

Good Morning!

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

Sunday, April 28, 2024

*Because God is worthy we worship*

**GATHERING AND WELCOME**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**CIRCUIT MEETING:** The GMC Cincinnati Circuit will have its next circuit meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 30, at Cornerstone Church, 7600 Princeton Glendale Road, West Chester. Jeff Greenway, pastor of Reynoldsburg Community Church, will be the speaker. Anyone who wants to attend is welcome.

**GRADUATION PARTY:** Pastor Ed's daughters, Amanda and Autumn, will graduate from high school and college this spring. To celebrate, everyone is invited to attend a joint graduation party from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, June 8, here at the church. If you plan to attend, please notify Lisa Gebhart at 513-203-3587.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Our “SCUBA Diving into Friendship with God” VBS will be June 19-21. If you would like to offer your assistance, please talk with Lisa Gebhart or call 513-203-3587.

**FACEBOOK PAGE:** To promote our church, please follow our Facebook page and share our posts. Note, we stream our services live each Sunday, and a recording is available shortly after service.

**BIBLE STUDY:** We are studying the book of Jeremiah through the end of May. 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: Spring is about to break forth!

**People: In all the land, new life is happening!**

Leader: Feel the wonder and power of God's creative energy.

**People: Feel the awe and joy of God's love for us.**

Leader: Let us worship God with a full sense of joy and expectation.

**People: Let us open our hearts, our spirits, our souls, to God's lavish love. Amen.**

### **\*Singing**

*Be Still, My Soul*

UMH #534

(vs. 1, 2, 3)

**1. Be still, my soul:  
the Lord is on your side.**

**Bear patiently  
the cross of grief and pain;**

**leave to your God  
to order and provide;**

**in every change  
God faithful will remain.**

**Be still, my soul:**

**your best,  
your heavenly friend  
through thorny ways  
leads to a joyful end.**

**2. Be still, my soul:  
your God will undertake  
to guide the future,  
as in ages past.**

**Your hope,  
your confidence  
let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious  
shall be bright at last.**

**Be still, my soul:  
the waves and  
winds still know  
the Christ who ruled  
them while he dwelt below.**

**3. Be still, my soul:  
the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be**

**forever with the Lord,  
when disappointment,  
grief, and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgot,  
love's purest joys restored.**

**Be still, my soul:  
when change and  
tears are past,  
all safe and blessed  
we shall meet at last.**

## **PRAY UNTO THE LORD**

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

**We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens  
and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your  
words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you.  
Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you  
more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name,  
we pray. Amen.**

**Joys & Concerns**

**Silent & Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's 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

Acts 8:26-40 (NIV)

8:26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."  
30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading  
Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?"  
Philip asked.  
31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he  
invited Philip to come up and sit with him.  
32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He  
was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its  
shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.  
33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of  
his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."  
34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet  
talking about, himself or someone else?"  
35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told  
him the good news about Jesus.  
36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and  
the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the  
way of my being baptized?"  
38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and  
the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.  
39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord  
suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him  
again, but went on his way rejoicing.

40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about,  
preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclaiming the Gospel**

*The Power of the Gospel*

**RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD**

**\*Singing**

*Pass It On*

UMH #572

(vs. 1, 2, 3)

**1. It only takes a spark  
to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around  
can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love  
once you've experienced it;  
you spread his love to everyone;  
you want to pass it on.**

**2. What a wondrous  
time is spring,**



**when all the trees are budding,  
the birds begin to sing,  
the flowers start their blooming.  
That's how it is with God's love  
once you've experienced it;  
you want to sing,  
it's fresh like spring,  
you want to pass it on.**

**3. I wish for you, my friend,  
the happiness that I've found;  
you can depend on him,  
it matters not  
where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from  
the mountaintop;  
I want my world to know;  
the Lord of love  
has come to me,  
I want to pass it on.**

**GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD**

**\*Receiving the Blessing**

**Postlude**

*<sup>1</sup>From "Worship Connection: April 3, 2022," by Nancy C. Townley, [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.com)*