



CONNECTED

2020 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
September 26-27 • Church of the Saviour • Cleveland Heights

SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Saturday, September 26, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.”

(John 15:4-8 – CEB)

**Indicates to stand as able.*

PRELUDE

Offertory on “Dennis”

Young

CALLING THE CONFERENCE TO ORDER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

NOTE: The AC Worship Committee asks that those gathered in groups not sing during Annual Conference worship services so that fewer water droplets are released into the air. In addition to wearing masks and being socially distanced from one another and from those in the Great Hall, worship team singers are using microphones to project their voices. The words to hymns are being projected on-screen to enhance the worship experience. Thank you in advance for respecting and complying with this request.

OPENING TO GOD

“Come and Fill Our Hearts”

Taizé

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are Holy,
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!***

Page 28 Songs and Prayers From Taize Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, Inc. 1991

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Letty Damian

We are met in the presence of God,
and we do not meet alone.

With the angels in highest heaven,
we gather to worship the Lord.

With the saints of every age,
we gather to worship the Lord.

With the Church throughout the world,
we gather to worship the Lord.

By children and babes at the breast,
God's holy name is praised.

With drums, sitars and trumpets,
God's holy name is praised.

In barrios and basilicas,
God's holy name is praised.

We are met in the presence of God,
and we do not meet alone.

Page 74, *Wee Worship Book Fourth Incarnation*
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OPENING HYMN

"And Are We Yet Alive"

UMH 553

***PRAYER**

Letty Damian

Let us pray:
Generous God, you give us our voices, no two the same,
no finer instruments with which to praise you.

For these we thank you, Lord.

You give us words and music, peculiar gifts,
with which to wound or wonder, bore or bless, inspire or disable.

For these we thank you, Lord.

And in your Church, you have gathered us.
In your community of common folk and complainers,
prophets and puzzled people,
you have made a place for us.

For these we thank you, Lord.

So, let what we say and do here, what we ponder, pray and decide here,
be real for us and honest to you,
and prepare us for the life of the world in which you are also praised.

Amen.

Page 75, *Wee Worship Book Fourth Incarnation (adapted)*
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REMEMBERING THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s Holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life. (2 times)*

Page 7 Songs and Prayers From Taize Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, Inc. 1991

Eternal God, whom our words may cradle but never contain,
we thank you for all the sound and silence and color and symbol
which through the centuries have helped the worship of your Church
to be relevant and real.

**With thanksgiving, we remember the preachers, the readers, the musicians, the leaders, the
teachers, mentors and classmates who have helped us to come to faith,
by singing us songs or telling us stories,
by inviting us in when we felt distant,
by praying for us without being asked,
all those by whose sensitivity and skill we grow in faith and (joy) in worshipping you;**

In silent celebration, we name them now

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s Holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

Clergy

Gary George

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for those ordained, consecrated, and licensed in this annual conference:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Ronald E. Benson | William Harvey | Keith N. Mostad |
| Earl K. Brown | Vergil A. Herzberger | Donald D. Newland |
| Susan E. Brown | Gerri L. Howard | H. Dale Rough |
| Burton Cantrell | Hugh H. Hubbard | William A. Seith |
| James Dyer | D. Gary Klempnauer | Raymond L. Tucker |
| Doran A. Garey | Donald A. Lautzenheiser | Walton J. Tully |
| Ronald H. Goetz | Donald J. Lockwood | Wayne E. Wheeler |
| Norman Grimes | James P. McKenzie | Neal Wilds |

Spouses

Steve Stultz Costello

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for spouses who shared their ministries in this annual conference:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| William B. Bowman | Donna Cunningham | Joanne Gillis |
| William F. Brion | Mary Lou Franklin | Nancy Harvey |
| Elizabeth Burge | Tom Fuller | Shirley Hudson |
| Michael L. Conley | Corrinne Gardner | L. Carrol Johnson |

Nancy Johnson
Catherine Lee
Donna Paull

Jane Schierloh
Joseph A. Smolka
Marion Tappan

Edna Mae Waggamon
Thelma W. Walton

Laity

Kimberly Green

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for laity who have led faithfully in this annual conference:

Howard R. Erskine
Alma Lee

Larry W. Paine
Jean E. Thompson

Ed Welch

Family

Kimberly Green

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for children, siblings, and loved ones whom we name now in our hearts before you:

***Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's Holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.***

We give you thanks for those who encourage people to praise you both inside and outside of the sanctuary: Those who take prayers into neighborhoods, hospitals, bars, schools and prisons.

