

Good Morning!

North Bend Church
a Global Methodist Congregation

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Because God is worthy we worship

GATHERING AND WELCOME

Prelude

Announcements

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY: An updated church directory lists members and attendees of our church along with their addresses, contact information and birthdays for your personal use. You may pick up a copy at the tables near the entrances to the church.

YOUNG ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY: Each Wednesday at 7 p.m., Zane and Ashley-May are leading a Bible Study for young adults. Please invite your friends and family members to experience this wonderful opportunity.

(Are there any other Announcements?)

COME BEFORE THE LORD

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: God's glory is pouring forth from the heavens.

People: Earth below receives the good news with great joy.

Leader: The promise is sure and true, that Jesus has come to show us the best ways to serve God.

People: By serving and caring for others, we truly serve God.

Leader: Come, let us prepare ourselves for joyful service.

People: Lord, make us ready for great service in your name.

Amen.

***Singing**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

UMH #89

(vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,

God of glory, Lord of love;

hearts unfold like

flowers before thee,

opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of

sin and sadness;

drive the dark of

doubt away.

**Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!**

**2. All thy works with
joy surround thee,
earth and heaven
reflect thy rays,
stars and angels
sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest,
vale and mountain,
flowery meadow,
flashing sea,
chanting bird and
flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.**

**3. Thou art giving
and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the
joy of living,**

ocean depth of happy rest!

**Thou our Father,
Christ our brother,
all who live in
love are thine;
teach us how to
love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.**

**4. Mortals, join the
mighty chorus
which the morning
stars began;
love divine is
reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.**

**Ever singing,
march we onward,
victors in the
midst of strife;
joyful music
leads us sunward,
in the triumph song of life.**

PRAY UNTO THE LORD

***Praying Together¹**

Leading and Guiding God, you have opened the doors to us for true service. We are encouraged to become involved in ministries of peace and justice. The light of promise is reflected in your Spirit, which rests in each one of us. Get us ready to serve you. Guide our lives, as we learn more of what you would have us do. 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

Nehemiah 8:1-10 (NIV)

- 8:1 All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.
- 2 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.
- 3 He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.
- 4 Ezra the teacher of the Law stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishaël, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.
- 5 Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he

was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up.

6 Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

7 The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there.

8 They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

10 Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming the Gospel

The Joy Of The Lord

RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

***Singing**

Take Time to Be Holy

UMH #395

(1, 2, 4)

**1. Take time to be holy,
speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always,
and feed on his word.**

**Make friends of
God's children,
help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing
his blessing to seek.**

**2. Take time to be holy,
the world rushes on;
spend much time
in secret
with Jesus alone.**

**By looking to Jesus,
like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct
his likeness shall see.**

**4. Take time to be holy,
be calm in thy soul,
each thought
and each motive
beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit
to fountains of love,
thou soon shall be fitted
for service above.**

GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD

***Receiving the Blessing**

Postlude

***Singing**

The Blessing

Kari Jobe

**The Lord bless you
and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you**

**The Lord turn His
face toward you
And give you peace**

Amen

Amen, Amen

Amen

Amen, Amen

May His favor

be upon you

And a thousand generations

And your family

and your children

And their children,

and their children

Amen

Amen, Amen

Amen

Amen, Amen

¹*From "Worship Connection: January 23, 2022," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com*