



**Order of Worship  
February 5, 2023**

**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Communion Sunday**

**GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

**Ministry of Music**

*Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*

Damon Moore

**\*Call to Worship**

*Adapted from Psalm 46*

Patti Barnes

**"As you are able, please stand for the Call to Worship.)**

God is our refuge and home.

God is our strength and center.

**God is a very present help.**

**God has always been and always will be, our very present help.**

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth has changed; though the world has changed; though our lives have been shaped by history out of our control and by present realities that threaten us.

**There is a river whose streams make glad, the diaspora of God. God is in her midst. They shall not be moved. God will be present to help wherever morning dawns.**

**\*Prayer by Howard Thurman**

Patti Barnes

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. Here is the citadel of all my desiring, where my hopes are born and all the deep resolutions of my spirit take wings. In this center, my fears are nourished and all my hate is nurtured. Here my loves are cherished, and all the deep hungers of my spirit are honored without quivering and without shock. In my heart, above all else, let love and integrity envelop me until my love is perfected and the last vestige of my desiring is no longer in conflict with thy Spirit. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. Amen.

**\*Hymn**

*Lord, I want to Be a Christian*

UMH 402

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**Passing the Peace of Christ**

Patti Barnes

*Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. Let us share the peace of Christ with those around us by saying, "Peace be with you." To this, we respond, "And also with you."*

**Ministry of Music**

*Roll Down, Justice*

Choir

**Reading "I Dream A World" by Langston Hughes**

Dan Ensor & Damon Moore

I dream a world where man  
No other man will scorn,  
Where love will bless the earth  
And peace its paths adorn

I dream a world where all  
Will know sweet freedom's way,  
Where greed no longer saps the soul  
Nor avarice blights our day.

A world I dream where black or white,  
Whatever race you be,  
Will share the bounties of the earth  
And every man is free,

Where wretchedness will hang its head  
And joy, like a pearl,  
Attends the needs of all mankind-  
Of such I dream, my world!

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Patti Barnes

**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.**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 58:1-12 (NRSV)*

Patti Barnes

**False and True Worship**

**58** Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,

to the house of Jacob their sins.  
<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they want God on their side.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator<sup>[b]</sup> shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness

and your gloom be like the noonday.  
11 The LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.

12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

This is a Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

*Where One Stands*

Pastor Debra

### **Offertory Invitation**

Patti Barnes

As we give our offerings today, I invite us to consider how God may be urging us to be a carrier of His light through the ministry and mission of Harmony UMC by the giving of our financial gifts. Would the ushers please come forward to receive the morning offering.

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

*Offertory*

*Steal Away to Jesus*

*\*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*

Patti Barnes

Gracious God, we come today with joy for your baptism; we come with praise for your glory; we come with gratitude for your love. As we offer these gifts to you, send your Spirit upon us, that our hands and our hearts may do your work in the world. As we offer our lives to you, bless us with your strength, that we may join with you to work for the blessing of peace throughout the world. Amen.

### **Invitation to Holy Communion**

Pastor Debra

Dear Friends, this is the mighty feast, the joyful feast, the holy feast of and for the people of God. This table represents a level of welcome, inclusion, and imagery which can only be experienced through the power of the Holy Spirit. We have come from all walks of life. We have come from a life of privilege. We have come from a life of poverty. We have either come

from a life of oppression or we are oppressors. We have come as financially stable. We have come with nothing. We have come with opportunity and new mercies. The one thing we all share at this table is that we come.

Our prayer is that we come together because we are invited not by the church or the leaders but by Jesus Christ himself. This is the Lord's table and we are humbly excited about serving here. Our Savior invites all who trust him to come.

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy. You called forth creation and raised us from dust by your holy breath. We bless you for the beauty and bounty by which each of us is wonderfully made in your image. We thank you God for the gift of human uniqueness that reflects your creative intent for all people. When human cruelty reared its ugly head, you sustained your people and made it possible for us to survive the middle passage, the auction blocks, the whipping posts and forced labor.

You softened the hearts of many who worked in secret on our behalf. You lifted our heads with the message that God sides with the oppressed and delivers the captives. You strengthened our hands to struggle for justice and freedom. Because we are thankful we sing! We sing your highest praises in one voice with the company of our ancestors who paved the way:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, who left the comforts of glory to live among a people estranged from you. By his life and example he taught us that it was possible to love our neighbors and live together as family.

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.

We bless you, O God, for the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit. That Holy Spirit leads us into truth, fights for justice and equality, continues to gather us as believers even in the face of adversity, and moves us to be empowered by your love. It is the movement of the Holy Spirit that allows us to trust in the life, death, and resurrection which reconciles us to you.

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 is 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."

Please accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, as a willing, living, and holy sacrifice and offering of ourselves, our whole selves, that we may be honest enough to live our lives with authenticity, truth, honesty, and integrity so much so that our very lives proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Pour out your blessings on this bread and this cup as we remember you, your gifts, and the great mystery of faith.

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

We pray o Lord, that as we take this bread and this wine as a gift from you that we may celebrate with joy and hope of the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. 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 God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Now, together let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us:

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Giving of the Bread and Cup**

### **Hymns During Communion**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

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### **Prayer after Communion**

Patti Barnes

**O God, with gratitude and praise you have blessed and fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us hope in the face of turmoil, to remind us that in you, everything is already alright. Make us children of remembrance so that stories and**

history live on in us. Send us from this place with purpose and in your power, blessed, transformed and bent toward the arc of justice for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE

### Closing Hymn

*For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

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### Benediction

Pastor Debra

At his baptism in the Jordan Jesus was invested with his mission of bringing God's liberating love to people. The Spirit guided him to carry out that mission in uncompromising faithfulness. At our baptism with water and the Spirit, we have received the mission to live like Jesus, to go about doing good as he did, to be faithful and just to God and to people. May the God in whose name we have been baptized protect, guide and bless you for this task: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen. We go in peace.**

### Sung 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

*Forward in Faith*

## ***Lord, I want to Be a Christian***

*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.*

## ***Let Us Break Bread Together***

*Let us break bread together on our knees, (on our knees)  
let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

*Let us drink wine together on our knees, (on our knees)  
let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

*Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)  
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

*Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)  
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy if you please. (if you please)*



## ***For the Bread Which You Have Broken***

*For the bread which you have broken,  
for the wine which you have poured,  
for the words which you have spoken,  
now we give you thanks, O Lord.*

*By this pledge that you do love us,  
by your gift of peace restored,  
by your call to heaven above us,  
hallow all our lives, O Lord.*

*With our sainted ones in glory  
seated at the heavenly board,  
may the church that's waiting for you  
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.*

*In your service, Lord, defend us,  
in our hearts keep watch and ward;  
in the world where you have sent us,  
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*