**We remember people who cannot pray and struggle to believe,
or who fear changes in family, community, nation, Church,
praying that they might be encouraged, and that love might dispel fear.**

And we pray for the renewal of the church ... *(silence)*

PRAYER OF CELEBRATION

Everlasting God, we have stood on the shoulders of these your saints. They are ones who first lifted us to baptismal waters, and we learned our names from you. They are ones who first invited us to the table, and we feasted with you. They are ones who poured out your forgiveness when we were undeserving and granted us your grace so that we might in turn spare the pain of others. Help us to be faithful to your call and to the memory of these your saints.

***Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's Holy name
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life***

SCRIPTURE

John 14:1-14 (CEB)

Letty Damian

SERMON

“Preparing the Way”

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

He was always the guest.

In the homes of Peter and Jairus,
Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna,
he was always the guest

At the meal tables of the wealthy
where he pled the case of the poor,
he was always the guest.

Upsetting polite company,
befriending isolated people,
welcoming the stranger,
he was always the guest.

But here,
at this table,
he is the host.

Those who wish to serve him
must first be served by him,
those who want to follow him
must first be fed by him,
those who would wash his feet
must first let him make them clean.

For this is the table
where God intends us to be nourished;
this is the time
when Christ can make us new.

So come you who hunger and thirst
for a deeper faith,
for a better life,
for a fairer world.

Jesus Christ,
who has sat at our tables,
now invites us to be guests at his.

Page 84, Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, and a good and joyful thing, almighty God,
for you made us, and before you made us, you made the world we inhabit,
and before the world, you made the eternal home
in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular,
all that is plain
have their origin in you;
all that is lovely,
all who are loving
point to you as their fulfillment.

And grateful as we are
for the world we know
and the universe beyond our knowing
we particularly praise you,
whom eternity cannot contain,
for coming to earth and entering time
in Jesus.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
For his life which informs our living,
for his compassion which changes our hearts,
for his clear speaking
which contradicts our harmless generalities,
for his disturbing presence,
his innocent suffering,
his fearless dying,
his rising to life breathing forgiveness,
we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises
for the promise of the Holy Spirit,
who even yet, even now,
confronts us with your claims
and attracts us to your goodness.

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.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

And now,
lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose,
we fall silent
and remember him who came
because words weren’t enough.

Setting our wisdom,
our will,
our words aside,
emptying our hearts,
and bringing nothing in our hands,
we yearn for the healing,
the holding,
the accepting,
the forgiving
which Christ alone can offer.

Merciful God,
send now,
in kindness,
your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine
and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

And let that same Spirit rest on us,
converting us
from the patterns of this passing world,
until we conform to the shape of him
whose food we now share.

Amen.

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

He whom the universe could not contain,
is present to us in this bread.

He who redeemed us and called us by name
now meets us in this cup.

So take this bread and this wine.
In them God comes to us
so that we may come to God.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

UMH 632

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

NOTE: All communion elements served at Church of the Saviour are gluten-free.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Christ who has nourished us,
is our peace.
Strangers and friends, male and female,
old and young,
he has broken down the barriers
to bind us to him
and to each other.

In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.

Take us out
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.

So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"For All the Saints"

UMH 711

***BENEDICTION**

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

***POSTLUDE**

"For All the Saints"

Smith

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop/Preacher: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Readers: Letty Damian
Rev. Dr. Gary George, Assistant to the Bishop
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello, North Canton Faith UMC
Kimberly Green, Conference Lay Leader
Acolyte: Rev. Kyle Gould, Alliance Aldersgate UMC
Song Leader & Hand Bell: Ron Barkett
Organist:..... Bruce Shewitz
Guitarist: Rev. Richard Thewlis, Garrettsville, Nelson & Windham UMCs
Flutist:..... Virginia Steiger
Service Designers: Rev. Kyle Gould, Alliance Aldersgate UMC
Rev. Judith Wismar Claycomb, Retired

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For All the Saints
Lani Smith
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**SERVICE OF THE ORDINATION OF ELDERS AND THE
COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS**
Saturday, September 26, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.”
(John 15:4-8 – CEB)

PRELUDE

“Liturgical Improvisation No. 1”

Oldroyd

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PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

UMH 139

***GREETING AND PRAYER**

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

We come together to praise God,
to hear the Holy Word,
and to seek for ourselves and others the power, presence and direction of the Holy Spirit.
Let us pray.

**Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit
you gave to your apostles and to all your church many excellent gifts.
Give your grace to all servants of your church, that we may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill
our various ministries. Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, perfect our
ministries, and live in joyful obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

***RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God.
Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers,
the church, Christ’s body, made visible in the world.

We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service for the redemption of the human family and the whole creation.

Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry, I call upon all God's people gathered here:

Remember you are baptized and be thankful.

We remember our baptism and affirm our common call to ministry.

Thanks be to God!

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED OR ORDAINED:

Who presents these candidates to be ordained or commissioned?

CONFERENCE LAY LEADER:

Kimberly Green

The laity of our local congregations have recommended them.

We present them with our prayers and support.

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF MINISTRY:

Jon Priebe

The Board of Ordained Ministry of this annual conference has examined them according to the standards of our Discipline and our annual conference.

We present them with our prayers and support.

REGISTRAR FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERS:

Laura White

We present these persons for commissioning as provisional members:

William Applebee

Kyle Tennant

Hyeran Yu

Lisa Courtwright

Shannon Trenton

Jacob Heskett

Jonathan Williams

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF MINISTRY:

Jon Priebe

We present these persons for ordination as deacon and elders:

CHAIR OF THE ORDER OF ELDERS:

Kimberly Arbaugh

Brian Amstutz

Kyle Gould

Amy Shipley

Ryan Cockrill

Luigi Perez

David Whitt

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF MINISTRY:

Jon Priebe

We rejoice in the Spirit's work in our lives

and the lives of these who come to serve and lead among us.

Those authorized by the church to inquire about them

have discerned that they are persons of sound learning and of Christian character,

possess the necessary signs of God's grace,

and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ.

Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God.
We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent
to the ordination or commissioning of these persons.

**We trust that they are worthy, by God's grace,
to be ordained or commissioned.
We will uphold them with our prayers and support. Thanks be to God!**

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

My sisters and brothers in Christ,
you have been called
to an ordained or commissioned set apart ministry. The church now confirms your calling.

As ordained or commissioned ministers, you are to be coworkers with all the people of God:
Remember you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and
no other, to look after the concerns of God above all.

So we may know you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith,
we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of ordained or licensed ministry?

I do so believe.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord
and Savior?

I do so believe and confess.

Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain all things necessary
for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and are the unique and authoritative standard?
for the church's faith and life?

I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and with the help of the Holy Spirit
continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God
to faith in Jesus Christ,
to participate in the life and work of the community, and
to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending it against all doctrines contrary to God’s Holy Word, and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you, for the sake of the church’s life and mission, covenant to participate in the life of the order, into which you are ordained or commissioned? Will you give yourself to God through the order in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

I will, with the help of God.

May God,
who has given you the will to do these things,
give you grace to perform them,
that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

Amen.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| *HYMN | <i>“The Voice of God is Calling”</i> | UMH 436 |
| SCRIPTURE LESSONS | John 15: 1-17 | The Rev. Abraham D. Allende, Bishop |
| SERMON | <i>“Abide in My Love”</i> | The Rev. Abraham D. Allende, Bishop |
| SOLO | <i>“Who Will Go For Me?”</i> | Hayes |

COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

By affirming the covenant of baptism, all members of Christ’s holy church pledge to serve as Christ’s representatives in the world. Provisional members are bound to the service of God, appointed and supervised by the bishop, and guided by ordained and lay colleagues in the Board of Ministry, as they continue to grow in grace and to practice and perfect their skills in the ministries to which they may later be ordained as deacon or elder. This is the way of life and work of a provisional member.

Do you believe that God has called you
to continue your preparation toward ordained ministry in this way?
I do so believe.

Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants.
Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon *Name*.
Send *her/him* among us to serve and to continue to learn the way of life
of the order into which *she/he* may be ordained.
Send *her/him* forth to announce the good news of your beloved community
and to equip disciples of Jesus for ministry.

Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

HYMN

“Christ Beside Me”

TFWS 2166

ORDINATION OF ELDERS

The Holy Spirit stirs among us!
And we are glad indeed.

