

GETTING MISSION - FOCUSED

What is Our Mission and How Does it Impact You?

*We do not want, as the newspapers say,
a Church that will move with the world.
We want a Church that will move the world.*
– G.K. Chesterton



October 17, 2021

WELCOME

PREPARE YOUR WORSHIP SPACE

**As we light this candle we pray for you to come,
Holy Spirit. Fill this place. Fill our lives. Unite us as the
Church of Jesus Christ. Set our hearts on fire. Amen.**

PRELUDE *Fugue in F Major* Telemann/Callahan

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are God's church:

We come together to worship.

God has given us the Word:

We come together to learn.

God has filled us with God's power:

We go out to challenge injustice.

God has called us into God's family:

We come together to share our lives.

God has planned for us a glorious future:

We go out to live our lives to please God.

We are God's church:

Let us worship in Spirit and Truth.

HYMN *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* no. 126

**Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.**

**The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.**

**Thus, all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.**

**Let all who name Christ's holy name
give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim
aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Our God, forgive us for failing to understand and
accept the great demands placed upon us by your
love. We enlist in your causes, but find ourselves
losing interest. We promise to be courageous,
but find ourselves afraid. We want to be sensitive,
but find ourselves hard and callous. Forgive us;
take our limitations and turn them into possibilities for
service. Have mercy on us and grant us your peace.
Amen.**

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: "Christ Jesus came into the world
to save sinners."

-to forgive us in our follies and foibles

-to accept us as we are

-to set us free from evil's power and make us what we
were meant to be.

**Thanks be to God for second chances and
abundant life through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

MESSAGE 1

What is Our Mission and How Does It Impact You?

Our Mission- To be a Christian Community that invites everyone to know, love, and serve God.

1. *To Be a Christian Community* (Do you feel Christian Community here? If not, how could we be better?)
2. *That invites everyone* (Who is not represented here that needs to be invited?)
3. *To know God* (How have you learned about God here?)
4. *To love God* (What spiritual practices here have helped you feel God's love?)
5. *To serve God* (How have you served in the past year?)

MUSIC	<i>Bring Them In</i> Chancel Choir	Pepper Choplin
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Bring them in, bring them in,
bring them all to Jesus.
Bring them in, bring them in,
bring them all to the Lord.

They brought a friend who was suffering
to ask for healing from the Lord.
But so many crowded in the dwelling,
they couldn't get their friend through the door.
So they lifted him to the rooftop
then down to Jesus below.
The Lord said, "Son, your sins are forgiven.
Take up your bed, your faith has made you whole,
you are made whole."
So let us bring them in,...

Now come to me who are weary
and I will give you rest.
And all who come in humble faith,
they will be surely blessed.
My will is done when the people come:
my truth will set them free.
But how will they know if you do not go.
Now bring them in to me.
Yes, Lord, we'll go and bring them in,...

Based on Luke 14:21-23, Mark 2:1-12, and Matthew 11:28

SCRIPTURE Luke 14:15-24

When one of the dinner guests heard Jesus' remarks, he said to Jesus, "Happy are those who will feast in God's kingdom." Jesus replied, "A certain man hosted a large dinner and invited many people. When it was time for the dinner to begin, he sent his servant to tell the invited guests, 'Come! The dinner is now ready.' One by one, they all began to make excuses. The first one told him, 'I bought a farm and must go and see it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I bought five teams of oxen, and I'm going to check on them. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' When he returned, the servant reported these excuses to his master. The master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go quickly to the city's streets, the busy ones and the side streets, and bring the poor, crippled, blind, and lame.' The servant said, 'Master, your instructions have been followed and there is still room.' The master said to the servant, 'Go to the highways and back alleys and urge people to come in so that my house will be filled. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will taste my dinner.'"

MESSAGE 2

What is our Vision and How Does It Impact You?

Our Vision—Building A Spiritual Home

Where You are Family

1. *Building* (How have you helped build our church up?)
2. *A Spiritual Home* (What does a spiritual home mean to you?)
3. *Where You are Family* (Families love, they work together, they squabble sometimes, but they are always family. Do you experience family here?)

