



**Order of Worship  
February 12, 2023  
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*Morning Song*

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

**Centering Video**

**Call to Worship**

Tina Wilmoth

Blessed and Righteous God,  
your truths and grace are revealed to us  
as we search your Holy Word.

**We come today, to listen to the Word of the Lord.**

Gracious God,  
you help us to know you through your Holy Word,  
which guides and blesses us.

**We come today, to worship the Lord our God.**

Holy God,  
we gather to worship and praise you,  
to learn from your Word in fellowship with others.

**We come today, to praise the Lord our God. Amen.**

**Hymn**

*I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

UMH 152

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**Passing the Peace of Christ**

Tina Wilmoth

### **Prayer of Confession**

Pastor Debra

Righteous God, we confess with sorrow that we often forget who has given us light, who has made our garden grow with waters of love. We forget your living word and move off your paths to serve our own worldly desires. We leave your cultivated field to venture out into the wilderness on our own. We quarrel with one another trying to decide “who is the greatest.” We make our own faces the benchmark for all faces. Help us to remember Jesus, reconciling the whole varied world in himself.

### **Words of Assurance**

Pastor Debra

Thank you for calling us back, for never giving up on us when we turn aside, for always loving us, even when we forget who we are and who you are. We know you, as the greatest Gardener of all, who has promised always to replant us in flourishing fields.

### **Ministry of Music**

*Love Grows Here*

Choir

## **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

### **Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Tina Wilmoth

**Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture; give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us; and give us faith enough, that by your grace, we might serve you until the end of our days. Amen.**

### **Psalm 119:1-8**

Tina Wilmoth

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,  
who walk according to the law of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep his statutes  
and seek him with all their heart—

<sup>3</sup> they do no wrong  
but follow his ways.

<sup>4</sup> You have laid down precepts  
that are to be fully obeyed.

<sup>5</sup> Oh, that my ways were steadfast  
in obeying your decrees!

<sup>6</sup> Then I would not be put to shame  
when I consider all your commands.

<sup>7</sup> I will praise you with an upright heart  
as I learn your righteous laws.

<sup>8</sup> I will obey your decrees;  
do not utterly forsake me.

**Epistle Reading***I Corinthians 3:1-9 (CEB)*

Tina Wilmoth

**Wisdom Applied to Divisions in the Church**

3 Brothers and sisters, I couldn't talk to you like spiritual people but like unspiritual people, like babies in Christ. 2 I gave you milk to drink instead of solid food, because you weren't up to it yet. 3 Now you are still not up to it because you are still unspiritual. When jealousy and fighting exist between you, aren't you unspiritual and living by human standards? 4 When someone says, "I belong to Paul," and someone else says, "I belong to Apollos," aren't you acting like people without the Spirit?

5 After all, what is Apollos? What is Paul? They are servants who helped you to believe. Each one had a role given to them by the Lord: 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God made it grow. 7 Because of this, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but the only one who is anything is God who makes it grow. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters work together, but each one will receive their own reward for their own labor. 9 We are God's coworkers, and you are God's field, God's building.

**Sermon***Co-Workers, Colleagues, and Cohorts*

Pastor Debra

**Preparation for Prayer***Kum Ba Yah (Come By Here)*

UMH 494

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.  
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum by yah.  
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum by yah.  
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Debra

**The Lord's Prayer****Prayer Response***Kum Ba Yah (Come By Here)*

UMH 494

Hear our prayers, O Lord, kum ba yah.  
Hear our prayers, O Lord, kum ba yah.  
Hear our prayers, O Lord, kum ba yah.  
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah.

**Offertory Invitation**

Tina Wilmoth

## **Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory*

*Restoration*

*\*Doxology      Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below:***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!***

***Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!***

***Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

Pastor Debra

God of Abundant Grace, we choose to see the good in one another and our community today, just as you have chosen to see the good in us. Long ago, you called us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We offer these gifts and offerings to you, O God, that we might shine bright for all to see and invite those around us to your welcoming table of divine love. Amen.

## **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

### **Closing Hymn**

*Forth in Thy Name, O Lord*

UMH 438

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### **Benediction**

Pastor Debra

Go now, strengthened by the testimony of Christ. Keep alert and wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. Continue to do right and remember God in your ways. And may God enrich you in speech and knowledge of every kind; May Christ Jesus strengthen you to the end; And may the Holy Spirit guide you in faithful living until he comes.

**We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Choral Benediction**

*On Eagle's Wings*

***And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,***

***bear you on the breath of dawn,***

***make you to shine like the sun,***

***and hold you in the palm of God's hand.***

### **Postlude**

*I Will Praise Thee*

## ***I SING THE ALMIGHTY POWER OF GOD***

*I sing the almighty power of God,  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.*

*I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.*

*I sing the goodness of the Lord,  
who filled the earth with food,  
who formed the creatures thru the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky.*

*There's not a plant or flower below,  
but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care;  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.*

## ***FORTH IN THY NAME, O LORD***

*Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labor to pursue;  
thee, only thee, resolved to know  
in all I think or speak or do.*

*The task thy wisdom hath assigned,  
O let me cheerfully fulfill;*

*in all my works thy presence find,  
and prove thy good and perfect will.*

*Thee may I set at my right hand,  
whose eyes mine inmost substance see,  
and labor on at thy command,  
and offer all my works to thee.*

*For thee delightfully employ  
what e'er thy bounteous grace hath given;  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with thee to heaven.*