Elders are called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church:
to preach and teach the Word of God

and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,

to lead the people of God in worship and prayer,
to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ,
to exercise pastoral supervision,
to order the life of the congregation and connection,
to counsel the troubled and declare the forgiveness of sin,
to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ’s mission in the world,
to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people,
and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church
and in service in and to the community.
and honor the spirit of those ordained before you.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an elder?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,
covenant to participate in the Order of Elders?

Will you give yourself to God through the Order of Elders
in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon *Name*.

Fill *her/him* with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of an elder.

Take now authority as an elder in Christ's Holy Church to proclaim the word of God,
administer the sacraments, and order the life of the church.

Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

Name, be an Elder among us.

HYMN

"Here I am Lord"

UMH 593

***REAFFIRMATION OF PROFESSING MEMBERSHIP**

Professing members of The United Methodist Church
have affirmed willingness to live out the baptismal covenant,
have professed the faith of the Church in the Triune God,
have pledged loyalty to Jesus Christ through The United Methodist Church,
and have promised to support the local congregations and ministries of the Church
through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Do you reaffirm these commitments
and promise to support these being commissioned and ordained
in their life and vocation among you?

We do, with God's help.

INVITATION TO ORDAINED MINISTRY

HYMN OF INVITATION

"The Summons"

TFWS 2130

***PRAYER**

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Let us pray:

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others, in Christ’s name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“My Life Is in You, Lord”

TFWS 2032

***BENEDICTION**

NEWLY ORDAINED ELDER:

Ryan Cockrill

Together as God’s beloved children, we who have been commissioned and ordained look forward to serving among you, sharing in the ministries God has given us throughout East Ohio and throughout the world. The work we do in Christ’s name, we do together.

NEWLY COMMISSIONED ELDER:

Amy Shipley

As one body in Christ, may we go in peace to serve God and our neighbors in all we do.

We are one body in Christ, called by God, sent in the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us always.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Lobe den Herren”

Raney

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Preacher The Rev. Abraham D. Allende, Bishop, Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA
Assistant to the Bishop..... Rev. Dr. Gary George
Board of Ministry Chair Rev. Jonathan Priebe, Cuyahoga Falls First UMC
Chairperson of Elders Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, Carrollton First UMC
Chairperson of Deacons Rev. Linda McCowen, Retired
Registrar of Commissioned Elders..... Rev. Laura White, Ashland Christ UMC
Conference Lay Leader Kimberly Green
Benediction Rev. Ryan Cockrill, Gnadenuhnten UMC
Benediction Rev. Amy Shipley, Bennett’s Corners & Copley UMCs
Annual Conference Choir Director Ronald Barkett
Service Designer Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, Carrollton First UMC

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George Oldroyd

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St. 4 tr. by Rupert E. Davies; Sts. 2, 4

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The Voice of God is Calling

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Adapter: James Quinn

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Here I Am, Lord

Text: Based on Isaiah 6

Dan Schutte

Music: Dan Schutte.

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The Summons

Graham Maule, John L. Bell

© 1987 WGRG, Iona Community

Glasgow, Scotland

Admin. by Wild Goose Resource Group

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My Life is in You Lord

Words and Music: Daniel Gardner

© 1986 Integrity's Hosana! Music

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Lobe den Herren

Joel Raney

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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, September 27, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.”

(John 15:4-8 – CEB)

NOTE: The AC Worship Committee asks that those gathered in groups not sing during Annual Conference worship services so that fewer water droplets are released into the air. In addition to wearing masks and being socially distanced from one another and from those in the Great Hall, worship team singers are using microphones to project their voices. The words to hymns are being projected on-screen to enhance the worship experience. Thank you in advance for respecting and complying with this request.

TIME OF WELCOME

*“Praise the King”
“Spirit of the Living God”*

**Voss, et.al.
Sooter/Fieldes**

WORDS OF GREETING

Gregory Kendrick

We gather together wherever we find ourselves, and though we may be apart in distance we draw close in Spirit. We are connected together by a vine that runs deeper than the ways and happenings of our world. Wherever we go we remain connected to the vine that we may be strengthened for the journey. Help us, O God, to remain in the vine, to be connected to you and to one another. So that together we would not only worship you; but that we would flourish as we journey to and for you. Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial**

and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| SCRIPTURE READING | John 15:1-8 | |
| INTRODUCTION OF PREACHERS | | Bishop Tracy S. Malone |
| SERMON | “Connecting on the Journey” | Pastor Jason Snyder Rev. Hannah Tucker Rev. Marilyn Coney |
| CLOSING HYMNS | <i>“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”</i> <i>“We are the Church”</i> | UMH 557 UMH 558 |
| BENEDICTION | | Bishop Tracy S. Malone |
| POSTLUDE | <i>“Fugue in C Major (‘Jig’)”</i> | Buxtehude |

