



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**September 29, 2024**  
**10:30 a.m. Service**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Hymn of Praise** – “God of Grace and God of Glory” (UMH #577)

God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church’s story;  
bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour, (of this hour)  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days, (of these days)  
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children’s warring madness,  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal,  
(kingdom’s goal)  
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the search for thy salvation

be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore, (we adore)  
serving thee whom we adore.

**Call to Worship:**

Pastor: Come; draw near to the presence of God.

**People: For God's presence is already here among us.**

Pastor: Rejoice, for in Christ Jesus, those who were far off have been brought near.

**People: Jesus, our peace, has broken down the hostility and dividing walls between us.**

Pastor: Come and connect with God's reconciling love.

**People: May we be formed and built up into the household of God.**

**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 – Acts 10:34-45**

**Message in Music – “I’ve Got Peace Like A River / Standin’ in the Need of Prayer” - *Brian Barber, Piano*,**

### **Prayer of Confession**

God of Grace and Peace, we come before you humbled and grateful, as we know your reconciling work through Christ is what draws us near to you. We remember how you’ve broken down all walls of hostility and division, drawing us together as one body in Christ, and yet we struggle to live that reality. We lash out with harsh and pointed words, rejecting the peace you ushered in. We find it astonishing that your Spirit strengthens all who trust in you, often viewing ourselves above others. Forgive us Lord, and wash us in your grace, that we may be built into a holy dwelling, the household of God. Amen.

### **Prayer of Intercession**

### **Extending the Peace of Christ**

### **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**

**Hymn – “Have Thine Own Way, Lord” (UMH #382)**

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Thou art the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,  
while I am waiting, yielding and still.

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Search me and try me, Savior today!

Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,  
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!

Power, all power, surely is thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway,

Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!

**Sermon** – “Created for Connection: Reconciled”

**Text:** Ephesians 2:13-22

**Hymn** – “Lift High the Cross” (UMH#159)

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

Come, Christians,  
follow this triumphant sign.  
the hosts of God in unity combine.

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

Each newborn servant  
of the Crucified bears  
on the brow the seal of him who died.

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised,

draw the world to thee.

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

### **Benediction**

#### **Congregational Response: Sanctuary**

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary  
pure and holy, tried and true  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you

### **Postlude**

***Today's Worship Leaders Include:***

Scripture Reader: Rick Gray

Piano: Brian Barber

Choir Director: Roy Nelson

***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

Organist - Brian Barber

Contemporary Worship Leader, Keyboard Accompanist - Alissa Nelson

Church Administrator - Lou Lescas

Office Clerical Coordinator - Holly Gray

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