

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Childcare is provided (6 weeks-K) throughout the entire service in Room 206 and 204 where trained child care workers will be waiting. Ask any greeter for help locating the room. First Kids Worship (K-3) takes place during the 11am services every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month when we celebrate communion. Please drop off and pick up your student in room 304.*

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

Meditation on Crucifer

by: Charles Callahan

*The Trinity Chimes, the three chimes heard at the opening of the worship service, represent God our Creator, Jesus Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit who sustains us.*

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

YHWH, you say to our hearts, “Seek my face,”

**And so it is your face we seek!**

Let the light of your face shine on us!

**You put joy in our hearts—**

**a joy greater than being full of bread and new wine.**

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,”

has shone in our hearts,

**So that we in turn might make known**

**the glory of God shining on the face of Christ.**

### †PROCESSIONAL HYMN, NO. 152

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

FOREST GREEN

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God, the Almighty**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**the third day he rose from the dead,**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of God Almighty.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end. (cont.)**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### †GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

TULANE

Glo - ry be to God on high, cre - a - tor of the world;  
Glo - ry be to God the son, re - deem-ing grace to give;  
Glo - ry to the Ho - ly Ghost, in - spir-ing us to love;  
One in three, three in one for - ev - er\_\_\_ more.  
A - - - men.

### CONFESSON OF SIN

**Merciful God,**

**We confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you**

**with our whole heart and soul**

**and mind and strength.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy,**

**forgive what we have been,**

**help us amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be,**

**so that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*Silence for personal reflection*

## ASSURANCE AND PARDON

### FIRST LESSON

NUMBERS 21:4-9

The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the road to the Sea of Reeds in order to avoid Edom. But the people grew impatient along the way, and they addressed their concerns to God and Moses: “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? We have no bread! We have no water! And we are disgusted with this terrible food!” Then YHWH sent venomous snakes among the people. They fatally bit many of the people. So the people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against YHWH and against you. Intercede for us, and ask that God remove the snakes from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And YHWH said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it on the end of a pole. Anyone who is bitten and looks at it will live.” So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then whenever the people were bitten by a snake, they looked at the bronze snake and lived.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 78:1-2, 34-38

*Chanted by the choir*

My people, hear my teaching;

listen to the words of my mouth!

I will open my mouth in parables,

I will utter things hidden from of old—

Whenever you struck them down,

they would turn to you;

they became eager for you again.

They remembered that God was their rock,

that God Most High was their redeemer.

But then they would deceive you with their speech,

and lie to you with their lips;

their hearts were fickle;

they were unfaithful to your Covenant.

But you were merciful; you forgave their wrongs

and didn’t destroy them.

Time and again, you held back your anger

and didn’t give vent to your full wrath.

### SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-24

For the message of the cross is complete absurdity to those who are headed for ruin, but to us who are experiencing salvation, it is the power of God. Scripture says, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and thwart the learning of the learned.” Where are the wise? Where are the scholars? Where

are the philosophers of this age? Has not God turned the wisdom of this world into folly? If it was God's wisdom that the world in its wisdom would not know God, it was because God wanted to save those who have faith through the foolishness of the message we preach. For while the Jews call for miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here we are preaching a Messiah nailed to a cross. To the Jews this is an obstacle they cannot get over, and to the Greeks it is madness—but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, Christ is the power and the wisdom of God.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### ANTHEM

God so Loved the World by: Bob Chilcott  
God so loved the world, so loved the world. God so loved the world, so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son that whoso believeth, believeth in him, should not perish but have everlasting life, everlasting, everlasting life.

#### THIRD LESSON

JOHN 3:13-17

No one has gone up to heaven except the One who came down from heaven—the Chosen One. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so the Chosen One must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in the Chosen One might have eternal life. Yes, God so loved the world as to give the Only Begotten One, that whoever believes may not die, but have eternal life. God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten the world might be saved.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### †HYMN OF PREPARATION, NO. 298

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross HAMBURG

#### SERMON

Christian Idols

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

#### OFFERTORY

Cross of Jesus by: Charles Callahan

#### †DOXOLOGY, NO. 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

#### †HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP, NO. 159

Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER

#### †BENEDICTION

#### CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY

Toccata Brevis by: Daniel Gawthrop

#### WORSHIP LEADERS

**Preacher:** Rev. Mark Flynn  
**Liturgists:** Rev. Jenny Caughman, *Spiritual Care Pastor*  
Rev. Denna Hornby, *Associate Pastor*  
**Music:** Josh Sumter, *Organist & Choirmaster*  
Wesley Singers (8:45)  
Parrish Adult Choir (11:00)

*Floral arrangements were given to the glory of God  
by Susan, Stuart & Lee Baur in memory of Jo-an.*

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 18th, 2022