Contributors to the Service:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Presiding Bishop | Bishop Tracy S. Malone |
| Preacher | Pastor Jason Snyder, Utica UMC |
| Preacher | Rev. Hannah Tucker, Strongsville UMC |
| Preacher | Rev. Marilyn Coney, Tiffin Faith UMC |
| Organist | Bruce Shewitz |
| Mentor Modern Worship Band | |
| Vocals: | Dan Gallagher, Laurie Eppler, Kara Brommer |
| Drums:..... | Jerry Bowser |
| Keyboard: | Kelly Jordan |
| Bass: | Andrew Ring |
| Acoustic Guitar:..... | Brian Bly |
| Electric Guitar: | Kevin Ring |
| Service Designer | Rev. Andrew Scott, Hope UMC |
| Service Designer | Rev. David Rittgers, Orrville Trinity UMC |
| Service Designer | John Wilson |

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To legally project the lyrics of a hymn and/or print them in a bulletin/worship book, *copyright permission must be obtained in advance for each song*. Below is the copyright and licensing information for this morning's music.

Praise The King

Corey Voss, Dustin Smith, Michael Bryce Jr., Michael Farren

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Integrity's Praise! Music

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Spirit of the Living God

Jacob Sooter, Mia Fieldes

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Be Essential Songs

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HBC Worship Music

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Upside Down Under

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Words and Music: Public Domain

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We Are the Church

Words: Richard K. Avery, Donald S. Marsh

Music: Richard K. Avery, Donald S. Marsh

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Fugue in C Major "Jig"

Dietrich Buxtehude

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Annual Conference 2020 Speakers

Bishop Tracy S. Malone was assigned to the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church effective September 1, 2016. As resident bishop, she provides spiritual oversight; shares in equipping, teaching and encouraging mission, outreach, witness and service; and serves as a shepherd of the church in providing a prophetic witness of justice, mercy and unity.

Malone serves on the Boards of Trustees at the United Methodist-affiliated colleges, seminaries and organizations in East Ohio. She also is currently the president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, is Executive Secretary of the Council of Bishops, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of Africa University.

The Reverend Abraham D. Allende began his call as Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on September 1, 2014. At the time of his election, Allende was serving as pastor of The Lutheran Church of the Covenant in Maple Heights. A second-career pastor, Reverend Allende taught Spanish and French in the Akron Public School system for six years before entering the field of broadcasting, where he spent more than 20 years reporting news and sports for television and radio stations in the Cleveland market.

Allende has served on the Northeastern Ohio Synod Council's Executive Committee and on the boards of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, the Hartville Migrant Ministries and the board of Catholic Charities Housing Opportunities of the Diocese of Youngstown.

Pastor Jason Snyder is lead pastor of Utica United Methodist Church (Three Rivers District). He entered part-time ministry in 2003 but remained bi-vocational until answering God's call to begin full-time ministry in 2014. While serving as pastor of Perrysville UMC (Three Rivers District) for three years, he also served two churches in the Mid-Ohio District: Three Crosses UMC, where he was the associate pastor from 2015-16, and Polk UMC from 2016-17.

Rev. Hannah Tucker is associate pastor of Strongsville UMC (North Coast District). She was formed in faith by the congregation of New Concord UMC (Southern Hills District) and through the community and place of Camp Wanake. Called to ministry as a teenager, Tucker finds the most joy in ministry when she gets the privilege to witness the many ways that God works in the lives of people. She remains excited about what God continues to do in the church and has the hope that we will always be a community of people that shares the good news of Christ, especially with those who are often forgotten and left out.

Rev. Marilyn Coney is lead pastor of Tiffin Faith United Methodist Church (Firelands District). She has served churches and communities across the East Ohio Conference during her ministry, beginning with Delaware Asbury UMC (Mid-Ohio District) while she was in seminary. Coney has a strong belief in intergenerational and team ministry involving church staff and laity and encourages a collaborative relationship between the churches she serves and their respective communities.



THE EAST OHIO CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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THE 51ST SESSION OF THE EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
