

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 60:1-6

LEADER: Arise! Shine! The Light you have been

waiting for is here!

PEOPLE: Darkness has been banished!
LEADER: God's light comes to us all.
PEOPLE: Behold the Light has come!

LEADER: God's light of hope covers the earth. **PEOPLE:** Prepare our hearts to receive this Light.

Amen.

\*HYMN

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know UM Hymnal #163

Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so? What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in? Jesus Christ, the crucified.

Who defeats my fiercest foes? Who consoles my saddest woes? Who revives my fainting heart, healing all its hidden smart? Jesus Christ, the crucified.

Who is life in life to me?
Who the death of death will be?
Who will place me on his right,
with the countless hosts of light?
Jesus Christ, the crucified.

This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so: faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave: Jesus Christ, the crucified.

Text: Johann C. Schwedler (1741) Music: H.A. Cesar Malan, 1827; harm by Lowell Mason, 1841

#### PRAYER BEFORE READING SCRIPTURE

Prayer attributed to Psalm 119

Holy God, teach us Your statutes.

Do not hide Your commandments from us.

Make us understand the way of Your precepts.

Incline our hearts to Your testimonies
and not to dishonest gain.

Revive us according to Your lovingkindness,
so that we may keep the testimony of Your
word.

Establish our footsteps for we have gone astray like lost sheep; seek Your servant. **Amen.** 

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Hebrews 13:16 (NRSV)

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed UM Hymnal #880

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*universal

**HYMN** 

Through It All UM Hymnal #507

Through it all,
Through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus.
I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all,
Through it all,

I've learned to depend upon God's word.

Words & Music: Andrae Crouch, 1971 © 1971 Manna Music, Inc

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Adapted from the World Council of Churches

Father God,

we thank you that you have called us out of darkness into your marvelous light. Help us to be the people you have called us to be. Lord, help us to live a lifestyle attractive to those that are marginalized or afraid. Let us always live in the light of Jesus.

God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth.

Lord your light calls us forth to follow and serve you. Your light still shines for all to see in this world. May we continue to reflect your light in our lives, in our service, in our words and in our deeds.

We pray ...

that there will be no more gloom for those who are in anguish.

We pray ...

that you lift away burdens.

We pray ...

you remove the things that oppress people's lives.

We pray ...

you give courage to those who fear.

We prayer ...

in the silence of our hearts.

Silent prayers

Enable us to behold the world as you created it to be, as you created us to be. Empower us from sin to new life 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

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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** 

John 1:1-14 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

**MESSAGE** 

Jesus Christ: The Light of the World Mr. Bill Smith, Ohio River Valley Lay Leader

**HYMN** 

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UM Hymnal #206

I want to walk as a child of the light;
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The star of my life is Jesus.

### Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God; Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ;
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)
Words & Music: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966
© 1970, 1975 Celebration

#### **BLESSING**

based on a writing by Rev. Richard J. Fairchild

Go in peace;

love and care for one another in the name of Christ; and may the Spirit of God which filled Jesus, fill your hearts, souls and minds; may the power of God which upheld Jesus, strengthen you for each day; and may the love of God be your guiding light both now and forevermore. Amen

Liturgist at 8:20 – Andy McClintock Liturgist at 9:40 – Hanlin Bavely Special Music at 9:40 – Zane Hill



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





<sup>\*</sup>Stand as you are able

**Bill Smith** joined Anderson Hills UMC in January 1986 and became the Church Historian in 2018. He is currently the President of the United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio (UMHSO). Bill served over 12 years as AHUMC's Lay Leader from 2000-2012, along with chairing a number of committees. He is also President of the Cincinnati Southeast Camp, Gideons International.

Bill was appointed Ohio River Valley District Lay Leader in May 2015 and is a Certified Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church. He often leads Sunday worship and preaches at smaller UMCs within all 5 counties of the ORV District. Bill also serves as a traditional worship liturgist for AHUMC. Bill was elected by West Ohio Conference Laity as a North Central Jurisdictional Conference Lay Delegate and as a General Conference 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Lay Delegate. He plans to attend the November 2022 North Central Jurisdictional Conference in Ft. Wayne, IN.

Bill is a 1976 graduate of Davidson College and received his MBA from Lehigh University in 1978. He worked at Procter & Gamble in sales merchandising management for over 37 years, retiring at the end of 2014. Bill and his wife, Debbie, have lived in Anderson Township since coming to Cincinnati in 1985 and have three grown sons, one daughter-in-law, and a new granddaughter.

### Come to Handbell Choir!

Do you enjoy reading and playing music, and being a part of a musical team? Become a member of the **Armstrong Chapel** Handbell Choir! We will begin Thursday, September 1 at 6:30pm with a short rehearsal and a social to follow at Dilly in Mariemont. You can rehearse on 9/8 or 9/15 and still be ready to perform during 9:40am worship on Sunday 9/25. Contact our director, Chester Imhausen, at cimhausen@gmail.com or at 513-633-6411, and ring handbells with us! Rehearsals are each Thursday from 6:30-7:25pm. We are especially interested in recruiting strong arms that enjoy playing our larger bell octaves!



We supported 350-400 kids this year with our school supply donations!

Anything IPM didn't use at their backpack distribution goes into the pantry to help additional families throughout the year.

So not only did we fill backpacks,

we helped fill the shelves!



Can you commit to helping us make a difference in the lives of students at John P. Parker Elementary in Madisonville? We are currently recruiting tutors for the upcoming 2022-23 school year! Parker Kids Club is on Tuesdays from 2:30-4:30pm with the first hour offering either an Enrichment Club or Chess Club, followed by 1:1 tutoring. Program will begin September 6.

One hour really does make a difference! Sign up today at <a href="https://bit.ly/3xl7iON">https://bit.ly/3xl7iON</a>. If you have questions, please connect with Dianna Sheely

(dsheely@armstrongchapel.org).