

Cross Lanes United Methodist Church Order of Worship

Sunday, July 7, 2024



GATHERING

Prelude

Whether you are joining us in person or on-line, know that we are here to journey along with you as you grow in love of God and neighbor, and as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Opening Chorus In Christ there is no East or West UMH 548

*Call to Worship

Praise be to the Father,
**who rescues us from the power of darkness;
who redeems us, and sets us free!**

Praise be to Jesus Christ, the first born of all creation,
**through whom all things were made,
in heaven and on the earth.**

Praise be to the Spirit of God,
**whose presence sustains us,
and whose breath renews all creation.**

Behold! I am making all things new!
**Come, O God, and make your home among us.
Pour out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Word for Children

First Lesson

Psalm 48

CEB

In the city belonging to our God,
the Lord is great and so worthy of praise!
His holy mountain ² is a beautiful summit,
the joy of the whole world.
Mount Zion, in the far north,
is the city of the great king.

³ God is in its fortifications,
revealing himself as a place of safety.

⁴ Look: the kings assembled themselves,
advancing all together—

⁵ when they saw it, they were stunned;
they panicked and ran away frightened.

⁶ Trembling took hold of them right there—
like a woman giving birth,

⁷ or like the east wind when it smashes
the ships of Tarshish.

⁸ Just like we had heard,
now we've seen it for ourselves
in the city of the Lord of heavenly forces,
in the city of our God.

May God make it secure forever! *Selah*

⁹ We dwell on your faithful love, God,
in your temple.

¹⁰ Your praise, God, just like your reputation,
extends to the far corners of the earth.

Your strong hand is filled with righteousness.

¹¹ Let Mount Zion be glad;
let the towns of Judah rejoice
because of your acts of justice!

¹² Walk around Zion;
go all the way around it;
count its towers.

¹³ Examine its defenses closely;
tour its fortifications
so that you may tell future generations:

¹⁴ "This is God,
our God, forever and always!
He is the one who will lead us
even to the very end."^[a]

Anthem**Same Boat****Second Lesson****Acts 17:16-33**

CEB

¹⁶ While Paul waited for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to find that the city was flooded with idols. ¹⁷ He began to interact with the Jews and Gentile God-worshippers in the synagogue. He also addressed whoever happened to be in the marketplace each day. ¹⁸ Certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers engaged him in discussion too. Some said, "What an amateur! What's he trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods." (They said this because he was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹ They took him into custody and brought him to the council on Mars Hill. "What is this new teaching? Can we learn what you are talking about? ²⁰ You've told us some strange things and we want to know what they mean." (²¹ They said this because all Athenians as well as the foreigners who live in Athens used to spend their time doing nothing but talking about or listening to the newest thing.)

²² Paul stood up in the middle of the council on Mars Hill and said, "People of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³ As I was walking through town and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: 'To an unknown God.' What you worship as unknown, I now proclaim to you. ²⁴ God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn't live in temples made with human hands. ²⁵ Nor is God served by human hands, as though he needed something, since he is the one who gives life, breath, and everything else. ²⁶ From one person God created every human nation to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God made the nations so they would seek him, perhaps even reach out to him and find him. In fact, God isn't far away from any of us. ²⁸ In God we live, move, and exist. As some of your own poets said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Therefore, as God's offspring, we have no need to imagine that the divine being is like a gold, silver, or stone image made by human skill and thought. ³⁰ God overlooks ignorance of these things in times past, but now directs everyone everywhere to change their hearts and lives. ³¹ This is because God has set a day when he intends to judge the world justly by a man he has appointed. God has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

³² When they heard about the resurrection from the dead, some began to ridicule Paul. However, others said, "We'll hear from you about this again." ³³ At that, Paul left the council. ³⁴ Some people joined him and came to believe, including Dionysius, a member of the council on Mars Hill, a woman named Damaris, and several others.

Message for the Lord's Day**Rev. Deborah Coble*****Response To The Word****Gloria Patri UMH 70**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.**

Prayers Of The People *After each prayer, the leader will conclude:*

Lord, in your mercy, *and all may respond:* **Hear our prayer.**

Together, let us pray

for the people of this congregation...
for those who suffer and those in trouble...
for the concerns of this local community...
for the world, its peoples, and its leaders...
for the earth you have given to our care...
for the Church universal—
its leaders, its members, and its mission...

Mission And Ministry Moment

Sharing Our Tithes And Offerings

As forgiven and reconciled people,
Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offertory **Time After Time**

***Doxology: 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**

Prayer of Confession: (Katie Cook)

Holy God, we come together,
a people who would like to think that we love you
with all our hearts and souls, with all our might,

**but there are so many other things in our lives
that clamor for our attention
that we often relegate you to Sundays,
and times when we want you to rescue us.**

Most of us really do want you to be the one
in whom we live and move and have our being.
We really do want to hear your voice
above all of the other voices in our lives.

**But we get bogged down in the daily routine.
We forget who we are. We forget who you are.
We forget what the church is supposed to be.**

So here we are, standing before you today,
with our human frailties and our short attention spans,
asking that you would make yourself known to us, in the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.

**And that you would help us to recognize the presence of the Holy in all of your good creation.
Continue to challenge us, inspire us, and make us into the people you want us to be.**

...pause for a time of silent prayer...

Words of Assurance and Forgiveness

God is the giver of MANY gifts.
God is the Creator of the ONE body.
God is slow to anger and quick to forgive.
God helps us to share and honor the gifts of all,

God helps us to heal the wounds and reunite the body.
We are forgiven, loved, and accepted.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

UMH 13

Today we will receive communion through intinction. You are welcome to spend time in prayer at the altar rail, Pastor Deborah will be by the prayer wall to time of share a prayer and offer anointing with oil.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer after receiving Communion

Thank you, God, for uniting us with Jesus in this holy mystery. We are no longer our own, but yours.

So send us, and put us to leading and serving in your mission wherever we go. Amen.

***Hymn One Bread, One Body UMH 620**

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction We Are Marching TFWS 2235**

POSTLUDE

*** *Please stand as you are able***