



**ARISE! Order of Worship**

**January 23, 2022**

**9am**

**Welcome**

**Introit**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Arranged by R. Paul Green

Chancel Choir

## Call to Worship

What would God have us do?

**What gifts do we have that can serve God?**

Lord, guide our lives and our service.

**Lord, call us to ministries of hope and promise.**

Help us, O Lord, to look beyond words.

**Help us, O Lord, to see ways of service.**

Open our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your guidance.

**Help us to be those people who will bring good news to those in darkness and doubt.**

Come, let us worship God with thanksgiving for gifts of ministry.

**Let us praise God with joyful hearts for opportunities to serve. AMEN.**

## Opening Hymn

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (UMH#139)*

Eric Paździóra

Praise to the Lord the Almighty  
The King of creation  
O my soul praise Him  
For He is thy health and salvation  
All ye who hear now to His temple draw near  
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things  
So wondrously reigning,  
Bears thee under eagle's wings  
E'er in his keeping maintaining.  
God's care enfolds all  
Whose true good he upholds  
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper  
thy work and defend thee,  
Surely his goodness and mercy  
here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
Who with His love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord  
O let all that is in me adore Him  
All that hath life and breath  
Come now with praises before Him  
Let the amen, sound from His people again  
Gladly forever adore Him

## Opening Prayer

### Scripture

Ecclesiastes 2:1-13

I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.” But behold, this also was vanity. <sup>2</sup>I said of laughter, “It is mad,” and of pleasure, “What use is it?” <sup>3</sup>I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. <sup>4</sup>I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. <sup>5</sup>I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. <sup>6</sup>I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. <sup>7</sup>I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup>I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man.

<sup>9</sup>So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. <sup>10</sup>And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. <sup>11</sup>Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

<sup>12</sup>So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. <sup>13</sup>Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness.

### Scripture

Ecclesiastes 5:4-15

<sup>4</sup>When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. <sup>5</sup>It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. <sup>6</sup>Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? <sup>7</sup>For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear.

<sup>8</sup>If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. <sup>9</sup>But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields.

<sup>10</sup>He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. <sup>11</sup>When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? <sup>12</sup>Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

<sup>13</sup> There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, <sup>14</sup> and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. <sup>15</sup> As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand.

## Song of Preparation

*Be Still My Soul* (UMH#534)

Chancel Choir

## Scripture

Matthew 13:1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. <sup>12</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>13</sup> This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. <sup>14</sup> Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

""You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive."

<sup>15</sup> For this people's heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed,  
lest they should see with their eyes  
and hear with their ears  
and understand with their heart  
and turn, and I would heal them.'

<sup>16</sup> But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. <sup>17</sup> For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

<sup>18</sup> "Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his

heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

## **Prayer of Preparation**

## **Sermon**

*The Price*  
Rev. Jennifer Fenner

## **Song of Response**

*Have Thine Own Way Lord (UMH#382)*  
Eric Paździora

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Thou art the potter;  
I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me  
after thy will,  
while I am waiting,  
yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Search me and try me,  
Savior today!  
Wash me just now, Lord,  
wash me just now,  
as in thy presence  
humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Wounded and weary,  
help me I pray!  
Power, all power,  
surely is thine!  
Touch me and heal me,  
Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being  
absolute sway.  
Fill with thy Spirit  
till all shall see  
Christ only, always,  
living in me!

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Invitation to Offering**

### **Welcoming of Visitors and Invitation to Review Announcements**

### **Closing Song**

*How Great Thou Art (UMH#77)*

Eric Paździora

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

## Benediction Prayer and Dismissal with Blessing

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Epworth is looking for the following positions to be filled about March 1: *Bilingual Administration, Communications and Marketing Manager, Bookkeeper, Youth Coordinator, Live Stream Manager, Infant and Toddler Provider, and Substitute Teacher.*

Full job descriptions are available on the church website [www.EpworthUnited.org/Jobs](http://www.EpworthUnited.org/Jobs). Resumes are due by February 1.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

All youth and children Sunday school will be virtual and return to in person Sunday January 30

#### YOUTH MINISTRY

Friday night Bible study and hangout will resume Friday January 28 in the fellowship hall 6:30-8PM

**YOUNG ADULT LIFE GROUP** for high school seniors, college freshman and sophomores resumes this month. Please contact Donna Ray [speecd13@gmail.com](mailto:speecd13@gmail.com) or Avery Biggers [a.biggers@outlook.com](mailto:a.biggers@outlook.com) for more information on start time and location.

#### COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

**HISPANIC SCHOLAR FUND** - Available to students of Hispanic heritage and enrolled full time in a 4-year university or graduate school for the 2022-23 academic year. Deadline to apply is February 15. Go to <https://www.hsf.net/scholarship> for more information or to apply.

**BWC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP** – Available to all students who are active members of The United Methodist Church and enrolled full time in an accredited college or university within the US. Also available to high school seniors who will be a college student during the fall term. Deadline to apply is March 24. Go to <https://www.bwcumc.org/administration/local-church-resources/scholarships/> for more information or to apply.

#### PICKING UP POINSETTIAS

The flowers we received this year are the best we have had in a long time. Praises to Beall's Florist in Damascus for providing such beautiful plants. Flowers are in the lobby for anyone who wishes to take one home. A special thanks to our Altar Guild, Julia Mora, Marcela Uberhuaga, and Beatriz Arze for keeping these plants cared for during the Advent season.

## KEEPING US UP TO DATE

The last 2 years have brought so many changes we think it's time to update our database. Have you moved? Changed emails or phone number? Have you started attending Epworth (in person or virtually) in the last few years? We would love to have your recent changes! Simply complete the form at [www.EpworthUnited.org/Update](http://www.EpworthUnited.org/Update) so we can keep up with you!

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers are a wonderful way to brighten our altar for worship. Sunday arrangements are \$45 each and may be taken home after the 12:30 service. Your dedication will be printed in the bulletins on Sunday. If you would like to order flowers, you may do so online at [EpworthUnited.org/flowers](http://EpworthUnited.org/flowers) or email Denise at [denise.anderson@eumc-md.org](mailto:denise.anderson@eumc-md.org).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SPARKS Sunday School is offered virtually at 10:30 Sunday school until Sunday January 30

## LIFE GROUPS

Fall is always a great opportunity to re-commit to growing in faith, and Life Groups can be a great place to start! Groups are currently studying the Book of Jeremiah in conjunction with the sermon series. Most groups are still remote, though some with fully vaccinated individuals, are meeting in person. Life Group signups are open on the website, or you can contact one of the facilitators below:

### **Tuesday 7pm** in English - Online

Judy Fenner [jadrfenner@verizon.net](mailto:jadrfenner@verizon.net)

### **Martes 7pm** en español - En línea

Marcela Uberhuaga [marcelauberhuaga@gmail.com](mailto:marcelauberhuaga@gmail.com)

### **Wednesday 7pm**

High School Seniors, College Freshmen and Sophomores

Donna Ray [speecd13@gmail.com](mailto:speecd13@gmail.com)

### **Thursday 12pm** in English – Online and in person room 201

Pastor Jen [jennifer.fenner@eumc-md.org](mailto:jennifer.fenner@eumc-md.org)

### **Thursdays 7pm** Young Adults

Hybrid - Montgomery Village and zoom

Christina Castillo [artmaniac02@aim.com](mailto:artmaniac02@aim.com)

### **Jueves 8:30pm** oración en español - En línea

Marcela Uberhuaga [marcelauberhuaga@gmail.com](mailto:marcelauberhuaga@gmail.com)

### **Viernes 8:30pm** en español - teléfono

Mayormente oración

Miguel Gallegos [migallegos@gmail.com](mailto:migallegos@gmail.com)

### **Sundays 12pm** English - Online

Orville Wilson [orville.wilson@wilsoncgrp.com](mailto:orville.wilson@wilsoncgrp.com)

Francis Conteh [contehfrank2018@gmail.com](mailto:contehfrank2018@gmail.com)

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Servant helpers are needed Thursdays for packing, Saturdays for unloading, and Sundays for distribution and delivery. Please sign up on the website if you are able to help.

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Join us for prayer in English Wednesdays 6am and Thursdays 6:30pm led by Rev. Jen Fenner.

**EPWORTH PODCAST – TRANSFORMED BY FAITH TODAY**

[anchor.fm/eumc-podcast-eng](https://anchor.fm/eumc-podcast-eng) for English

[anchor.fm/eumc-podcast-esp](https://anchor.fm/eumc-podcast-esp) for Spanish

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