

2019 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 10-13 • Hoover Auditorium • Lakside Chautauqua

SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Monday, June 10, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

"As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you."

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

*Indicates to stand as able.

GATHERING MUSIC "God is Here!" Brodbeck

THEME SCRIPTURE John 15:9-15 (CEB) Hyeran Yu

*CALLING THE CONFERENCE TO ORDER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

*OPENING HYMN "And Are We Yet Alive" UMH 553

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Tim Monteith

God's purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the Body of Christ

until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son.

God's goal is for us to become mature adults

to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ.

HYMN "God Is Here" (vv. 1, 2 & 3) UMH 660

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "For All the Saints" UMH 711

*ACT OF ADORATION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Heaven is here, and earth, and the space is thin between them. Distance may divide, but Christ's promise unites those bounded by time, those blessed by eternity. Let heaven be glad,

let the whole earth cry Glory!

Heaven is here, and earth, and the Church above and below is one. Let heaven be glad,

let the whole earth cry Glory!

Heaven is here, and earth, and the God who made them is present. The Lamb, glorious on the throne, sits beside us; the Spirit of God, the Dove, makes a resting place among us.

God inhales the breath of our prayers and spreads a table for our satisfaction. Let heaven be glad,

let the whole earth cry Glory!

Blessing and honor and glory and power be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen.

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REMEMBERING THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

(Please observe a moment of silence during the reading of the names and the ringing of the bell.)

Bishop

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

In loving memory, giving thanks to God, we celebrate these faithful servants of Jesus Christ, who now rest from their labors in God's eternal realm.

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for one ordained, lifted up and sent from the East Ohio Conference and consecrated as a Bishop in The United Methodist Church:

Judith Craig

Clergy Gary George

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for those ordained, consecrated, and licensed in this annual conference:

Eric L. Martin John P. Benson Robert B. Hibbard V. Ned Bixler Millard Mead Lester Hickman Richard L. Burns James H. Humphrey Henry E. Mooney Donald R. Dolick Robert A. Jones Roger A. Norton Ronald E. Eppler James W. Keller Richard H. Parks, Jr. Roberta Fuller Calvin R. King Mark J. Reep Virginia R. Geiger David J. Leenhouts Gary L. Rinker

James V. Schoonover Rebecca S. Swartz Jack C. Yeager

Donald W. Shilling Anna F. Wargo Valerie W. Stultz Barry A. Wolfe

Spouses Amy Fashbaugh

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for spouses who shared their ministries in this annual conference:

Marie Rose Bibbee Maxine M. Hayes Vivien L. Reid
Virginia Carothers Guinevere Y. Legg Judith K. Reinke
Charles R. Garner Gayle E. Maly Melissa S. Stoddard
Christine E. Germaine Donna M. McCoy Janet M. Weinland
Nancy L. Greenawalt Marjorie Ann Pohly John W. Wienke

Laity Kimberly Green

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for laity who have led faithfully in this annual conference:

Gary Cain Bill Wendell Myron C. Willey

Eddie Herman Galen Whitmeyer

Rock VanFossen

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for laity who have served faithfully in local congregations and districts, whom we name now in our hearts before you:

Family Bailey Kalb

O God of all the saints, we give thanks for children, siblings, and loved ones whom we name now in our hearts before you:

PRAYER OF CELEBRATION

Ron Shultz

Everlasting God, we have stood on the shoulders of these your saints. They are the ones who first lifted us to the baptismal font and we became one with you. They are the ones who first invited us to the table and we feasted with you. They are the ones who poured out your forgiveness when we deserved your wrath and we experienced your love. They are the ones who granted us your grace so that we might in turn spare the pain of others. Let us be faithful to your call and to the memory of these your saints. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Come, All Christians, Be Committed" Larson

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (CEB) Edgar Brady

SERMON "No Greater Love" Bishop Tracy S. Malone

CHORAL ANTHEM "Come, Come to the Table" Metzger

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

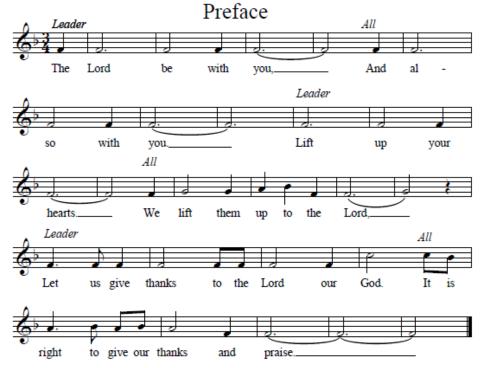
Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. Please extend the peace of Christ to those around you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



WORDS: From The United Methodist Hymnal

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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Source: The Faith We Sing, no. 2257a.

