

*Dear friends, today we welcome Dorothy Bausch who comes to us by transfer from First United Methodist Church. We give thanks for her journey of faith and her desire to continue serving Christ among us.*

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

As a follower of Christ, I ask you to reaffirm your faith: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

**Dorothy:** I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**Dorothy:** I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**Dorothy:** I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representative in the world?

**Dorothy:** I will.

#### **REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

##### **Reception into the Congregation**

As a member of Christ's universal church, will you renew your commitment to live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

**Dorothy:** I will.

As a member of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**Dorothy:** I will.

**\*All: We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Dorothy, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to support and encourage one another in our Christian faith, that in everything, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

One: May the God of grace, who has called us together in this faith community, strengthen and uphold you in love, now and always.

**All: Amen.**

\*Please stand if you are able



## ***The Great Thanksgiving***

***April 6, 2025***

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come freely, for this table of grace is here for all. Come confidently, for this table of love offers blessings beyond our wildest dreams. Come humbly, for this table is set by Christ, who humbled himself to both live and die in his great love for us.

#### **PRAYER OF YEARNING**

**Compassionate God, we do not always see the harvest of joy that we sow from our tears. Some losses take hold of us and we dwell in disappointment and grief. We don't always know what to think of you. We want to embrace new life, hope, and joy, but don't always know how. Bless us with your merciful help, that we might walk from our tombs like Lazarus, and sit by Jesus' side, eating and laughing. Help us kneel at Jesus' feet in love and commitment, as we celebrate our new lives. Come to us, healing God, and renew us and our love for you. Amen.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

God promises to do great things for us. God comforts us and brings us with new life. Blessed are you, our God of compassion and hope. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty creator of heaven and earth. In love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, your love remained steadfast. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed by your Word and Sacraments and fervent in prayer and works of justice and mercy, we may come to the fullness of grace that you have prepared for those who love you. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(All Sing)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to redeem the world. He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in our likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. He took upon himself our sin and death and offered himself, a perfect sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**(All Sing)**

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**(All Sing)**

**Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as 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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**