

Good Morning!

***North Bend Church***  
*a Global Methodist Congregation*

Sunday, September 3, 2023  
*Because God is worthy we worship*

**GATHERING AND WELCOME**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**No Bible Study** this week, Tuesday, September 5. We will resume on Tuesday, September 12.

**Leadership Team** meeting on Tuesday, September 19 at 6:30pm.

*(Are there any other Announcements?)*

## COME BEFORE THE LORD

### **\*Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

**People: Call on God's holy name.**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord.

**People: Tell of God's wondrous deeds.**

Leader: Let the faithful sing of the Lord's awesome power.

**People: Let the hearts of the faithful rejoice.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

**People: Call on God's holy name.**

### **\*Singing**

*His Name Is Wonderful*

UMH #174

(twice)

**His name is wonderful, his name is wonderful,**

**his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He is the mighty King, Master of everything;**

**his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages, almighty God is he;**

**bow down before him, love and adore him,**

**his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

## PRAY UNTO THE LORD

### **\*Praying Together<sup>1</sup>**

**Great I Am, you come to us in unexpected ways. Excite our curiosity, that we might turn aside and realize we are standing on holy ground. Appear to us in fire and wonder, that we might see worlds beyond the reaches of our imaginations. Reveal the glory of your kingdom—where love is genuine, where evil is forsaken, where mutual affection abides, and hospitality is shown to strangers, where all are made one. Amen.**

### **Joys & Concerns**

*(ask for joys and concerns)*

### **Silent & Pastoral Prayer<sup>2</sup>**

*(observe a moment of silent prayer and then continue with the prayer below or one of your own, ending with the Lord's Prayer)*

Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with us this day as we gather to encounter your word and your way for us. Hear the joys and concerns that have been lifted up today and those we hold in our hearts. Remind us that we can place our trust in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and place us on the pathways of grace and service. These things we pray in Jesus' name as we pray the prayer He taught us...

**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.**

## **HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD**

### **Anthem**

#### **Reading the Scripture**

Exodus 3:1-15 (NIV)

- 3:1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
- 2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.
- 3 So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."
- 4 When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."
- 5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for

- the place where you are standing is holy ground.”
- 6 Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.
- 7 The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.
- 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.
- 9 And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.
- 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”
- 11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”
- 12 And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”
- 13 Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask

- me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"
- 14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' "
- 15 God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' "This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclaiming the Gospel**

*"Burning Bush Moments"*

**RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD**

**\*Singing**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

UMH #64

(vs. 1, 3)

**1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,**

**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,**

**though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.**

## **GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD**

### **\*Receiving the Blessing<sup>1</sup>**

Live peaceably with others. Hold fast to what is good. Honor what is just and show mutual affection for all. Go with the blessings of the almighty.

## **Postlude**

<sup>1</sup>*From "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023" edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright Abingdon Press.*

<sup>2</sup>*From "Worship Connection: September 3, 2023," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com.*