

PRELUDE

GREETING & GATHERING

In our darkest hours, God's light continues to shine. In our weariest moments, God's strength is enough. In our times of greatest isolation, God's presence is always near.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mighty and merciful God, pour out your power and strength on us.

Grant us peace that we might receive your presence and promise of mercy.

May your presence fill our lives and urge us to show and share your loving kindness.

Prepare us to be your people and equip us to do your work in the world.

HYMN - FROM ALL THAT DWELLS BELOW THE SKIES UMH 101

1. From all that dwell below the skies,
let the Creator's praise arise;
let the Redeemer's name be sung,
through every land by every tongue.

2. Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
eternal truth attends thy word.
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.

3. Your lofty themes, ye mortals, bring,
in songs of praise divinely sing;
the great salvation loud proclaim,
and shout for joy the Savior's name.

4. In every land begin the song;
to every land the strains belong;
in cheerful sounds all voices raise,
and fill the world with loudest praise.

PRAYER

The guiding grace of the Lord God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Come to us, Holy One, especially in our times of resistance. Work within and through us, even when we wrestle with doubt and despair. Enlighten and guide us, even in our darkest hours. Bless us and call us by name, even when we reject your presence. Hold us and love us, even when we try to run away. When we feel beat down by the world, and we are weary with fatigue and sorrow, nourish us with your mercy. Fill us now with your love that we may go forth with confidence and trust. In your mighty name we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE - COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING UMH 400 (verses 1 & 3)

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my
heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never
ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach
me some melodious
sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise
the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy
redeeming love.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm con-
strained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to
wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I
love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it
for thy courts above. to catch the wandering of
my will, and quench the kindling fire.

THE RED STEPS

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE - Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

HOMILY

"That's Gonna Leave a Mark"



ANTHEM

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(silent confession)

Hear the good news: God's presence is enough. Christ's forgiveness is sure. Through God's presence and the grace of Jesus Christ, we are blessed, we are loved, and we are made whole. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

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, God almighty, creator of heaven and 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.

...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 Jesus 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 for ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD & GIVING THE CUP

INVITATION

HYMN - BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS UMH 557

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| 1. Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above. | 3. We share each other's woes,
our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear. |
| 2. Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares. | 4. When we asunder part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again. |

BENEDICTION

Go forth in peace,

Stand Firm in your Faith. Be Strong. Be Brave.

Let Everything you Do be Done in Love.

POSTLUDE