



ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 02, 2025

10:30 a.m. Service

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn of Praise – “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (UMH #89)

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!

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.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring 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.

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 on-ward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sun-ward,
in the triumph song of life.

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Christ Jesus came into the world, full of grace and truth.

People: Many were amazed by the grace in Jesus' words.

Pastor: In the life of Jesus, we see the depth of God's love for us.

People: Jesus showed us how God's love must permeate all we do.

Pastor: Come and worship the Lord, whose love never ends.

People: Praise be to God, whose love extends to all people.

Act of Praise – "Glory be to the Father" (UMH#70)

Glory Be to the Father
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith - "The Apostles' Creed" (UMH #881)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
The third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Scripture Lesson Luke 10:25-37

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we come here today eager to experience again the faith, hope, and love that mark Christ's reign. We've heard your good news, have been warmed by your love, and want our lives to reflect your ways. Yet our hearts are troubled by the recognition that many of our actions, toward you and each other, are not marked by love. We have lost our patience, have been arrogant, and have insisted on our own way. Forgive us, O God. Heal and restore us through your Holy Spirit, that we may be drawn together in love and service. In Jesus' name. Amen

Prayer of Intercession

Extending the Peace of Christ

Choir – “That's Why We Praise Him”

Offering

Doxology - “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” (UMH #94)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn – “The Gift of Love” (UMH #408)

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

Sermon – “A More Excellent Way”

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymns During Communion

UMH #170

There is a name I love to hear,
I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear,
the sweetest name on earth.
O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus,
because he first loved me!

UMH #171

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's something about that name
Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim:
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,
But there's something about that name!

UMH #174

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.

UMH #176

Majesty, worship his majesty;
unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority,
flow from his throne unto his own;
his anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King

UMH #181

Ye servants of God,
your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad
his wonderful name;
the name all victorious
of Jesus extol,
his kingdom is glorious
and rules over all.

UMH #185

When morning gilds the skies
my heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer,
To Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Hymn – “Here I Am, Lord” (UMH #593)

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?

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.

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?

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.

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 be satisfied.
I will give my life to them,
Whom shall I send?

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.

Benediction

Congregational Response: Blest Be the Tie that Binds
Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above

Postlude

Today's Worship Leaders Include:

Choir Director: Roy Nelson
Scripture Reader: Linda Ayoub
The Acolytes: Connor Harman and Vivian Scarlett

St. John's Staff

Lead Pastor - Rev. Brad Leight
Pastoral Associate - Ruth Portzline, CLM
Director of Children's Ministries – Rev. Megan Berkebile
Director of Youth and Family Ministries - John-Thomas (JT) Crockett
Director of Music Ministries - Roy Nelson

Contemporary Worship Leader, Keyboard Accompanist - Alissa Nelson

Church Administrator - Lou Lescas
Office Clerical Coordinator - Holly Gray

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