

Good Morning!

North Bend Church
a Global Methodist Congregation

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Because God is worthy we worship

GATHERING AND WELCOME

Prelude

Announcements

ANNUAL CONFERENCE The very first meeting of the Allegheny West Annual Conference will be held October 12-14 in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. North Bend Church is now part of the Allegheny West Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. We are sending Dennis George as our delegate to the Annual Conference this year.

The purpose of each annual meeting is to gather clergy and lay delegates from each congregation who worship together, celebrate God's church, ordain new pastors, and strategize for effective and faithful ministry. Above all, remembering our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

CHARGE CONFERENCE The North Bend Church will hold its 2023 Charge Conference on Wednesday, October 25th at 6:15pm. This is our annual meeting to complete denominational forms necessary to prepare for ministry in the year ahead. Everyone is welcome to attend. The meeting should last about a half hour.

(Are there any other Announcements?)

COME BEFORE THE LORD

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: Welcome to God's house! We are delighted to have you here!

People: We hunger for God's word of hope.

Leader: You have come to the right place. Here you will be fed on the life-giving love of God.

People: We thirst for God's healing in our lives.

Leader: At the table of the Lord, you will be fed and your thirst quenched.

People: Thanks be to God who provides for our needs.

***Singing**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

UMH #185

(vs. 1, 2, 4)

**1. When morning gilds the skies
my heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer,
to Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**2. The night becomes as day
when from the heart we say:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
The powers of darkness fear
when this sweet chant they hear:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**4. Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this th'eternal song
through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

PRAY UNTO THE LORD

***Praying Together¹**

God of hope and peace, you are with us in all our days and in all our ways. As you walked with the Israelites in the desert, when they had given up hope, you came to them with nourishment and your steadfast love. As Jesus walked through Jerusalem, healing the sick and those afflicted, your love was made abundantly clear through acts of love and mercy. Be with us this day as we gather to hear your word.

Inspire and encourage us in all that we do, that we may serve you faithfully, bringing hope and your message of love to your thirsting world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Joys & Concerns

Silent & Pastoral Prayer

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Anthem

Reading the Scripture

John 10:1-14 (NIV)

- 10: 1 “Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber.
- 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.
- 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
- 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.
- 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.”
- 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.
- 7 Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate

- for the sheep.
- 8 All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them.
- 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.
- 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- 11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.
- 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.
- 14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming the Gospel

I AM the Good Shepherd

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Pardon

UMH p. 12

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(All pray in silent confession)

Leader to people:

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People to leader:

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Everyone:

Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH p. 13

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

A: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

A: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

A: Amen.

P: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

A: 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.**

Giving the Bread and the Cup

RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

***Singing**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

UMH #381

(vs. 1, 2)

**1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare.**

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!

Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!

Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

**2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.**

**Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.**

GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD

***Receiving the Blessing**

Postlude

¹From "Worship Connection: October 1, 2023," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com.