

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

Variations on *Auld Lang Syne*, mvmt. III

by: Eugene Thayer

*The Trinity Chimes represent God our Creator, Jesus Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit who sustains us.*

#### †CALL TO WORSHIP

O Most Holy God, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves to you as prodigals at your doorstep.

**We have fallen short in many ways throughout our lives and are prone to the falling ways of this world.**

But you have promised mercy to us in Christ, and you call us to turn to you with all of our hearts.

**Therefore, by the call of your Gospel, we come now, without reluctance, to offer ourselves to your love and mercy.**

#### †PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 87

What Gift Can We Bring

ANNIVERSARY SONG

#### LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies. O God, our Covenant Lord, you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

## †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.

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 CHRONICLES 34:29-33

At the ruler's summons, all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem assembled. Josiah went up to the house of YHWH with all the people of Judah and the people of Jerusalem, the priests, the Levites--the entire population, high and low. There Josiah read the entire text of the Scroll of the Covenant which had been found in the house of YHWH. Then, standing by the pillar, the ruler entered into a covenant before YHWH, to obey and keep the commandments, the decrees, the statutes with heart and soul, and so to carry out the terms of the covenant as they were written in the scroll. He then compelled all who were present to swear by an oath to keep the covenant of God, the God of their ancestors. Josiah removed all of the abominable idols from all the lands of the Israelites, and made everyone who lived in Israel serve YHWH, their God. As long as Josiah lived, they were steadfast in following YHWH, the God of their ancestors.

#### †HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 451

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

#### HOMILY

You Are the Beloved

#### COVENANT PRAYER

**Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.**

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

**Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.**

## CONFESSION

O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, entering into covenant with you. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let God.

**Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant, to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

**O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Father, Glory be to you, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit, who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are my Covenant Lord. And I, through your infinite grace, am your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN NO. 399**

Take My Life, and Let It Be

MESSIAH

**†DOXOLOGY**

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!

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Pg. 15**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**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.

**BREAKING THE BREAD & AGNUS DEI**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

1, 2.  
 sins of the world. Have mer - cy on us.  
 3.  
 sins of the world. Grant us your peace.

**GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**MUSIC AT COMMUNION**

**PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP NO. 670**

Go Forth for God

GENEVA

**†BENEDICTION**

**†POSTLUDE**

Variations on *The Old Hundredth*, mvmt. V

by: Denis Bédard

†*Congregation standing as able*

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Preacher:** Rev. Denna Hornby, *Associate Pastor*

**Liturgist:** Rev. Jenny Caughman, *Spiritual Care Pastor*

**Music:** Josh Sumter, *Organist & Choirmaster*

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

**Regular Sunday Morning Worship**

- 8:45 am Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Contemporary Service in the Multipurpose Room

*Childcare is provided for all services.*

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## Wesleyan Covenant Service

January 1st, 2023