

## ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

### WELCOME

*Assisted listening devices are available in the sound booth.*

### PRELUDE

*Courage and Grace*

Music by Michael Joy

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

† *indicates the congregation should stand*

Choir:

*O sing unto the Lord! Come to His courts with praise. Bring honor, praise, and gifts to God on High!*

L: Delight! Children of God, delight!

**P: We are delighted to be here together; to worship as a family and to be united in a common ministry.**

L: We gather in worship to celebrate this community.

**P: We celebrate the love that we have for one another, the support that we give to one another and the journey we are on to be united by God's grace.**

L: We come together this day to delight in offering our gifts.

**P: We delight in the gifts we are giving, the pledges we are making, and the future we are creating.**

L: We join our hearts and our spirits today and delight in giving.

**P: We are here! We are delighted! We are united!**

L: Let us worship the God who loves when we delight in giving.

**P: Let us worship God!**

### † PROCESSIONAL HYMN 87

*What Gift Can We Bring*

ANNIVERSARY SONG

### † PRAYER

**We worship and praise God from whom all blessings flow. Lord, You gave us Your most precious and holy gift, Jesus Christ. Thank You for Your Son and His church. Thank You for Your enduring love, Your limitless mercy, and Your amazing grace. Help us to move forward in faith, so that we may grow in love and generosity. Open our hearts and minds as we seek Your will for our church, our community, and ourselves. Challenge and inspire us to share the gifts we have received to serve others. We humbly pray in Your holy name. Amen.**

### ANTHEM

*Somebody's Knockin'*

Music by Joseph Martin

Somebody's knockin' at your door. Could it be my Lord? Answer, children, be restored! Oh, children, why don't you answer? Somebody's singin' loud and strong. Listen, can you hear the song?

### PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it. Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace.*

L: The peace of Christ is here among us.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

## LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

### CALL TO COMMITMENT

L: In the well-known story for today's teaching, Jesus instructs His disciples to organize the large crowd into smaller groups of 50 people. As a leader, Jesus has a vision and system to help the community meet its needs, effectively manage its resources, and take care of one another. In John's telling of this story, it is a child who makes the personal transformation. A child has a supper of five loaves and two fish and offers it to Jesus and the disciples. He knows that he has something to share, so he takes action. Today is a day when we can take action. Each of us, young and old, is called by God to be stewards, sharing what we have. And so, people of God, I ask you now, do you promise to enter into this covenant together to be God's stewards with what you have to offer?

**P: We do.**

### † LITANY OF COMMITMENT

L: Gracious God, You have made a world for us and given us incomparable gifts: air and water, family and friends, Your steadfast love and forgiveness, and Your son Jesus the Christ. For all the gifts and wonders You have bestowed on us,

**P: We thank You and worship You with renewed gratitude.**

L: O God, You created us to love one another as Christ has loved us. Like the boy who shared what he had, we are eager to share and participate in the work of the whole church and to further the ministry and service of this congregation.

**P: We are called to be Your stewards. We thoughtfully shoulder our personal share of responsibility, and we pledge to witness to the good news of Christ with our hearts and hands and voices.**

L: We are confident in Your love and care for us.

**P: We gladly give back to our Gracious God our whole lives, our time, our talents, and our financial resources.**

### TIME OF COMMITMENT

*Those making a stewardship commitment for 2024 are asked to come forward and place commitment cards on the altar. Those who have already made a commitment are encouraged to bring a commitment card with your name only to the altar for the commissioning and prayer.*

### THE COMMISSION

L: O God, throughout the ages you have challenged your people to step out in faith and follow you. You have put purpose and direction in the lives of your people. We have before us a new direction and a new purpose. We have set our feet on the pathway. Be our guide. Whisper in our ears when we need to make decisions. Hold us up if we start to stumble. May Your Holy Spirit lead us in joyful song and fill us with eager anticipation. You are our vision, O God; lead us on our journey. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Almighty God, by Your Holy Spirit, illumine the sacred page that our minds may be open to receive Your Word, our hearts taught to love it, and our wills strengthened to obey it. We pray in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### † GOSPEL LESSON

John 6:1-15

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

### SERMON

*Introducing a Boy Who Shared His Lunch...with 5,000 People*

Pastor Meshach Kanyion

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

*Hear our prayer, O God. We bow before Your throne and lift our humble voice to You.*

### PASTORAL PRAYER

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

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

### OFFERTORY

*Let there be Glory and Honor and Praises*

Arranged by Mark Hayes

### † 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 DEDICATION

Gracious and loving God, we understand that You call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all You have entrusted to us. Help us to always use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. Amen.

## GO FORTH WITH GOD'S BLESSING

### † RECESSIONAL HYMN 555

*Forward Through the Ages*

ST. GERTRUDE

### † BENEDICTION

### † POSTLUDE

*Prelude in C Major*

Music by J.S. Bach

Music and Streaming Licenses: CCLI #2501769 | OneLicense #A-735406

## IN WORSHIP TODAY

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given in celebration and gratitude of our faithful stewards.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Meshach Kanyion, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Karen Crawford, *Associate Pastor*

Jon Yaney, *Youth Director*

Mary Stapleton, *Acolyte*

Tom Burdin, *Lay Reader*

Joe Galyon, *Director of Worship and Arts*

Musicians, *Covenant Choir and Kids Choirs 1-6*

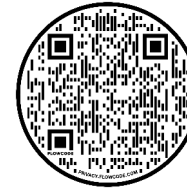
Peyton Voline, *Worship Technology Coordinator*

Steve Shiparski, *Presentation Operator*

Troy Travis, *Video Mixer*

### TELL US YOU'RE HERE

Point your phone camera to this QR code to tell us you are here and to share prayer requests.



More information about our ministries is available at [www.cos-umc.org](http://www.cos-umc.org).

Church of the SAVIOUR  
UNITED METHODIST

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# Introducing...

September 24, 2023

11:00 am

