

WELCOME ANTHEM Come Share the Lord

PRELUDE To Greet the Morning Paxton Summer Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God—

with minds ready for action and hearts open to grace.

Come with a longing for holiness, not a distant piety, but a living, breathing connection to the Holy One.

Let us worship with all that we are—mind, body, soul, and strength.

For God, who is holy, calls us to be holy in all we do.

OPENING HYMN NO. 434

Open My Eyes that I May See

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Holy and Loving God, You have called us to be your people—not only in belief, but in practice; not only with words, but with lives shaped by grace. Renew in us a longing for holiness: not perfectionism, but purpose; not pride, but the pursuit of Your presence. Reignite our spiritual disciplines, that our hearts may burn with love and our minds be transformed by truth. As we worship today, draw us deeper into the mystery of Your holiness and the joy of a life fully lived in You. 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.

SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 1:13-16

MESSAGE A Longing for Holiness

### **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 Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness arr. Walther

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Before we longed for you, you longed for us. You formed us in your image, breathed into us the breath of life, and called us to be holy as you are holy. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. You raised up leaders and reformers, like your servant John Wesley, to call us back to holiness of heart and life—to a living faith both warm and thoughtful, and to the practices that draw us nearer to you. 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. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He taught us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. He showed us how to live a holy life—one marked by mercy, justice, prayer, and service. He gathered disciples, broke bread with sinners, and called us to follow in the way of the cross. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, 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." 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 wine.

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 blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. 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.** 

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION HYMNS: Nos. 365, 628, 369

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone) Chris Tomlin

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

## **Chorus**

My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love. Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me. His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures

Chorus (2x)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine But God, who called me here below Will be forever mine, will be forever mine You are forever mine

# **BENEDICTION**

Go now with minds made ready and hearts stirred by grace. Let your longing for holiness be more than a wish—let it be a way of life. Practice love. Pursue truth. Be holy as the One who called you is holy. And may the grace of God, the peace of Christ, and the fire of the Holy Spirit go with you, now and always. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**

Bold text indicates congregational response.

# **Worship Participants**

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller Reader: Eddie Sims

Message for Growing Christians: Kelly Lynn

Summer Choir Director: Mike Muzzo
Organist: Steve Campitelli, Sarah Cass
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,
Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, Brad Rush,
Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

## **HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

Today, August 3

11:15AM - "Our Methodist Roots Class" (Chapel)

5:00 PM - El Buen Sunday School

6:00 PM - El Buen Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, August 4

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

7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

Tuesday, August 5

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café

Wednesday, August 6

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

6:30 PM - Prayer Journey

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

Thursday, August 7

9:00 AM - Stephen Ministry

Saturday, August 9

10:00 AM - Trip to Biblical Tabernacle

#### 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).

#### **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).

Sunshine Memory Cafe will be hosting an Art Exhibition today in the Gathering Area. Come and check out their beautiful creations.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Special Class, "Our Methodist Roots", begins today**- Pastor Cyndi will teach this four week class from 11:15 am—12 noon on Sundays, Aug. 3, 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.

**Rise Against Hunger Meeting**—Today at 11 am in the chapel. A quick 15 minute "get on the same page" meeting. If you've been involved with organizing, fundraising, helping, or would like to help please come and help plan for the next RAH event in January.

**Trip to the Biblical Tabernacle -** Saturday, August 9, located at the Mennonite Life Visitors Center, 2215 Millstream Rd., Lancaster. The tour is at 10 am and costs \$11. Sign up on the church website, or in the Gathering Area.

**Community Fundraiser** - Adam Clark and his friends started a project this summer to raise money for soccer/ futsal equipment for a local community center. Lione's Pizza in Downingtown will host a fundraiser on Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 4-8 pm. The boys have been educating themselves on the community center and designed a flyer for this event. Pick one up in the Gathering Area. Let's show our support for these boys who have seen a need in the community and have responded.

**Wilmington Blue Rocks Game -** Sunday, August 17, 1:05 pm. Purchase your tickets at https://www.milb.com/wilmington/tickets/group-outings/portals. Be sure to use the group passcode: highstreetbaseball.

**Women's Back Porch Book Club -** Read the book "Our Missing Hearts" by Celest Ng and join for discussion on Tuesday, Aug. 12, 7 pm at the home of Sarah Cass.

**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.

**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 available in the Gathering Area.

**Disciple Bible Study** - Disciple 1 will be offered on Mondays at 7 pm beginning on September 15. Digital Disciple 3 will be offered on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm beginning September 17. If you would like to be part of one of these studies please sign up online or in the Gatherina 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.

**Coffee With the Pastor Location Change** - All are welcome to join Pastor Cyndi for coffee and conversation on the 2nd Monday of each month at 10 am. The new location will be at Gramms Kitchen, 557 E. Gay Street in West Chester.

**Salvation Army Dinner Teams and** Sunday Night Safe Harbor Meal Teams—We still need volunteers to help. We serve the first and Fifth Saturdays of each month at Salvation Army and the First Sunday at Safe Harbor. Salvation Army teams require a commitment of four meals per year and Safe Harbor three times a year. Sign up at the round table in the Gathering Area. Contact Karen Herr at <a href="mailto:jwherr@verizon.net">jwherr@verizon.net</a> if you have questions. Thanks for your participation.