

Good Morning!

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

Sunday, February 4, 2024  
*Because God is worthy we worship*

**GATHERING AND WELCOME**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**BLESSING OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:** Starting today, we will collect the offering plates from the back and bring them forward for a special prayer asking for God's blessing on your donations. You may want to plan to put your offerings in the plates prior to the start of service.

**LENTEN SEASON:** We'll begin the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 14. In the following weeks, you'll be invited to order Easter flowers and to assist in sending Easter cards to shut-ins. Palm Sunday is March 24. Easter is March 31.

**BIBLE STUDY:** We are studying the book of Daniel through February 20. Bible Study starts at 10 a.m. each Tuesday.

**TRAM:** All non-perishable food, personal care and household items are welcome. The location is at the Miami Town Hall, 112 S. Miami Avenue, Cleves. TRAM is always grateful for monetary donations. Mail checks to TRAM Ministry Inc., P.O. Box 389, North Bend, Ohio 45052.

*(Are there any other Announcements?)*

## COME BEFORE THE LORD

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

Leader: Come, rejoice and sing! God's love is showered over you this day.

**People: We gather to praise God and celebrate God's presence with us.**

Leader: God shows compassion to all who are weak and downtrodden.

**People: Jesus Christ offers healing mercies to our troubled souls.**

Leader: Praise be to God who has called us here.

**People: Thanks be to God for God's eternal love. Amen.**

### **\*Singing**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

UMH #103

(vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)

**1 Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
in light inaccessible  
hid from our eyes,  
most blessed,  
most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,**

**almighty, victorious,  
thy great name we praise.**

**2. Unresting, unhasting,  
and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting,  
thou rulest in might;  
thy justice  
like mountains  
high soaring above  
thy clouds  
which are fountains  
of goodness and love.**

**3. To all, life thou givest,  
to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest,  
the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish  
as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish,  
but naught changeth thee.**

**4. Thou reignest in glory;  
thou dwellest in light;  
thine angels adore thee,  
all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render:  
O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor  
of light hideth thee.**

## **PRAY UNTO THE LORD**

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

**Powerful God, from the very beginning you blessed creation. You have loved and shielded your people through all joys and trials of life. We come to you this day, rejoicing in the many blessings you have given to us. We open our hearts again to hear your word for us and to gather strength and joy for service in your world. Be with us and bless us again, we pray. Amen.**

**Joys & Concerns**

**Silent & Pastoral Prayer**

## HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

**Anthem**

**Blessing of Offerings**

**\*Singing**      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*      UMH #95

**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.**

**Reading the Scripture**

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (NIV)

9: 16 For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am

compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

17 If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

18 What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel.

- 19 Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.
- 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law.
- 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law.
- 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.
- 23 I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclaiming the Gospel**

*How Does Paul Present the Gospel?*

**Covenant Prayer**

**I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for**

**thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

## **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 forever.

**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**

*To God Be the Glory*

UMH #98

(vs. 1, 2, 3)

**1. To God be the glory,  
great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world  
that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life  
an atonement for sin,  
and opened the lifegate**

**that all may go in.**

***Refrain:***

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**

**2. O perfect redemption,  
the purchase of blood,  
to every believer  
the promise of God;  
the vilest offender  
who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus  
a pardon receives.**

*Refrain:*

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**

**3. Great things  
he hath taught us,  
great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing  
thru Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher,  
and greater will be  
our wonder,  
our transport,  
when Jesus we see.**

***Refrain:***

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**

**GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD**

**\*Receiving the Blessing**

**Postlude**

*<sup>1</sup>From "Worship Connection: February 4, 2024," by Nancy C. Townley, [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.com)*