

#### WELCOME

PRELUDE Prelude in G Minor, BWV 558 Bach

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, for the Spirit is on the move in every place, on every path.

# God invites us to journey with curiosity and compassion.

- What is familiar to us may be unfamiliar to someone else. Yet God calls us to make space, to welcome, to listen.
- With open hearts, let us offer hospitality and peace. In our welcoming, love expands and understanding deepens.

So let us walk together in faith, trusting that God nudges and guides us still.

We come to worship the One who journeys with us. Let us worship God!

## OPENING HYMN Worship & Song No. 3152

Welcome

Let's walk together for awhile and ask where we begin to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in, to be the hands of healing and to plant the seeds of peace, singing

#### <u>Refrain:</u>

Welcome, welcome to this place. You're invited to come and know God's grace. All are welcome the love of God to share 'cause all of us are welcome here; all are welcome in this place.

Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast, where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least, and joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray, singing

#### <u>Refrain</u>

Let's dream together of the day when earth and heaven are one, a city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem, where our mourning turns to dancing, every creature lifts its voice, crying

## 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 return to the familiar in fear rather than promise. Forgive us when we turn inward rather than become the hosts you call us to be. Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Know this: Jesus' welcome is always there. He stokes the flames of love and invites us to gather 'round, filling our emptiness, calming our fear, making home for all. He is our constant companion, inviting us to reach out in care to one another, traveling together toward the Kin-dom 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

BAPTISM Madelyn Elizabeth Oliver

Introduction to the Service

Presentation of the Candidate

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Congregational Reaffirmation and Commitment

For all of you here...

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.** 

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Madelyn now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Madelyn with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

#### <u>Refrain</u>

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

#### Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

#### Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and she who receives it, to wash away her sin and clothe her in righteousness throughout her life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, she may share in Christ's final victory.

#### All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

Baptism with Laying on of Hands

Baptism Song TFWS no. 2249, vs.1, 2

"Madelyn, Madelyn," God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. "Madelyn, Madelyn," God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We your family love you so, we vow to help your faith to grow.

"Madelyn, Madelyn," God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE No. 191, vs. 1 Jesus Loves Me

ANTHEM	People Need the Lord Summer Choir	arr. John Purifoy
SCRIPTURE	John 15:1-17	
MESSAGE	Coming Home	

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 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Hastings/Busarow

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 TFWS No. 2235b

We are Marching in the Light of God

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sink, Not Yet, My Soul, to Slumber arr. Walther

## Bold text indicates congregational response.

The flowers on the Lord's Table are presented to the glory of God in honor of the baptism of Madelyn Elizabeth Oliver by the Oliver and Greenly families.

## Worship Participants

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



#### HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, July 20 11:00 PM - Upper Room Class (Chapel) 5:00 PM - El Buen Sunday School 6:00 PM - El Buen Worship Monday, July 21 7:00 PM - El Buen Men/Women's Group (Rm 7) 7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center) Tuesday, July 22 1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café Wednesday, July 23 7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel) 6:30 PM - Prayer Journey 8:00 PM - El Buen Bible Study (rm 10) Saturday, July 26 8:00 PM - El Buen Prayer Vigil (rm 10)

Please pray this week for our youth and leaders who are participating in the Youth Summer Service & Learning Trip. They are working with the Appalachia Service Project in Cocke County Tennessee aiding in the Hurricane Helene Disaster Recovery.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Look at what's new in our children's library!! - Come see the display in the Gathering Area of the new books for the Children's Library!! We have some very interesting titles for our new Parenting Shelf and more children's books for all ages. Sally Bopp will be at the table to answer any questions.

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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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.