

Worship Celebration January 29, 2023

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

People of God, who do you come to worship?

We come to worship the one true God.

How will you worship?

Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.

***Hymn** *"Blessed Assurance"* *UMH 369*

***Unison Prayer**

Loving God,

we come this morning

seeking to abide in your presence.

**Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom,
that we may know how to live as your people.**

**Open our hearts to your spirit of truth,
that we may love all your people with a love
that speaks of justice, kindness,
and radical grace.**

**May this time of worship
be authentic and pleasing to you. Amen.**

***Hymn** *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"* *UMH 140*

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Sermon **"What Jesus Blatantly Fails to Appreciate"** **Rev. Lee Miller**

***Hymn** "Give Thanks" TFWS 2036

Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *UMH 895**

Doxology

***Closing Hymn** *"Hymn of Promise"* *UMH 362*

***Benediction**