Abiding God, you planted the vineyard of creation, and called your chosen people to be your vine, rooted and grounded in you.

In Jesus you gave us the true vine, turning earth into grapes and the water of life into the wine of eternal life.

Through your Son you abide in us, and in the power of your Holy Spirit you shape us as branches of the vine to make fruit that will last.

Your Son was crucified on the vine of our sin, that the blood of his sacrifice might be the wine through which we may never be thirsty again.

In this meal of creation, of resurrection, and of everlasting life, you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you.

And so, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we raise the hymn of your unending praise.



WORDS: From The United Methodist Hymnal (Isa. 6:3; Matt. 21:9)

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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Blessed are You and Holy is Beloved Jesus Christ; who, in humility, stooped and served; who, in compassion, recognized and beckoned; who, in courage, did not insist on his own way; who, in power, did not diminish others.

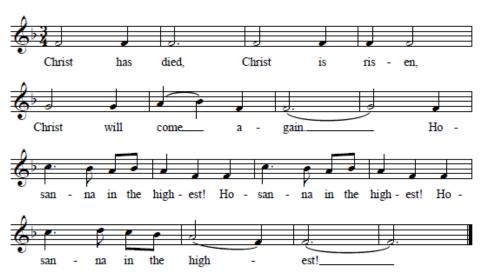
Help us to serve each other like Christ Jesus, who, at supper, gratefully took the bread, and broke it and shared it with everyone, saying:

"Take and eat, for this is my body given for you. When you do this, you remember me."

Help us forgive each other like Christ Jesus, who gratefully took the cup and shared it with everyone, saying: "Drink with me, each of you, for this is the cup of my blood, poured out as a witness to God's eternal covenant of grace, ensuring the Divine forgiveness for the sins of all. When you do this, you remember me."

Remembering your saving acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's self-offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation



WORDS: From The United Methodist Hymnal

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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Source: The Faith We Sing, no. 2257-c.

Living God, come among us now in the power of the Holy Spirit and make the ordinariness of our branches course with the pulse of your eternal life.

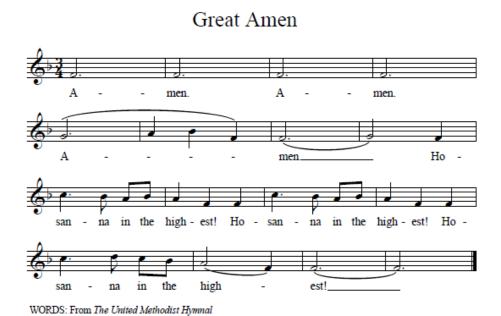
Sanctify these gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Sanctify our bodies, minds, souls and spirits, that we might experience the living presence of Christ.

Sanctify the heart of our Church so the world might experience through us the living presence of Christ. We pray that you heal the United Methodist Church; use our theological struggles as a tool of Your Grace.

Spirit of the Living God, Spirit of the Only God, as we come to your table, brothers and sisters all, shape our life together by the ways we belong to one another in you.

We ask this in the name of our Savior Christ Jesus, the perfect expression of your Love, the definitive expression of your Grace.



And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

UMH 632

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

Source: The Faith We Sing, no. 2257-d.

NOTES:

All communion elements are gluten free.

Please rise two rows at a time, proceed in a clockwise direction, receive communion, and continue in a clockwise direction until you return to your seat.

*CONCLUDING COLLECT

Ron Schultz

Companionable God, we thank you for calling us to serve you in Jesus' name, turning Word into flesh and showing us the Way to you, giving us brothers and sisters to love as we love you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills.

Unite your whole church, living and departed, as branches of your one vine, and through being rooted and grounded in you, make us faithful in body, mind, and spirit, until we stand before you, with your whole creation, and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"God Is Here" (v. 4)

UMH 660

*BENEDICTION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

POSTLUDE "Toccata in D" Lanquetuit

(Please be seated during the Postlude to allow the families of those being remembered today to exit the auditorium for the west lawn, where you may greet them at the conclusion of the music.)

