



ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 28, 2025
10:30 a.m. Service

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn of Praise – “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” v1,2,3,4,6 (UMH #117)

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our vision.

People: Blessed be Jesus the Christ, whose love has conquered death.

Pastor: Blessed be God who directs our way and guides our steps.

People: Blessed be the Holy Spirit who leads us in the ways of life.

All: Sing praises to God, the Lord of all creation, and tell of God's wonderful works.

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.

Ring of Faith – “In The Garden”

Scripture Lesson Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and merciful God, we praise you for the power of your amazing love, love that will not allow anything to separate us from you. We are thankful, Lord; yet we also recognize how the difficulties of life often overwhelm us. Our frustration and hurts provide openings to stray from

your good and right way. Our desire for immediate results and relief lead us to compromise your principles of mercy and justice. Our despair leads us to lash out at others instead of clinging to you. Forgive us, O Lord. Renew us in your strength as you reconcile us to yourself and each other, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

Extending the Peace of Christ

Adult Choir – “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

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

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Hymn – “Hymn of Promise” (UMH #707)

In the bulb there is a flower;

in the seed, an apple tree;

in cocoons, a hidden promise:

butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter

there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
brining hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

Sermon – “When Hope Falters”

Text: Ruth 1:7-18

Hymn – “There's A Wideness in God's Mercy” (UMH #121)

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
is most won-der-fully kind.

If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word;

And our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.

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:

Choir Director: Roy Nelson
Scripture Reader: Lynne Tomlinson
The Acolytes are: Addie Horton and VivianScarlett
Piano: Brian Barber

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 - Ellie Shahr

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St. John's Ivyland Financial Snapshot (Statement Thru August 2025)	
Year-to-Date Income	\$433, 452
Year-to-Date Expense	\$428,285
Year-to-Date Church Vitality	\$5,167