ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

10 a.m. February 12, 2023

* indicates "stand if you are able." UMH is the blue hymnal. TFWS is the small black book.

PRELUDE

INTROIT "I Will Call Upon the Lord! TFWS #2002

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The risen Christ is with us.

All: Praise the Lord!

"Awesome God" TFWS #2040 (2X)

*HYMN "Awesome God" TFWS #2040

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

One: Come, walk in the way that leads to life.

All: It is better to be reconciled with another than to be proven right.

One: Come, choose to live a genuine life.

All: Life is too short for petty resentments.

One: Come, walk in the way Christ invites us to travel.

All: We give thanks for the Christ's way, and for the freedom to follow!

One: And together let us pray.

All: Open our eyes, Holy Spirit, to your love in our midst. We give you thanks

for the power of our minds to choose right over wrong. Guide us now, that this power may not overwhelm, but inspire us. Help us choose compassion for ourselves and others. Teach us to set aside old resentments and grudges. Lift us, with all earth's children and all your creation, to aspire to the abundant life Christ brings. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT SERVICE

Insert

We celebrate the baptism of **William (Liam) Daniel Quinn,** son of Chelsea and William Quinn. Sponsors: Deborah Holland and George Quinn.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES "Children's Message"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let all who wish to know the ways of life and death listen for the word of God. Truly the presence of the Lord is in this place.

THE PSALM READING Psalm 119:1-8

THE EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:21-24

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Freedom to Choose" Rev. Jane Kim

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another. (From UMH page 7)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and glory, you are ever ready to forgive and free us from our burdens. Forgive us for judging ourselves and others harshly. Free us from the times we have made others stumble. Forgive us for lifting ourselves up by putting others down. Free us from self-condemnation and regret. With every breath we take, help us choose to live in Christ's ways. This we pray in your holy name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God delights when we choose to leave self-destructive ways behind. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (in unison)

Let us be generous in our giving, that others may see in us the transforming power of God. Let us be lavish in our gifts, that others may draw life from the bounty of God's blessings.

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "You Are Wonderfully Made"

Pepper Choplin

CUMC Adult Choir

You are wonderfully made. You are God's creation.

Let no one bring you down by what they say. You are wonderfully made.

Remember that you're a child of God, part of God's creation.

So then you feel that you are weak and flawed,

Remember that you're a child of God.

Love your neighbors as yourself, the commandment still holds true. But how can we love someone else if we never learn to love ourselves?

You are wonderfully made. You are God's creation.

Let no one bring you down by what they say.

You are wonderfully made. You are child of God.

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

These offerings belong to you, O Lord, for you are the source of every blessing and joy. Employ these gifts to build your realm. Send them into the world to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and reconcile us to one another. By our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, make your church a true instrument of peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice, we pray for Ukraine today. Jesus the Prince of Peace, have mercy on them. Stop the war o, God. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Amen.

*HYMN

"Lord of the Dance" verses 1, 2, 3 & 4

UMH #261

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

Bear witness to the way of Christ.

We go with the compassion of God, the joy of Christ,

and the wisdom of the Spirit

One: Go with God, and Christ will lead you in the way that leads to life.

All: Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Jeong-Hwa Park

Mrs. Rita Lieberman

Rev. Jane H. Kim