First Aid: Please note that the first aid station is located in the northwest corner of Hoover Auditorium, in the entrance lobby near the men's restroom.

Emergency Weather Shelter: In the event of a storm that produces high winds, the following Lakeside areas are the "safer places" in which to seek shelter:

Hoover Auditorium restrooms
Hoover Auditorium backstage rooms
Lakeside UMC basement
Fountain Inn Aigler Room
Fountain Inn bathrooms

Campground shower buildings Pavilion Annex restrooms Wesley Lodge restrooms Wo-Ho-Mis Lodge lower stairwells

Contributors to the Service

Presider/Preacher: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Readers: Pastor Hyeran Yu – Crystal Park UMC (TW)

Rev. Dr. Gary George - Assistant to the Bishop

Amy Fashbaugh – Crossroads UMC (TW) Kimberly Green – Conference Lay Leader Rock VanFossen – Strasburg UMC (TW)

Bailey Kalb – Crosspoint UMC (TW)

Rev. Ron Shultz – Family of Faith UMC (CN) Rev. Edgar Brady – Twinsburg Faith UMC (NC)

Acolytes: Jonathan Monteith – Cadiz Scott Memorial UMC (OV)

Jocelyn Brown – Navarre Otterbein UMC (TW)

Cross Bearer: Joseph Monteith – Cadiz Scott Memorial UMC (OV)

Bible Bearer: Paige Arbaugh – Carrollton First UMC (OV)

Banner Bearer: Nehemiah Priebe – Cuyahoga Falls First UMC (CN)

Choral Music: The East Ohio Conference Choir **Choir Director:** Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Organist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Hand Bell: Rev. Dr. David Rittgers – Orville Trinity UMC (CN)

Song Leader: Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Service Designers: Rev. Judith Wismar Claycomb – Retired (NC)

Rev. Tim Monteith – Cadiz Scott Memorial UMC (OV)

Special Thank You: To the laity and clergy, representing all 10 districts, who served

communion.

Special Thank You: To Carol Schmitkons of Henrietta First UMC (Firelands District)

for growing the grapes and producing this morning's communion

juice.

Special Thank You: To Lakeside UMC for its support of this morning's service.

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Charles Wesley
Words/Music: Public Domain

God Is Here

Words: Fred Pratt Green Music: Cyril V. Taylor

Words © 1979 Hope Publishing Co.

Music © 1942

Renewed 1970 Hope Publishing Co.

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For All the Saints
Ralph Vaughn Williams
William Walsham How
Words/Music: Public Domain

Come, Come to the Table Words/Music: Joshua Metzger Admin. by Shawnee Press

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Come, All Christians, Be Committed Arranged by Lloyd Larson Admin. by Brookfield Press

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Communion Setting Sanctus

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Communion Setting Memorial Acclamation

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Communion Setting Great Amen

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Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether Words: Percy Dearmer Music: Harold Friedell

Words by permission of Oxford University Press

Music © 1957, renewed 1985

The H.W. Gray Co.

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Toccata in D
Marcel Languetuit

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CELEBRATION OF RETIREMENT

Monday, June 10, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

*Indicates to stand as able.

PRELUDE "Grand Chorus Dialogue" Gigout

GREETING Kurt Landerholm

We meet in the presence of God.

We do not meet alone.

We have come this far by faith.

We do not walk alone.

NURTURING THE CALL

Carolyn Berry

At this year's retirement seminar, retirees were asked these three questions:

Who nurtured you in your call?

What was your greatest joy in ministry?

What words of encouragement do you have for this year's incoming clergy class?

Throughout tonight's celebration, we will hear our retirees' responses to those questions centered around our covenant with God and one another. We begin by learning about those who nurtured the call of our retiring clergy.

*HYMN

"I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath"

UMH 60

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jennifer Johnston-Baker

We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and each other and calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ's work in our world.

So, we come together here giving thanks for those who lead us.

So, we come together here giving thanks for the leadership of those who are retiring from active ministry.

