 am with activities to follow.

United Women in Faith – The September general meeting will be a Salad Supper (pot-luck style, bring a dish to share) on Tuesday, September 2 at 6:00pm in the Fiesta Center. All women are invited.

Coming next year! UMCWC 10 Day Pilgrimage in Greece – April 13-22, 2026 – "Paul's World and Mission Pilgrimage" Information packets with registration forms are on the round table in the Gathering Area or go to

https://sbsbibletours.org/product/departing-13-april-2026-pauls-world-and-mission/

Disciple Bible Study - <u>Digital Disciple 1</u> will be offered on Mondays at 7 pm via Zoom beginning on September 15. <u>Digital Disciple 3</u> will be offered in person on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in room 207 beginning September 17. If you would like to be part of one of these studies please sign up online or in the Gathering Area.

Women's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 9:30-11 am in the chapel. The first study (6 weeks) will be "The Bible With or Without Jesus by Amy Jill Levine. Contact Sue Oliver (eaglesbrad@aol.com) for more information.

Items Needed - United Women in Faith are collecting items for this years Fall Bazaar on October 11. Donations of new or gently used items suitable for re-gifting, jewelry, purses, scarves, and craft items will be accepted until September 21st. Contact Barb Crary (barbcrary@gmail.com) for more information.