HYMN *We All Are One in Mission* TFWS no. 2243

**We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.**

**We are called for service, to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others by god's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.**

Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our help comes from God, the Maker of heaven and earth. Trusting in God's wisdom and love, let us pray saying, "Put your word within us, O God; write it on our hearts." We pray, O God, for the church and its leaders. May we proclaim the truth and share the good news. Give your church grace that all members may carry out their ministries fully.

Silence.

Put your word within us, O God.

Write it on our hearts.

We pray, O God, for all those who interpret and establish laws, especially judges. Give our leaders wisdom equal to their responsibilities, that they may serve the common good and promote justice throughout the world.

Silence.

Put your word within us, O God.

Write it on our hearts.

We pray, O God, for the people of our community.
May those who cry out for justice, see justice.
May those who search for truth, find truth. May those
who fear for their own safety, find their comfort and
security in you.

Silence.

Put your word within us, O God.

Write it on our hearts.

We pray, O God, for the sick and the sorrowful,
remembering especially those we name in our
hearts.. May those who call upon you for healing also
find you to be their faithful healer.

Silence.

Put your word within us, O God.

Write it on our hearts.

O God, you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence; your love in our hearts,
your truth in our minds; your strength in our wills;
until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

(You may give your offering by text, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.)

Your offering changes lives! It helps our United Methodist Church connection make disciples for Jesus Christ in 136 countries around the globe. It helps us to go into all the world baptizing and teaching (Mt. 28:16-20). Thank you for your generosity and your deep affection for Christ and His call to make students, followers, disciples.

OFFERING VIDEO *Our UMC Mission*

OFFERING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN *Go Make of All Disciples* no. 571

"Go, make of all disciples."

**We hear the call, O Lord,
that comes from thee, our Father,
in thy eternal word.**

**Inspire our ways of learning
through earnest, fervent prayer,
and let our daily living
reveal thee everywhere.**

"Go, make of all disciples,"

**baptizing in the name
of Father, Son, and Spirit,
from age to age the same.
We call each new disciple
to follow thee, O Lord,
redeeming soul and body
by water and the Word.**

"Go, make of all disciples."

**We at thy feet would stay
until each life's vocation,
accents thy holy way.
We cultivate the nature
God plants in every heart,
revealing in our witness the master teacher's art.**

"Go, make of all disciples."

We welcome thy command.

"Lo, I am with you always."

We take thy guiding hand.

**The task looms large before us;
we follow without fear;
in heaven and earth thy power
shall bring God's kingdom here.**

BENEDICTION

We leave this place not as people who have all the answers. We leave this place not as people who are holier than others.

**We leave this place as people who have been
shown a grace, a calling, and a Savior who has
changed our lives forever. We're filled with a joy
that's too great to be kept to ourselves.**

Go forth to share your joy. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Sing the Glad Song

Ritter

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks
Liturgists: Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley, Rev. Allen Keller
Message for Growing Christians: Kristi Largoza
Reader: Carol Bremner
Chancel Choir Director: Mike Muzzo
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Acolyte: Ryan Largoza
Live Stream Producer: Cory Smith
Sound: Brad Rush, Holly Grimm

*I don't know how to say it,
but somehow it seems to me
that maybe we are stationed
where God wants us to be:*

*that the little place I'm filling
is the reason for my birth,
and just to do the work I do,
He sent me down to earth.*

*If God had wanted otherwise,
I reckon He'd have made
me just a little different,
of worse or better grade,*

*And since God knows and understands
all things of land and sea,
I fancy that He placed me here,
just where He wanted me.*

*Sometimes I get to thinking,
as my labors I review,
that I should like a higher place,
with greater things to do;*

*but I come to the conclusion,
when the envying is stilled,
that the post to which God sent me
is the post He wanted filled.*

*So I plod along and struggle,
in the hope when day is through,
that I am really necessary
to the things God wants to do;*

*and there isn't any service
which I should ever scorn,
for it may be just the reason
God allowed me to be born."*

*"I'm on a mission from God." And so are you.
Amen!*

-Attributed to an anonymous receptionist at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC