

Good Morning!

North Bend Church
a Global Methodist Congregation

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Because God is worthy we worship

GATHERING AND WELCOME

Prelude

Announcements

CHOIR PRACTICE: Our choir will resume its practices this Thursday, August 8, at 6:30 p.m. If you enjoy singing and would like to join our fellowship, please feel free to attend or to talk with choir members to learn more. No experience is required.

DONATIONS FOR THREE RIVERS: For the next two weeks, we will be collecting schools supplies for the Three Rivers School District. Needed are clear backpacks as well as the usual pencils, pens, crayons, markers, notebooks, folders and similar supplies. You may want to take advantage of Ohio's sales tax holiday, which continues through Thursday, August 8. Almost anything you buy that costs less than \$500 is exempt from taxes.

MATCHING FUNDS FOR TRAM: Please consider making a financial contribution to TRAM during August. The food bank is running short on supplies. To help, our church board already gave \$1,000 to TRAM and has agreed to match dollar-for-dollar all your August donations, up to \$1,000; your \$25 gift becomes \$50. To help us track your gifts, please write checks to North Bend Church and make a notation on the outside of your contribution envelope.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS: For those of you who have a Kroger Shopper's Card, please consider linking our church to its rewards program if you haven't already. Kroger gives cash to us based on your purchases; in the first six months of 2024, we received nearly \$100. To link your card, sign in to your Kroger online account and select My Account, then Community Rewards. Enter our church's ID number, GQ626, then Enroll.

Optional announcements:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: We continue to look for a volunteer to mail get-well cards to members who could benefit from a reminder of our support. If interested, please talk with Gloria George, 513-509-1944, who has materials to get started.

We're also looking for someone to coordinate church fellowship luncheons on a periodic basis, perhaps once a quarter. If you can help, please talk with Pastor Ed, 513-646-8775, about your ideas.

FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE PAGES: To promote our church, please follow our Facebook page and share our posts. We stream our services live each Sunday, and a recording is available shortly after service. For those without Facebook accounts, you can watch the service on YouTube after Pastor Ed uploads it to our page. You can find the address on the back page of your bulletin.

(Are there any other Announcements?)

COME BEFORE THE LORD

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: Welcome today to a celebration of God's love!

People: We are grateful for this welcome.

Leader: Feel the loving power of God flow into your lives.

People: We open our hearts and lives to receive God's blessings.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

People: Lord, be with us today as we listen for your words of hope. 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 Together¹**

You have drawn us together this day from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, hopes and dreams, Lord. Be with us, as together we experience your presence and your healing love. Open our hearts and our spirits to receive strength, encouragement and peace. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. 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

Exodus 14:15-30 (NIV)

- 14:15 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me?
Tell the Israelites to move on.
- 16 Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to
divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on
dry ground.
- 17 I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in
after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his
army, through his chariots and his horsemen.
- 18 The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory
through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen."
- 19 Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of
Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of
cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them,

20 coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided,

22 and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

23 The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea.

24 During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion.

25 He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen."

27 Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea.

28 The water flowed back and covered the chariots and

horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

29 But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

30 That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming the Gospel

God Will Make a Way

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**

Here I Am, Lord

UMH #593

(vs. 1, 2, 3)

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,

I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin

my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,

I will make their

darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them?

Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

**I have heard you
calling in the night.**

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

**I will hold
your people in my heart.**

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them.

They turn away.

**I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.**

I will speak my word to them.

Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

**I have heard you
calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold
your people in my heart.**

**3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?**

Refrain:

**Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you
calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold
your people in my heart.**

GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD

***Receiving the Blessing**

Postlude

¹From "Worship Connection: August 16, 2020," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com