

WELCOME

PRELUDE Trumpet Tune Handel/Wolff

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, God called the world into being, saying, "Let there be light!"

In the fullness of time, Jesus came from God to us, saying, "I am the Light of the world."

In our everyday life, we see the work of the saints, the ones in whom God's light shines.

So let us give thanks for the saints this day, and let us worship God.

We gather this morning to remember our call:

to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

We bring with us the events of the week in the world and in our lives.

trying to know how to be just and loving and humble in the midst of it all.

We gather here, and see those who are doing justice, who are kind beyond measure, who set the example for humility.

With gratitude for the saints, with thankfulness for the purpose of faith, let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN NO. 711, vs. 1,2,4,6 For All the Saints

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our lives are full of mistakes and errors – places where we follow self-generated idols instead of the One True God. We are not alone in these mistakes – all of those who have come before us also experienced temptation and sin. Let us come before God, just as generations of believers have done, and pray for God's forgiveness and grace.

Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, dear One – comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family, and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence. We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with any but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts.

A time of silence

Friends, receive this good news! Jesus taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. Thus, we and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints – the holy ones of God! Thanks be to God for God's mercy, grace, and love! **Amen!**

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

RECOGNITION OF OUR FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

BLESSING FOR OUR FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

Lord, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude and joy as we celebrate these faithful servants who have walked with you and with the church family for fifty years and more. Lord, what a testimony their lives are – of steadfast faith, enduring love and unwavering commitment to our Lord, Jesus. Thank you for the many seasons they have weathered, the prayers they have lifted, the hands they have extended, and the wisdom they have shared. Their journey through joys and trials has been a living witness of your grace and goodness. Bless them, Lord, for their loyalty, their labor in love and the legacy they have built within this congregation. Let their example inspire younger generations to walk in faith and remain rooted in you. Renew their strength as the days go on. Let peace, joy, and your divine presence be with them always. And may they know how deeply they are loved and honored- not only by this church but by you, our creator and redeemer. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.

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 Crossing the Bar

ar C.H.H. Parry

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE 2 Thessalonians 1: 1 – 4, 11 - 12

MESSAGE We Give Thanks to God for Them

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

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Bradbury/Schram

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is in this place. And in our hearts.

Listen for the still, small voice of God.

We feel the breath of the Spirit.

Remember our Redeemer.

Jesus, who taught us a new way.

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,

to taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

Time and time again you've offered your grace, even as we have stepped away, you continue to call us to be your people.

You have never left us.

We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances. You are ever-patient, always faithful.

We give thanks for this day of celebration;

For the One this meal remembers. For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

With those who have gone before us,

whose hands touched the bread, whose lips embraced the cup, we worship you. We glorify you.

Sanctus no. 90, vs. 4

O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia! Alleluia! To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We remember those who have died in the past year. We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve. We remember:

The Saints

Emma (Bea) Abernethy, June Bigler, Tom Gettings, Tacie Himelright, John Knox, Lauren Meiswinkel, Tom Werner

For all those whom we love, our family and friends, who are not members here, but who have gone to you and are safe, at home, with you. We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses who have followed the great mystery, have run their race, and have kept the faith. This is the mystery of our faith:

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

The night Jesus was arrested, he was eating a family meal with his disciples, the Passover. Like always, he took some bread, thanked God, and broke it. But on this last night with his friends he added some strange and wonderful words. "This is my body, which is given for you. Eat this and remember me."

When they finished eating, he took a cup and said, "This cup is my new covenant. It makes you sons and daughters in my blood. Drink this and remember me." And so even today when we eat this bread and drink this cup we remember Jesus' death until he comes again. God of all, strongly send your Holy Spirit to this place so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment, may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with the saints, and with our sisters and brothers in faith around the world

Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives. Help us to know you, to be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to live like Christ, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION HYMNS NOS. 618, 620, 641

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Dear Lord, we remember the light of those who have gone on before us. The saints in our lives are still a source of inspiration and hope. May we share the light of Christ with someone in our day and, until the day we are all together again with you, may we remember we are never alone. Your love unites us and a cloud of witnesses is cheering us on. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN NO. 555 Forward through the Ages

BENEDICTION

Beloved, now we are the saints of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be. But we know when we let Jesus reign in our hearts, we will appear to others as a reflection of God's Son. We leave this place determined to imitate Christ.

CHORAL RESPONSE

In Paradisum
Chancel Choir

Fauré

<u>Translation:</u> May the angels lead you into paradise: may the martyrs receive you as you arrive, and bring you into the holy city of Jerusalem.