So, we come together to ask God's blessing for them.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 90:1-6, 16-17 (NRSV) Dale Gharky

PRAYER AT THE BEGINNING OF RETIREMENT

Lu Ann Youngman

Eternal God, you hold the times and seasons, endings and beginnings, in your hands. Bless those who this evening now enter a new time of life. We give you thanks for the task accomplished, for the joy and tears woven into the fabric of their years. Give them the guidance of your Holy Spirit.

May days no longer filled with old obligations be free for new activities and associations. May fears and uncertainties about the future be transformed into quiet confidence. May each new day be received as a sacred trust and lived to your glory. Amen.

The United Methodist Book of Worship, 543

SCRIPTURE Philippians 3:7-16 (NRSV) Everett Stoddard

REFLECTIONS Bishop Tracy S. Malone

ANTHEM "Well Done, Faithful Servants" Martin

CELEBRATING THE CALL

Carolyn Berry

Our clergy have been faithful to their call. Listen as they share some of the many moments that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives!

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Brothers and sisters in Christ, you came to us from congregations where the Spirit of the Lord was upon you; and you were charged to preach to the brokenhearted, to visit the captive, to anoint those who were bruised. These things you have done.

We thank God for the community of the faithful in which the Word of God found response. Countless persons have depended upon you for help. In the providence of God, you know that both suffering and joy can be God's way of teaching and healing.

Deacons, at your ordination, you received authority to proclaim the Word of God and to lead us in ministries of compassion and justice. Elders, at your ordination, you received authority to proclaim the Word of God, to administer the sacraments, and to order the life of the Church. By God's grace you all did all of this and many other things that seemed to be beyond your power.

We thank God that you were given the vision to be faithful. Death and illness have not come on schedule. The truth has not always been easy to preach. We know something of the grace by which you have lived, and we thank God for your vision.

Never think lightly of the great good that God has wrought through you. Continue to be true to your calling. May God's love and power be with you always. Let us pray together.

God of grace, you fill your servants with the vision. You empower your servants with your Spirit. We give thanks for the ministry of these women and men, and for the ways in which you have ministered to us through them. Give them a sense of your abiding presence that they may continue to love and serve you, and ever grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The United Methodist Book of Worship, 735

PRESENTATION OF THE RETIRING CLASS OF 2019

Carolyn Berry

Susan Antolik	Ralph Krall	Keith Peachey
William Buckeye	Robert Kuntz	Stephen Sparling
Bradley Call	Kurt Landerholm	Mark Steiger
Barbara Deibel	Daniel Loomis	Everett Stoddard
James George	Nancy Manner	Robert Stull
Dale Gharky	David Martin	David Tennant
Thomas Gruver	Kristin McKinley	Thomas Thomas
Glenn Hamilton	Bruce McLaughlin	Peggy Welch
Howard Humphress	Raymond McPeek	James Woods
Robert Ireland	Roger Morrow	Joseph Wright
Jennifer Johnston-Baker	Carolyn Nichols	Lu Ann Youngman
Dairel Kaiser	Jennifer Olin-Hitt	_

ENCOURAGING THE CALL IN OTHERS

Carolyn Berry

Our retirees were nurtured in their ministry and now share their words of encouragement and wisdom with this year's incoming class of clergy, who will be commissioned or ordained right here on this stage tomorrow afternoon.

PASSING OF THE MANTLE

In the Book of Kings, we read of the prophet Elijah's ministry. The mantle, a symbol of servanthood to God, fell upon the younger prophet Elisha and the spirit of Elijah rested on Elisha.

I transfer this mantle from our generation to the next generation, indicating thereby that the responsibilities and dedication of our generation will be caught up and carried on by yours, and the spirit of today's Elijahs will rest upon today's Elishas.

We, who come after you, take up the mantle which falls upon us. May we inherit a double share of your spirt.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:1-6 NRSV)

*HYMN "Where He Leads Me" UMH 338

*BENEDICTION Robert Kuntz

As it is a gift that we may serve God, let us now go forth, accepting the ministry to which each one is called. For God looks for those who will lift instead of lean, help instead of hinder.

And now, may the blessing of our creator God, continually renewed in the life Jesus Christ and sustained through the presence of the Spirit, be with you tonight and every night. Amen.

POSTLUDE "Finale" Guilmant

(Please be seated during the Postlude while the new retirees move to their designated receiving areas in the auditorium, where you may greet them at the conclusion of the music.)

