



October 1st, 2023

11:00 A.M.



Paul Jeffrey

Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity. This sacrament invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. On World Communion Sunday - United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. This universal and inclusive connection is the foundation of the special offering for World Communion Sunday.

Your donations support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities. In 2021, World Communion Sunday offerings awarded 242 scholarships and grants. Your generosity continues to provide scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development. The needs exceed what we can fund and your gifts can further growth and success.

Fifty percent of the offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. Thirty-five percent supports racial and ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry (deacon or elder) and includes a mentoring program.

Fifteen percent funds Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development, recruitment, training, and retention of ethnic United Methodist persons in leadership positions in every level of the church and its ministry.

The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to extend healing and hope which will guide us to becoming a new creation in Christ. Through our gifts and support, we can invest in talented, qualified students from around the globe to transform the world as witnesses for Christ!

WORSHIP ORDER

WORSHIP AND PRAISE
TEAM

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

WELCOME & GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome to God's house! We are delighted to have you here!

P: We hunger for God's word of hope.

L: You have come to the right place. Here you will be fed on the life-giving love of God.

P: We thirst for God's healing in our lives.

L: At the table of the Lord, you will be fed and your thirst quenched.

P: Thanks be to God who provides for our needs.

*OPENING PRAYER

Worship Leader

*OPENING HYMN: #733 Marching to Zion UMH

1 Come, ye that love the Lord,
And let your joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord,
Join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne,
And thus surround the throne.

Chorus

We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful, Zion:
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

2 Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God:
But children of the heav'nly King,
But children of the heav'nly King
Shall speak their joys abroad,
Shall speak their joys abroad.

3 The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets;
Before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Or walk the golden streets,
Or walk the golden streets.

4 Then let our songs abound,
And ev'ry tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's
ground,
We're marching through Immanuel's
ground
To fairer worlds on high,
To fairer worlds on high.

Chorus We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful, Zion:
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

God of mercy, your love has never been far from us. Even when we turn our backs on people in need, when we seek our own comfort and neglect opportunities to help others, when we, by our thoughts and actions, betray you, you always are with us. Forgive us for all those acts of cowardice and self-centeredness that have drawn us away from you. Heal our spirits and rebuild our lives. You have placed us in a global community in which illness, oppression, greed, fear and anger abound. You ask us to proclaim your words of hope and love, of healing mercy for all your people. Place us again on the path of peace for all your children. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news, friends! While we wandered in fear, God was with us, offering us hope and courage. God is with you this day, this very minute, lifting you from despair to hope. This is the good news! God is always with us. **AMEN.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SONGS OF PRAISE

THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURES Exodus 17: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12=16

Philippians 2: 1-13

The Gospel According to Matthew 21: 23-32

MUSICAL SELECTION

SERMON

I do what I am

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN Spirit Song #347 UMH

<p>O let the Son of God enfold you With His Spirit and His love Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul O let Him have the things that hold you And His Spirit like a dove Will descend upon your life and make you whole</p> <p>Refrain: Jesus, O Jesus Come and fill Your lambs Jesus, O Jesus Come and fill Your lambs</p>	<p>O come and sing this song with gladness As your hearts are filled with joy Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name O give Him all your tears and sadness Give Him all your years of pain And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.</p> <p>(Refrain)</p>
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*Offertory Prayer (In Unison)

Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, yet many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Still you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.



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. You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth. 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 he 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 commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

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.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name. 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 Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sharing the Holy Communion



After communion

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Prayer

All: O Lord our God, we give you thanks for uniting us by baptism in the Body of Christ and for filling us with joy in the Holy Communion. Lead us towards the full visible unity of your Church and help us to treasure all the signs of reconciliation you have granted us. May we all share with others the Spirit and the love we have received at your table. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONGREGATIONAL SONG**

♪Let it breathe on me, Let it breathe on me.
Let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me;
Let it breathe on me, Let it breathe on me,
Let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me.♪

***SENDING**

Go forth to share God's love with all.

We will become a river of love through the world.

Go forth to share Christ's grace.

We will be a fountain flowing in the barren places.

Go forth to share the community of the Spirit.

We will become a pool of peace where all may be refreshed.

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG: LET THE CHURCH SAY AMEN**

L: GO IN PEACE. SERVE THE LORD. REMEMBER THE SHUT-INS AND THE POOR.

C: WE GO IN THE NAME OF CHRIST.

A Reading from Exodus Chapter 17: 1-7

17From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to

Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?" ***This is the word of the Lord for the people of God.***

Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16

Response: ♪We shall listen, Lord, to your teaching, and heed the words of your mouth ♪

R ¹Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

³things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

⁴We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. R

¹²The Lord wrought marvels in the sight of their forebears in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

¹³ The Lord divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

¹⁴ led them with a cloud in the daytime, and all night long with a fiery light.

¹⁵cleft rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

¹⁶made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers. R

The Letter to the Philippians, Chapter 2: 1-13

²If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and

sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ***This is the word of the Lord for the people of God.***

Please stand if you are able.

A Reading from the gospel of Matthew, Chapter 21: 23-32

³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do

not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him. ***This is the word of the Lord for the people of God.***