

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

November 16, 2022



"All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God"
~ Psalm 98: 3 (NRSV)



We are called to live in awe of the diversity of the Creation and to protect the multitudinous life desired for all living beings.

Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“WAYMAKER”

OSINACHI KALU OKORO EGBU

You are here, moving in our midst

I worship You

I worship You

You are here, working in this place

I worship You

I worship You

You are

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper

Light in the darkness, my God

That is who You are

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

God’s right hand and holy arm have secured God’s victory.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth.

We break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

***OPENING HYMN**

“PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY”

UMH 139 (v. 1-3)

***CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Friends of God, we have God’s promise of cleansing and forgiveness. In that confidence, let us lift our voices in a prayer of confession.

Dear God, thank you for all that is good, for our creation and our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

O thou, most holy and beloved, Companion, Guide upon the way, Bright evening star, we repent of the wrongs we have done.

(time for silent confession)

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a way comfortable to you and your neighbor, such as hand on heart, “namaste” hands, bow, peace sign, or a non-contact way of your own choosing.

Service of the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 98

NRSV

A word to the wise. **Let your word make us wise, O God!**

SERMON

REV. DR. CRAIG ATWOOD

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Let us pray.

God of healing, sometimes we struggle to find you and grace and love seem just beyond our reach.

You remind us to “be still and know that I am God.”

Yet in this moment, stillness brings shadows, and knowing you feels impossible.

So even if it feels impossible right now, we believe – even if we do not know – that you come and sit with us in the shadows.

We believe – even if we do not know – that you pour out your grace on us:

through medication and therapy, through long walks and deep breaths, through good food and cool water.

We believe – even if we do not know – that you fill us with your resilience, and in this moment we can be still and know we are yours. Amen.

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY SONG

INSTRUMENTAL

***THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Holy One be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts to the One who is Love.

We open our hearts to you, O God.

Let us give thanks to God, who gathers us together

To the One who welcomes us to the table, we give thanks and praise

God, your invitation to come and feast in your presence is but a taste of the love you extend to us every day. By your very nature, you are always seeking us out – searching for ways to connect us and connect with us. You meet us in the most ordinary of places and you make them sacred. By your grace, we come to recognize the holiness that dwells in the world around us, in our neighbors, in our own internal depths.

In your love for us, you took on flesh in Jesus. Through his life, you pointed to your presence on the margins. You revealed the sacredness in all life. You showed us how to live together, even among forces of destruction.

Believing it could transform the world, Jesus proclaimed the Good News. He called for the captives to be set free. He spoke of the lowly being lifted up. He talked of redistributing wealth and eradicating the causes of poverty. His commitment to practicing love knew no bounds – not even the bounds of death.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus shared a meal with his companions. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said: “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” After the meal, he took the cup, blessed it, and shared it saying: “This cup that is poured out is the new covenant.”

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts, O God - here in this chapel. Pour out your Spirit on the meal before those who gather with us virtually. Make

these ordinary elements into the Sacred gift of your presence with us once again. May they awaken us anew to your everlasting invitation into a life of resurrection. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

We have a few COVID related options for those who wish to partake. If you wish to receive from the ministers, take an empty eco-friendly cup from the stack on the aisle table and approach the minister, who will place a piece of bread in your open hand. All bread is gluten free.

Or you may take one of the sealed celebration cups with the wafer on top and juice beneath; hold them out to the minister for a blessing. A minister will pour grape juice into your cup. Eat, drink, and dispose of the cup in the waste baskets at the side aisles as you return to your seat.

COMMUNION SONG

“LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER ON OUR KNEES”

AAHH 686

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all your creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter.

For the sake of our shared lives, the life of this land on which we live, and the lives of those yet to come, nourish us and renew our hope that soon Christ may rise again among us. Amen.


*CLOSING SONG

“PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY”

UMH 139 (v. 4 &5)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

You are welcome, as always, to keep your bulletin; if you would like to recycle this bulletin, please place it on the back table as you leave Santee Chapel. 

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Call to Worship: United Methodist Church (U.S.), ed., *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville, Tenn: United Methodist Pub. House, 1992), 615.

Prayer of Confession: Elise S. Eslinger and Upper Room (Publisher : Nashville, Tenn.), eds., *Upper Room Worshipbook: Music and Liturgies for Spiritual Formation* (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 2006), 23.

Prayer of Assurance: Eslinger and Upper Room (Publisher : Nashville, Tenn.), 21.

Prayer of Illumination: United Methodist Church (U.S.), ed., *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville, Tenn: United Methodist Pub. House, 1992), 473.

Prayers of the Community: Laurel A. Capesius, A Prayer for When Your Mental Health Makes You Feel Insufficient in *Speaking Truth: Women Raising Their Voices in Prayer*, Paige J. Boyer et al. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2020), 89.

Communion Liturgy: Adapted from "Ordinary Time." *Enfleshed*. <https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/communion-liturgies/>

***The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.**

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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Cam Richesson, Max Staley, Beth Taylor, and Rev. Dr. Kellie Turner '18.
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THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

*To serve the universal church of our Creator.
To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.
To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.*