POSTLUDE

Sing Aloud to God, Our Strength

Hughes

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Mercedes Case

Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller Reader: Karen Rotz

Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case Chancel Choir Director: Jeannie Nelson

Organist: Steve Campitelli

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

Education and Growth Opportunities

Sunday School for all ages is at 10:00 AM Children's Sunday School (Rm 4-5)

Youth Sunday School (Youth Rm)

Adult Sunday School Mustard Seed (Rm 12)

Seekers (Rm 7)

Upper Room (Chapel)

Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 9:30 AM Men's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:30 AM Youth Group Sundays at 6:00

PM

Pastor Jo Higgins Children's Library - Books for 1 year olds through teenagers. Located on the lower level.

Connection and Sharing Opportunities

Chancel Choir (Adults) Thursdays at 6:30 PM Children's Choir Wednesdays at 6:30 PM Praise Team Wednesdays at 7:15 PM Carillon Choir Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Sunshine Memory Café Tuesdays at 1:00 PM

A welcoming place for persons with memory loss and

their care partner.

Coffee With the Pastor 2nd Monday, 10 AM, at

Gramm's Diner Wednesday Night Out Dinner

Wednesdays at 5:45 PM

intellectual disabilities

Retired Men's Lunch Group 2nd Wednesday at 11:30 AM United Women in Faith 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM.

Sept-May

Circles meet at various times throughout the month. Web Dance 1st Sunday of each month, 6:00 pm,

Sept-May High school hosted themed dance party for adults with

Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service ACT Now (formerly Act In Faith) - Items for their

Community Cupboard can be dropped off at the table in the Gathering Area. Donations of paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, all purpose cleaner, and laundry detergent are needed, as these items are not available at other cupboards.

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.

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

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, November 2

8:45 AM - Worship (Sanctuary)

10:00 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship Café (Fiesta Center)

6:00 PM - Web Dance (Youth Room)

Monday, November 3

7:00 PM - Digital Disciple I (via Zoom)

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

7:00 PM - Boy Scouts (Rm 4)

Tuesday, November 4

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café (Fiesta Center)

6:30 PM - SPRC(Chapel)

Wednesday, November 5

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

9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study (Chapel)

5:45 PM - Wednesday Night Out Dinner

6:30 PM - Digital Disciple III (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Children's Choir (Rm 10)

7:30 PM - Carillon Choir (Rm 12)

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

Thursday, November 6

9:00 AM - Stephen Ministry Supervision (207)

6:30 PM - Chancel Choir (Rm 10)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The congregation is invited to the United Women in Faith **Meeting** on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 6:30 pm in room 10 for a presentation by Sara Wein, executive director of NAMI

(National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Chester County. Everyone is invited to come and learn about this important organization and the services they offer for individuals with mental health conditions and for the families who have a loved one with a mental health condition.

New Member Gathering - Sunday, November 9th, immediately following the 11:00 AM service. A light lunch will be provided. Learn more about our church and meet others who are joining. If you are planning to join, we ask that you attend this session so we can walk with you through the process.

We're still taking pictures for our new Directory in the Gathering Area following the 8:45 am worship service and at Wednesday Night Out. No appointment necessary. Just bring your family and your smile.

Eagles "Bird Food" <u>Trail mix</u> is available for purchase today in the Gathering Area. \$5 per bag. Proceeds go to Rise Against Hunger. (Thank you WCU Ram Chefs!!) The "Eagles Bucket" will be in the church each Sunday during the fall. This is an easy way to support our Rise Against Hunger event. Drop in your loose change, or dollars. Nothing is too small or too big. Every amount donated brings us closer to our goal.

Christmas Cards for Prisoners—Today is the last day.

-Cards and instructions are in the basket on the round table in the Gathering Area. (Please do not use any other type of card. It will not be accepted) -Using a ballpoint pen, write a holiday greeting on the card and sign just your first name only. -Place the signed cards in the return basket on the round table.

Leadership Training - Save the date - November 15, 9:00 **AM- noon** Anyone holding a leadership position should plan to attend.

Charge Conference - Our yearly Charge Conference will be held at the church on Tuesday, November 25, at 6 pm. District Superintendent, Rev. Steve Pittman, will be with us for this meeting.

Act Now (formerly Act in Faith) invites you to their ribbon **cutting and open house** - Nov. 6, from 4-6 pm. Register at https://greaterwestchester.weblinkconnect.com/atlas/ events-v4/register/2413