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Contributors to the Service

Presider/Preacher: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Readers: Rev. Kurt Landerholm – Mentor UMC (WR)

Rev. Jennifer Johnston-Baker – Claysville UMC (SH) Pastor Dale Gharky – Manchester/Lockwood UMCs (CN)

Rev. Lu Ann Youngman – Winfield UMC (TW)

Rev. Everett Stoddard – Cambridge Faith UMC (SH)

Rev. Robert Kuntz – Grafton UMC (FL)

Passing of the Mantle: Rev. Howard Humphress – Pastoral Care Director (EOC)

Rev. Dawan Buie – Centenary/Lockwood/Mahoning/Richard

Where He Leads Me

Words: E.W. Blandy

Public Domain

Finale

Music: John S. Norris

Brown Memorial/Trinity UMCs (MV)

Choral Music: The East Ohio Conference Choir **Choir Director:** Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Organist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Song Leader: Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW) **Service Designers:** Rev. Carolyn Berry – Smithville UMC (CN)

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Grand Chorus Dialogue Eugene Gigout

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I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath Words: Isaac Watts, alt. by John Wesley

Words: Isaac Watts, alt. by John Wesley Harmony: V. Earle Copes © 1964

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Well Done, Faithful Servants

Joseph M. Martin

Alexandre Guilmant

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MORNING WORSHIP

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

PRELUDE

"Variations on "The Church's One Foundation"

Linker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley Steele

Out of a world of cut-throat competition, of winners and losers, and too many left behind, we come together.

The world's ways are not our ways. The world's ways are not Christ's ways.

Out of a world of hatred, violence, individualism, and life-taking power we gather as Koinonia, as God's people.

God's ways are inclusive, expansive, and life-giving for all peoples.

Come and worship the One whose love knows no limits! Swim and splash in the cleansing waters of divine community! Resurrect your spirits and souls in worship of the One!

Praise be to the Everlasting One!

Written by Tim Graves.

Posted on LiturgyBits, www.liturgybits.wordpress.com.

*HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

UMH 545

*LITANY

God, we believe you have called us to unity, but often we have isolated ourselves from others.

God, forgive us for the times we have turned our backs on those who are different.

God, we believe you have called us to live together as one body,

God, forgive us for the times we have created division within your worldwide church.

God, we believe you ask us to look, listen, and learn from others,

God, forgive us for the times we have ridiculed and attacked those with different viewpoints.

God, we believe you ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name,

^{*}Indicates to stand as able.

forgive us for the times we have offended you by failing to love others as we do ourselves.

God, we believe you call us to be one even as you are one, forgive us for the disunity we have harbored and make us one.

God and Creator of all humankind, your son Jesus Christ prayed that your church might be one even as you our God are one.

May you renew our minds and rekindle your love in our hearts, so that by the power of the Spirit, we might find the Oneness that you intend for us.

God, may we see in your Oneness our need for unity, God, may we see in your Three-ness our need for community.

God, may we see in your creativity our need for diversity, God, may we see in your Self our need to love each other. Amen.

Written by Christine Sine. For the Lenten series *Journey into Wholeness* published in 2009 by the Mustard Seed. The entire series is available on the Godspace website, www.godspace.wordpress.com.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Bind Us Together" Hyun-Suk Kim & Hawa Buie

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 4:1-6 (CEB)

*HYMN "Help Us Accept Each Other" UMH 560

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER Bishop Tracy S. Malone

SERMON "Better Together" Rev. Andy Call

SPECIAL MUSIC "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" Hawa Buie

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Finale on The Church's One Foundation" Linker

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Contributors to the Service

Presider: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Preacher: Rev. Andy Call – Church of the Saviour UMC (NC)
Liturgist: Rev. Ashley Steele – The Urban Mission (OV)
Vocalists: Rev. Hyun Suk Kim – Korean Church of Greater

Youngstown & Hubbard UMC (MV)

Hawa Buie - Centenary/Lockwood/Mahoning/Richard Brown

Memorial/Trinity UMCs (MV)

Organist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Accompanist: Karen Myers – Richard Brown Memorial UMC (MV)
Song Leader: Rev. Dr. David Rittgers – Orrville Trinity UMC (CN)
Service Designer: Rev. Dr. David Rittgers – Orrville Trinity UMC (CN)

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Finale on The Church's One Foundation

Janet Linker

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SERVICE FOR THE COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS, AND THE ORDINATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

*Indicates to stand as able.

