

+ Those who are able are invited to stand. UMH - United Methodist Hymnal FWS - Faith We Sing You are invited to respond with the **Bold** responses.

MOMENTS OF CENTERING BEFORE WORSHIP I have awakened afraid, in need of your comfort, O God. I have awakened in darkness, in need of your light.

Father, keep watch. Spirit, calm fear. Jesus, be near. Your presence abides with your children forever, and I am your child. I know that you are with me. I am not alone. I am never alone. You are here.

Father, keep watch. Spirit, calm fear. Jesus, be near.

Kindle in my heart the fires of holy affection, casting out all disturbing shadows. Let me draw courage from your fierce and unyielding love, even in moments when I am afraid.

Father, keep watch. Spirit, speak peace. Jesus, draw -Every Moment Holy. near. Amen.

Thanks be to God! Welcome to Worship!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Renee Warner

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE

Dan Martin

SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Acolytes

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world."

+CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

UMH 454

Open My Eves, That I May See, v. 2

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear; and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Responsively

Welcome, Beloved of God! For truly, you are deeply, wonderfully, beautifully loved by the God of all creation!

Come, let us worship God who loves us!

Whether your week was filled with mountain-high joys or valley-low sorrows, peace like a gently flowing river, or stress like a stormy gale, this is the time to rise and come away to worship God who sustains and tends to you.

Come, let us worship God who loves us and tends to us!

In a world that pulls us this way and that, God's love is our True North, guiding us with an uncommon wisdom through all that life brings us.

Come, let us worship God who loves us and guides us!

Beloved, the time for singing has come, because God's love, care, and wisdom sustain and guide us wherever we go.

Come, let us worship and sing to the God who loves, tends, guides, and sustains us! Amen!

+INVOCATION Responsively Creating God, you are the source of nature's splendor—the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers, and sweet sound of birdsong.

We come to you this morning with delight and gladness, grateful for all your wonders. As the fields produce their harvest, may your love grow

within us, that we too may produce a harvest of love, hope, and joy. Amen.

+HYMN OF CELEBRATION

UMH 126

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

THE CHURCH IN MOMENTS OF CONFESSION

THE EPISTLE LESSON

James 3:1-12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Responsively

Wise, knowing God, you see our hearts so clearly. You speak to our lives so profoundly. And yet, we are often unable or unwilling to hear your truth and go where you lead. Even as we praise you with our mouths, we disgrace ourselves with words spoken to others with tongues of vicious fire.

Forgive us for our hard hearts and stubborn ears. Forgive us for our hateful words and cruel gossip. Forgive us for our willful ignorance of the joy and gift you offer in your law of love. Help us live in your love and walk in your truth, that we might be your people, and you might be our God. In Christ's name, we pray.

PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Those who listen to God's wisdom live secure and at peace, without dread of disaster. Christ is our wisdom and our way.

In Christ, we are forgiven!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Unison

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPONSE Lead Me. Lord

UMH 473

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

THE CHURCH SHARES ITS BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

May we come together with grateful hearts. Let our gifts be God's praise. As we are fed by God's mercy and grace, let us share from our abundance, that others may be fed and nourished by our love and our care. Would you share with others as you have been blessed?

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Unison

Glorious God, your teachings are more to be desired than gold or silver. May these gifts be transformed into your gifts for all the world. May our lives drip with the sweetness of your truth. May our love flow with the honey of your grace. Bless these gifts and bless our lives, that all may glorify you. In trust, we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Dan Martin

+DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME UMH 92 For the Beauty of the Earth, v. 4

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; *Refrain:* Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

WIGGLETIME

...then to Children's Church

WORD IN MUSIC

Chancel Choir Director: Eva Atha SERMON

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO SHARE GOOD NEWS

+HYMN OF DEDICATION

UMH 139

Rev. Steve

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

+SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Acolytes

Jesus said, "You am the Light of the world."

+BENEDICTION

May the words of our mouths be acceptable and true. May the meditations of our hearts be loving and pure. May the actions of our lives be grace-filled and kind. May we go where Christ leads and walk in God's truth. Amen.

+POSTLUDE

Dan Martin

...and the worship continues.

