

ENTRANCE

Prelude

I Want a Principle Within

Greeting and Welcome

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite." Isaiah 57:15

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn

And Can It Be that I Should Gain UMC 363

* Act of Praise

Third Song of Isaiah from Isaiah 60

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land;

deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise,

and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open;

by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord,

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land,

ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation,

and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day;

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light,

and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

* Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 8:8-9:1

Psalm

Psalm 4

UMH 741

* Gloria Patri

UMH 70

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

* Hymn

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Insert

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 16:19-31

Children's Story

Sermon

"More than Words: God in the Flesh"

* Response to the Word

Nicene Creed

UMH 880

Prayers of the People

As we join in prayer together, you will hear each petition end with the phrase "Lord, in your mercy." We respond together saying, "Hear our prayer."

Confession and Pardon

God of peace, we come to you this day confessing that we have not resisted the evil and sin that surrounds us. We have not had wisdom, and in our sin we have not had shame. Forgive us, ransom us, and restore us, O Lord.

Hear the good news. We are forgiven through the blood shed by Jesus Christ on the cross.

He has given us clean hands and washed away the stain of sin.

All praise to Christ Jesus!

Let us continue to follow in his way. Hallelujah! Amen!

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Come and Find the Quiet Center

* Doxology

UMH 95

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received, accept this offering of your people. Remember us in your love, and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and goodwill among all peoples, and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

SENDING FORTH

* Hymn

The Goodness of God

Insert

* Dismissal with Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God

And may the blessing of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—go with you. **Amen.**

* Postlude

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 21st, 2025