PRELUDE

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Bish

(Please remain seated until the choir stands to sing, and then be seated at the conclusion of singing.)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

UMH 89

*GREETING AND PRAYER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

The Holy Spirit is among us. **Move us, Holy Spirit!**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles and to all your church many excellent gifts. Come upon us gathered here to set apart those who will lead among us by calling and equipping us to fulfill your desire that we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are all made one with the death of Jesus Christ and raised with Christ to walk in newness of life in the gift of baptism by water and the Spirit.

The same Spirit who enlivens us empowers us with many and diverse gifts to serve as new creatures, renouncing evil, embracing and submitting to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and joining together as Christ's body to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

We all start here. The Spirit leads us all.

Remember you are baptized and be thankful.

We remember our baptism and affirm our common call to ministry. Thanks be to God!

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED OR ORDAINED

Who presents these candidates to be ordained or commissioned?

Conference Lay Leader

Kimberly Green

The laity of our local congregations have recommended them. We present them with our prayers and support.

Chair of the Board of Ministry

Cara Stultz Costello

The Board of Ministry of this annual conference has examined them according to the standards of our Discipline and our annual conference.

We present them with our prayers and support.

Conference Lay Leader

Kimberly Green

We present these persons for commissioning as provisional members:

Registrar for Elders

Jonathan Priebe

Donald Ackerman Claudia Britton Marelize Bruner Rebecca Evanoff Joyce Hoile Edward Kovacik Mikayla Kovacik J. Harlen Rife Heather McLeod (Runser)

Andrew Thompson

Chair of the Board of Ministry

Cara Stultz Costello

We present these persons for ordination as Deacon and Elders:

Chair of the Order of Deacons

Beverly Wrobel

Tammy Kuntz

Chair of the Order of Elders

Brian Oglesbee

Dawan Buie James Gaston Allison LeBrun Eric Kluth Randall May David St. Aubin

Chair of the Board of Ministry

Cara Stultz Costello

We rejoice in the Spirit's work in our lives and the lives of these who come to serve and lead among us.

Those authorized by the church to inquire about them have discerned that they are persons of sound learning and of Christian character, possess the necessary signs of God's grace, and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ.

Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God.

We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent to the ordination or commissioning of these persons.

We trust that they are worthy, by God's grace, to be ordained or commissioned. We will uphold them with our prayers and support.

Thanks be to God!

At last night's Celebration of Retirement, we celebrated the passing of the mantle from our retirement class to our incoming class. The transfer of the mantle from one generation to another indicates that the responsibilities and dedication of one generation will be caught up and carried on by the next generation, and the spirit of today's Elijahs will rest upon today's Elishas.

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

My sisters and brothers in Christ, as commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missioners, supply pastors, and all the people of God.

You are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and no other, and to look after the concerns of God's beloved community above all.

So we may know that you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of ordained or licensed ministry? I do so believe.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

I do so believe and confess.

Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and are the unique and authoritative standard of the church's faith and life? I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and with the help of the Holy Spirit continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you? *I will, with the help of God.*

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ? *I will, with the help of God.*

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ, participate in the life and work of the community, and seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people? I will, with the help of God.

Will you be faithful to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending them against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word, and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry? *I will, with the help of God.*

May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you grace to perform them, that the work begun in you by the Holy Spirit may be brought to perfection.

Amen.

*HYMN "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" UMH 430

SCRIPTURE 2 Peter 1:1-15

SERMON "Increasing Our Fruitfulness" Bishop Gregory V. Palmer

CHORAL ANTHEM "How Will They Know?" Patterson

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

By affirming the covenant of baptism, all members of Christ's holy church pledge to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Provisional members are bound to the service of God, appointed and supervised by the bishop, and guided by ordained and lay colleagues in the Board of Ordained Ministry, as they continue to grow in grace and to practice and perfect their skills in the ministries to which they may later be ordained as deacon or elder. This is the way of life and work of a provisional member.

Do you believe that God has called you to continue your preparation toward ordained ministry in this way? I do so believe.

Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon Name.

Send *her/him* among us to serve and to continue to learn the way of life of the order into which *she/he* may be ordained.

Send *her/him* forth to announce the good news of your beloved community and to equip disciples of Jesus for ministry.

Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

*HYMN "The Voice of God is Calling" (vv.1 & 2) UMH 436

ORDINATION OF ELDERS

The Holy Spirit stirs among us! And we are glad indeed.

Elders are called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church: to preach and teach the Word of God

and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, to lead the people of God in worship and prayer, to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ, to exercise pastoral supervision, to order the life of the congregation and connection, to counsel the troubled and declare the forgiveness of sin, to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world, to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people, and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an elder? I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the Order of Elders?
Will you give yourself to God through the Order of Elders in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service? *I will, with the help of God.*

Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants. Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon Name.

Fill *her/him* with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of an elder. Take now authority as an elder in Christ's Holy Church to proclaim the word of God, administer the sacraments, and order the life of the church.

Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

Name, be an elder among us.

ORDINATION OF DEACON

Deacons are called to share in Christ's ministry of servanthood,

to relate the life of the community to its service in the world,

to lead others in Christian discipleship,

to nurture disciples for witness and service,

to lead in worship,

to teach and proclaim God's Word,

to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,

to interpret to the church the world's hurts and hopes,

to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed,

and to lead Christ's people in ministries of compassion and justice,

liberation and reconciliation,

especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.

This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of a deacon? I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the Order of Deacons?
Will you give yourself to God through the Order of Deacons in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service? *I will, with the help of God.*

Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon this, your servant.

Come upon this, your servant.

Come upon Name.

Fill her with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of a deacon. Take now authority as a deacon in Christ's Holy Church to proclaim the word of God, and lead us in ministries of compassion and justice.

Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, All glory and praise are yours, now and forever!

Name, be a deacon among us.

*HYMN "The Voice of God is Calling" (vv. 3 & 4)

UMH 436

*REAFFIRMATION OF PROFESSING MEMBERSHIP

Professing members of The United Methodist Church have affirmed willingness to live out the baptismal covenant, have professed the faith of the Church in the Triune God, have pledged loyalty to Jesus Christ through The United Methodist Church, and have promised to support the local congregations and ministries of the Church through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Do you reaffirm these commitments and promise to support these commissioned, ordained, and recognized ministers in their life and vocation among you? **We do, with God's help.**

INVITATION TO ORDAINED MINISTRY

HYMN OF INVITATION

"The Summons"

TFWS 2130

*PRAYER

Let us pray:

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others, in Christ's name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"We are Called"

TFWS 2172

*BENEDICTION

Newly-Ordained Deacon

Tammy Kuntz

Together as God's beloved children, we who have been commissioned and ordained, look forward to serving among you, and sharing in the ministries God has given us throughout East Ohio and throughout the world.

The work we do in Christ's name, we do together.

Newly-Commissioned Provisional Member

J. Harlen Rife

As one body in Christ, may we go in peace to serve God and our neighbors in all we do.

We are one body in Christ, called by God, sent in the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us always.

Amen.

Widor

(Please be seated during the Postlude while the newly commissioned and ordained move to their designated receiving areas in the auditorium, where you may greet them at the conclusion of the music.)

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Emergency Weather Shelter: In the event of a storm that produces high winds, the following Lakeside areas are the "safer places" in which to seek shelter:

Hoover Auditorium restrooms Hoover Auditorium backstage rooms

Lakeside UMC basement Fountain Inn Aigler Room

Fountain Inn bathrooms

Campground shower buildings Pavilion Annex restrooms

Wesley Lodge restrooms

Wo-Ho-Mis Lodge lower stairwells

Contributors to the Service

Presider: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Preacher: Bishop Gregory V. Palmer – West Ohio Conference

Liturgists: Kimberly Green – Celebration UMC (NC)

Rev. Cara Stultz Costello – N. Canton Faith UMC (TW) Rev. Jonathan Priebe – Cuyahoga Falls First UMC (CN)

Rev. Beverly Wrobel - Mentor UMC (WR)

Rev. Dr. Brian Oglesbee – Norwalk First UMC (FL) Rev. Tammy Kuntz – Sandusky Trinity UMC (FL)

