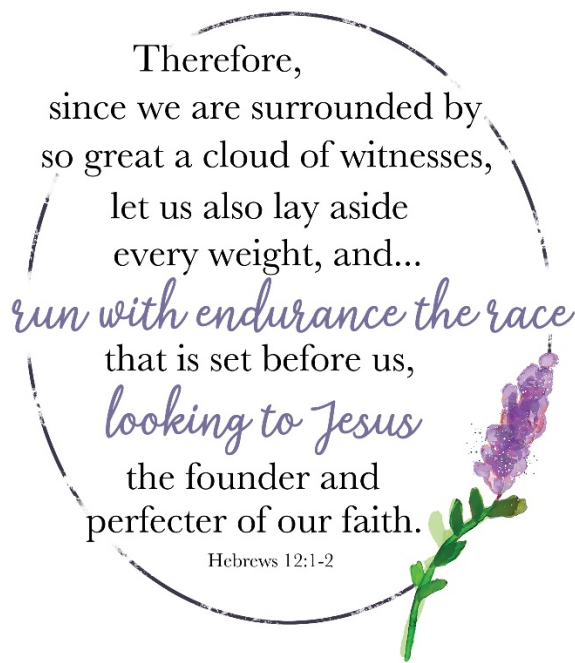


# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—August 14, 2022



## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from writing by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

**LEADER:** God made a covenant with our ancestors,

**PEOPLE:** **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**LEADER:** God delivered our ancestors from oppression and exile,

**PEOPLE:** **God's Faithfulness to all generations.**

**LEADER:** God sent the Word through prophets and proverbs, becoming flesh and living among us.

**PEOPLE:** **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**LEADER:** And we are God's beloved children, Come, worship God.

**PEOPLE:** **Through Christ our Lord, God's steadfast love endures forever.**

## \*HYMN

*Take Up Thy Cross*  
*UM Hymnal #415*

"Take up thy cross," the Savior said,  
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me."

Take up thy cross, let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest (1833)  
Music: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

## PRAYER BEFORE READING SCRIPTURE

Prayer attributed to Thomas Cranmer, 1489-1556

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE

Psalm 85:7-10 (NRSV)

- <sup>7</sup> Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.  
<sup>8</sup> Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for God will speak peace to the people,  
to God's faithful,  
to those who turn to God in their hearts.  
<sup>9</sup> Surely God's salvation is at hand  
for those who fear the Lord,  
that the Lord's glory may dwell in our land.  
<sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

*It's Me, It's Me, O Lord*  
*UM Hymnal #352 Refrain only*

It's me (it's me), it's me O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.

Words & Music: Afro-American Spiritual, William Farley Smith, 1986  
© 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Adapted from the World Council of Churches

O Lord our God, we thank you for the many people who have followed your way of life joyfully: for the many saints and martyrs, souls of every nation, who have offered up their very lives so that your life of abundant grace may become manifest and your kingdom may advance.

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They chose the way of your Son, Jesus Christ. In the midst of trial, they held out hope; in the midst of persecutions, they witnessed to your power; in the midst of despair, they clung to your promise.

O Lord, we thank you for the truth they have learned and passed on to us. Give us courage to follow their way of life. For your love and faithfulness we will at all times praise your name.

We pray for the millions in our world who must go hungry today, all who are exploited and marginalized, that they may not lose their hope, and may find the strength in the struggle for dignity.

We call upon you for those who are persecuted, imprisoned, tortured or threatened with death because of their witness to justice and peace. For those who have “disappeared” because they dared to speak, that their spirits may not be broken.

We remember those who live in regions torn by tension and war, by disaster, famine and poverty... We pray especially for Haiti, for Eastern Kentucky, over 14 million people across Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya that are already on the verge of starvation—about half of them children.

We pray for the millions of refugees, that in the midst of tears and bitterness they may discern signs of hope.

Lord, into your hands we commend our world and all persons in the silence of our hearts this day...

*Silent prayers*

Strengthen our will for peace and justice; increase our faith in your kingdom where “love and faithfulness will meet, righteousness and peace will embrace” and may you hear the prayer Jesus taught us saying:

**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

*It's Me, It's Me, O Lord*  
UM Hymnal #352 Refrain only

It's me (it's me), it's me O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.

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## GIVING

### \*RESPONSE

#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.

## SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NRSV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

*Laying Aside Every Weight*  
Rev. David W. Brown

## HYMN

*How Firm A Foundation*  
UM Hymnal #529

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

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"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

Text: "K" in Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787  
Music: Early USA melody; harm. from *Tabor*, 1866

Liturgist at 8:20 – Mark Paluta

Liturgist at 9:40 – Gary Kilday

Special Music at 9:40 – Karen & Maddie Davis



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium  
following the 9:40 service!

## BLESSING

based on Ephesians 1:19-21

As you go from here, remember this:  
The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the  
dead and placed all things under his authority—  
this same power is at work within you.  
In the name of the One who is, was, and is to come.  
Praise God!

REGISTER YOUR  
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE  
GIVING



*\*Stand as you are able*



## Family Movie Night

Friday, August 26  
7:00pm – inside  
Popcorn & Drinks Provided



Children will go  
to their new  
Sunday morning  
classes on  
August 21!

## TUTORING IN MADISONVILLE



This past school year we were able to get back into the building and work 1:1 with 15 students at John P. Parker Elementary in Madisonville. Plans are to continue with Parker Kids Club on Tuesdays this coming school year. The program will run in its entirety from 2:30-4:30pm with the first hours offering either an Enrichment Club or Chess Club (students' choice), followed by 1:1 tutoring at 3:30pm for an hour. Program is currently planned to begin on September 6.

Can you commit to helping us make a difference in the lives of these kids? We are currently recruiting tutors for the upcoming 2022-23 school year! Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/3xI7iON>.

**One hour really does make a difference!**  
If you have questions, please connect with Dianna Sheely  
([dsheely@armstrongchapel.org](mailto:dsheely@armstrongchapel.org)).