

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 a.m.

July 2, 2023

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT "America" (*My Country Tis of Thee*) UMH #697
Verses 1, 3, 4

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!

*HYMN "God Bless America"

*God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above*

*From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home.*

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

One: We come together to humble ourselves before God.

All: **We come freely to worship our Lord and Savior.**

One: God offers us freedom from our sins.

All: **Praise you, Lord, for your blood shed for our redemption.**

One: And together let us pray.

All: **Lord of righteousness, liberty, and justice, we praise you for setting us free from a life of sin and death through your sacrifice on the cross. Help us to never take this freedom for granted. Thank you for our country, the United States of America. May we as citizens and as Christians shine your light for the world to see. Amen.**

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES "Children's Message" Lori Benzoni

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.

SELECTED SCRIPTURE READINGS ON FREEDOM

Gospel Reading John 8:31-36

Epistle Readings Romans 6:17-18 and 22, 23
Galatians 5:13-15

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The High Cost of Freedom" Kim Gill

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 God of glory, shower us with your mercy and forgiveness. When we can't see the way forward, be our navigation system. When we make a wrong turn, gently correct us. When we neglect our health and wellness, heal us with your love. When we neglect or harm your world and its peoples, reveal your righteousness and guidance that we may be forgiven and reconciled with you and with your beloved creation.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Christ we are set free. We are reconciled through the power of love and grace.

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 "America the Beautiful" UMH #696
Debbie Holland and Tim Gill

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Holy God, we thank you for loving us so much that you would send your Son to die in our place. Thank you for freeing us from our sins and giving us the gift of eternal life. Thank you for allowing us to live in a country that gives us the freedom to worship you without persecution. May it continue to be so. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice, we pray for Ukraine today. We pray for people suffering from war. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. Stop the war o, God. Amen.

*HYMN *"We Are Called"* TFWS #2172

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One: As we have been given freedom to worship, speak, and impart justice

All: May we always remember that our freedom was bought with mighty sacrifices.

One: As we have been granted freedom from our sins through your death and resurrection

All: May we believe in your sacrifice for us and live as righteous people of faith. Help us to draw near so we may know your ways and your truth. God bless the United States of America and help us to be one nation under God. 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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July 2, 2023

Rev. Sue Hyosuk Yun Jeong-Hwa Park Mrs. Stacey Longenberger
Pastor Minister of Music Secretary

