



WELCOME

PRELUDE *The Abundant Life* Parker

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sojourning God meets us on every path—

Inviting us to walk with curiosity and compassion.

Even when the way is unfamiliar,

God calls us to humility and openness.

All people, all creation, bear the sacred imprint of our Creator.

We come ready to grow in peace, to expand in love, and to deepen in understanding.

Come, let us worship the One who nudges us forward in faith.

With open hearts and willing spirits, we follow God's lead.

OPENING HYMN No. 128 *He Leadeth Me*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, through what we have done and left undone. Forgive us when we create boundaries of "us" and "them" and assume scarcity where you offer abundance. Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Know this: There is a spring of life that flows throughout creation and is available to all of us when we need it most. In the midst of our fear, Jesus calls us to be a new creation. He is our constant companion, inviting us to reach out to one another, traveling together toward the Kingdom of Love. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. 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*

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 65:17-25

ANTHEM *River in Judea* arr. John Leavitt
Summer Choir

SCRIPTURE Revelation 21:22-26

MESSAGE *The Reflection*

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH & VOLUNTEERS

WORKING WITH APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

Leader: Today we commission those who have been called to serve with Appalachia Service Project. ASP's theme verse for this year comes from the book of Matthew, in which we find careful instruction for how to glorify God through good works that produce the beauty and comfort of light to those around us. Hear these words from the Sermon on the Mount: "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Leader: Will you accept this commission and live it to the best of your abilities as you strive to be the Light?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: As you serve, will you seek to grow in love for God and neighbor, and promise to support each other and the staff of Appalachia Service Project so that we may together be people who are salt and light?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: As you travel, will you live in the promise of the Good News and share the love of Christ with all people?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: People of God, will you support these persons who God has called to serve with Appalachia Service Project? Will you pray for them, encourage them, and send them as ambassadors of Christ and representatives of this community?

Congregation: **We will.**

Leader: Let us pray. God of light and love, we pray for safety as this team travels, for courage as they try new things and overcome fears, and for excitement as they learn more about you and your children in Appalachia. Help them to accept all people right where they are just the way they are, and to embrace all people as neighbors. Bless them with servant ears so they may be lights to each other and to everyone they meet. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Leader: May God bless you, protect you, strengthen you, and fill you with compassion as you serve in Cocke County, Tennessee. May you be a light to everyone around you, so that they may see your good works and praise God.

PRAYER SONG *Stepping In*

Chorus

**There is a prayer, like a wide river.
It never ends, does not begin.
Around the world, it's always flowing,
and I am stepping in. We are stepping in.**

Verse

**We are praying with those in different places,
diff'rent languages and faces,
ev'ry hour of the day.
And we are praying with enemies and strangers,
In gratitude and danger,
calling God ten thousand names.**

Repeat Chorus

TIME OF PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 in Eb* Milan

OFFERTORY 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 *Goodness of God*

I love You Lord

Oh Your mercy never fails me

All my days

I've been held in Your hands

From the moment that I wake up

Until I lay my head

I will sing of the goodness of God

CHORUS

All my life You have been faithful

All my life You have been so so good

With every breath that I am able

I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice

You have led me through the fire

In darkest night

You are close like no other

I've known You as a father

I've known You as a friend

I have lived in the goodness of God

CHORUS

BRIDGE X2

Your goodness is running after

It's running after me

Your goodness is running after

It's running after me

With my life laid down

I'm surrendered now

I give You everything

Your goodness is running after

It's running after me

CHORUS

BENEDICTION

As you move into the week, may you engage in reflective practices that help you deepen compassion for yourself and love of neighbor. Know this reflection as spiritual acts of expanding your horizon, traveling beyond your preconceptions, and embracing the infinite delight of this earth and its beings. And may the Creator continue your unfolding, the Christ accompany your deeper knowing, the Spirit enliven your growing, until one day we all gather in the Kingdom of Love.

POSTLUDE

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Cynthia Stouffer
Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller
Reader: Grace Muzzo
Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case
Summer Choir Director: Tom Sabatino
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,
Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, Brad Rush,
Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School (Meets in room 7
at 9:30 am)

Youth Sunday School (Meets in the Youth Room
at 9:30 am)

Upper Room Adult Sunday School Class (Meets in the
Chapel at 11 am)

SUMMER CHOIR (Rehearses on Sundays at 9:30 am in room 10)

YOUTH GROUP - Contact Cory Smith to get emails
about summer events

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays at 7:30 am in the
chapel)

SUNSHINE MEMORY CAFÉ (Tuesdays at 1:00 pm in the
Fiesta Center)

Salvation Army Dinner Teams and Sunday Night Safe Harbor Meal Teams are forming for September 2025 - August 2026. 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 jwherr@verizon.net if you have questions. Thanks for your participation.

Unused hotel toiletries needed - Items go to Ronald McDonald House, Safe Harbor, and Salvation Army. Place items in the basket by the elevator in the Gathering Area.

Act in Faith Amazon Wish List - Items purchased on this site will automatically be shipped to ACT in Faith. To see and purchase the needed items go to https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3AR0DYSYPSP4R?ref=wl_share or use the QR code. New items will be added as needed.



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).

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, July 13

11:00 PM - Upper Room Class (Chapel)
5:00 PM - El Buen Sunday School
6:00 PM - El Buen Worship

Monday, July 14

10:00 AM - Coffee With the Pastor (West Chester Diner)
7:00 PM - El Buen Men/Women's Group (Rm 7)
7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

Tuesday, July 15

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café
6:30 PM - Church Council (Chapel)

Wednesday, July 16

7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)
6:30 PM - Prayer Journey
8:00 PM - El Buen Bible Study (rm 10)

Thursday, July 17

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

Saturday, July 19

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Choir - No experience necessary. The choir will practice at 9:30 am each Sunday before the worship service. All adults and youth are welcome. If you like to sing, join us.

Special Class, "Our Methodist Roots" - Taught by Pastor Cyndi, this four week class will be held 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.

Trip to the Biblical Tabernacle - Saturday, August 9, The Tabernacle reproduction is located at the Mennonite Life Visitors Center, 2215 Millstream Rd., Lancaster. The tour is at 10 am and costs \$11. You can drive yourself to the center, or carpool with others. Carpool arrangements will be arranged as we get closer to August 9th. The Tabernacle is a full scale reproduction of the biblical Hebrew tabernacle in the wilderness. It is especially meaningful for those who have taken Disciple classes. Sign up on the church website, or in the Gathering Area.

Wilmington Blue Rocks Game - Sunday, August 17, 1:05 pm. We have reserved a section of seats. 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 - This summer's book is "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng. Read the book 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.

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 (lsimsumcwc@gmail.com). To submit a prayer request, please sign the form in the friendship folder or contact Pastor Cyndi (pastorcyndi@umcwc.org).