

MEDITATION

UM Hymnal #386 & 387 by Charles Wesley

Come, O thou Traveler unknown, whom still I hold, but cannot see! My company before is gone, and I am left alone with thee. With thee all night I mean to stay, and wrestle till the break of day; with thee all night I mean to stay, and wrestle till the break of day.

I need not tell thee who I am, my misery and sin declare; thyself hast called me by my name, look on thy hands and read it there. But who, I ask thee, who art thou? Tell me thy name, and tell me now. But who, I ask thee, who art thou? Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

Yield to me now, for I am weak, but confident in self-despair! Speak to my heart, in blessing speak, be conquered by my instant prayer. Speak, or thou never hence shalt move, and tell me if thy name is Love. Speak, or thou never hence shalt move, and tell me if thy name is Love.

'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me. I hear thy whisper in my heart. The morning breaks, the shadows flee, pure, Universal Love thou art. To me, to all, thy mercies move; thy nature and thy name is Love. To me, to all, thy mercies move; thy nature and thy name is Love.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 60:1-6

LEADER:	We gather here in anticipation, seeking an encounter with our Holy God.
PEOPLE:	Who comes among us when we least expect it!
LEADER:	Who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts.
PEOPLE:	Who richly blesses us!
LEADER:	God calls us each by name.
PEOPLE:	Let's worship God together!
*HYMN	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*HYMN

UM Hymnal #89 Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning 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 heav'n reflect thy rays, Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry 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 onward, Victors in the midst of strife; Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life. Text: Henry Van Dyke, (1907) Music: Ludwig Van Beethoven, (1824)

SCRIPTURE

Mark 3:13-19 (NRSV) ¹³ He went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴ And he appointed twelve to be with him and to be sent out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶ So he appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), ¹⁷ James son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder), ¹⁸ and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who handed him over.

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

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

written by Bruce Prewer

This We Believe

(inspired by Mark 1:14-20, Matthew 4:18-22)

I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative, that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us, calling us to follow him into an obedience

which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people, called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.

Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe. Amen.

HYMN

UM Hymnal #473 Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety. Words: Psalm 5:8, Ps 4:8 Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1861)

Lead Me Lord

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Adapted from Ministry Matters

Lord, we have heard the story of Jacob as he wrestled with the angel, how he asked for the angel to bless him. We, too, come to you for blessing.

There are so many times in our lives in which we have felt alienated, downtrodden, alone. It is easy for us to wallow in our misery, to whine about all the perceived injustices that have been heaped upon us.

But you encourage us to stand strong; to seek the blessings that you have provided for us; to recognize the many ways that you are with us, giving us strength and courage.

Be with us again, precious Lord. Guide our lives. As we have brought our prayers before you for those near and dear to us, seeking healing and hope for them; let us also remember that those same mercies are lavished upon us, not because we deserve them, but because of your great and generous love for us.

Help us receive these blessings and, in turn, be a blessing to someone else. Hear now the petitions of our hearts and lives...

Silent prayers

Receive 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

N Lead Me Lord UM Hymnal #473 Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,

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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

Genesis 32:22-32 (NRSV)

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

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

MESSAGE

Wrestling God Rev. Brian Cordell

HYMN

I Surrender All UM Hymnal #354

All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give; I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.

Refrain: I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender; humbly at his feet I bow, worldly pleasures all forsaken; take me, Jesus, take me now. [Refrain]

All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine; let me feel the Holy Spirit, truly know that thou art mine. [Refrain]

All to Jesus I surrender; Lord, I give myself to thee; fill me with thy love and power; let thy blessing fall on me. [Refrain]

All to Jesus I surrender; now I feel the sacred flame. O the joy of full salvation! Glory, glory to his name! [Refrain] Words: J. W. Van Deventer (1896) Music: W. S. Weeden (1896)

BLESSING

based on Psalm 139

As we leave this place, we know God will be with us wherever we go. At work or play, at home or on vacation, we know God will be with us wherever we go. Whether we're happy or sad, on our own, or with our friends, we know God will be with us wherever we go. So let's go with joy, because God goes with us! In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit we pray. Amen.

^{*}Stand as you are able

Our preacher this morning is Rev. Brian Cordell. He and his family are active members at Armstrong Chapel United Methodist Church. He is a graduate of the Perkins School of Theology – Southern Methodist University, Dallas Texas. He was ordained an Elder in the West Ohio Conference 2009. Currently, he is an employee of The Christ Hospital. Along with his wife, Sara, they have three children – Maggie, Will, and Vivi. He has been a key leader of the Faith Infusion Service since it's return from COVID in November of 2021.





Liturgist at 8:20 – Mark Paluta Liturgist at 9:40 – Hanlin Bavely Special Music at 9:40 – Kim Buczek Brotherton

Brass Quintet at 9:40 Prelude: Glory Bound Offertory: This Little Light of Mine

Barry Dixon—Trumpet Dan Young—Trumpet Roger Orth—Trombone Donna Knappenberger—French Horn Ben Basone—Tuba



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



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

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



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 <u>https://bit.ly/3xl7iON</u>.

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