Rev. J. Harlen Rife – Pearl Road UMC (NC)

Blair Porter – Sandusky Columbus Avenue UMC (FL)

Choral Music: The East Ohio Conference Choir **Choir Director:** Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Organist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Song Leader: Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW) –

Service Designer: Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh – Carrollton First UMC (OV)

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Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Diane Bish

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O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee Words: Washington Gladden Music: H. Percy Smith Public Domain

How Will They Know? Words/Music: Mark Patterson Admin. by GlorySound

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We Are Called Words/Music: David Haas © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

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Toccata from 5th Symphony

Public Domain

MORNING WORSHIP

Wednesday, June 12, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

*Indicates to stand as able.

PRELUDE "Gather Us In" Brodbeck

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jake Heskett, Kelsey Orosan & Susan Achberger

We are the Body of Christ!

The hand-clapping, toe-tapping, heart-pumping, mouth-tasting, arms-embracing, justice-seeking, hymn-singing, love-making, bread-breaking, risk-taking

Body of Christ!

Baptized by one Spirit, we are members of one body.

Many and varied in gender, color, sexuality, age, class, and ability, we are members of Christ's beautiful body.

None of us can say to another, "I have no need of you."

For only together can we find wholeness.

None of us can say to another, "I will not care for you."

For we are connected like muscle and bone. If one suffers; we all suffer. If one rejoices, we all rejoice!

Thanks be to God who in Christ has made us one.

Let us worship God!

From Shaping Sanctuary: Proclaiming God's Grace in an Inclusive Church, edited by Kelly Turner.

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*HYMN "Unsettled World" TFWS 2183

LITANY OF JUSTICE

Scripture urges us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with our God. What would our world look like if we all truly worked for justice? Oh, how we long for that new day!

Let us be committed to you Lord.

The issues are complex, but God we ask for justice, peace and understanding in our world. God, we pray for an end to the fighting in the world. Oh, how we long for that new day!

Let us be committed to you Father God.

There are many in our world who thirst today. In many places our world, there is not enough water, and in other places the water is polluted and unsafe to drink, including places under siege of flooding waters. God, may there be healing, safe waters for all. Oh, how we long for that new day!

Let us be committed to you Holy Spirit.

Racial strife is still present in our world. For the peoples we pray. For all those who are discriminated against because of the color of their skin, we pray. For all people to see and acknowledge race, color, and culture and to acknowledge that all are created in the image of God, we pray. What a day it will be when people can truly respect each other, and can live and work together in peace! Oh, how we long for that new day!

Let us be committed to you Mother God.

We give thanks for those places in the world that have made progress in granting full human and civil rights to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people. Oh, how we long for that new day! We pray for our siblings in this country and in others who live with a constant threat against their lives because of who they are and whom they love. We pray for their safety, for their courage, and for their dreams of justice to become real. Oh, how we long for that new day!

Let us be committed to you Redeemer God.

For the refugees and homeless of our world, we pray. For the malnourished and starving of the world; for the global economics that means a sharing of the world's resources, we pray. Oh, how we long for that day!

God unites us through the power of the Cross, let us be committed to Christ.

For the planet, the environment, and justice for all God's creation, we pray. Oh, how we long for that new day!

God calls us to undertake the journey of sanctification, let us be committed to one another.

God has promised us a new day of justice for all, a day of Jubilee. But it takes all of us working with God-loving mercy, doing justice, and living humbly with our God. Together let us commit to working for that new day when all shall say:

Let us be committed to justice, mercy, and love.

Adapted by Andrew Scott.

From Shaping Sanctuary: Proclaiming God's Grace in an Inclusive Church, edited by Kelly Turner.

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THREE SIMPLE RULES GUIDED REFLECTION

ANTHEM "For the Beauty of the Earth" Rutter

*SCRIPTURE Matthew 21:33-43 (CEB)

John 15: 1-5, 9-12 (CEB)

This is the Word of God for All people.

Thanks be to God

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

SERMON "Whose Love is it Anyway?" **Rev. Karen Burtner Graham**

*HYMN "This is a Day of New Beginnings" UMH 383

*HYMN "Gather Us In" TFWS 2236

*BENEDICTION

Let us covenant together that no one will be left beneath the table lapping up crumbs. The church remains dim-sighted and malnourished until all are truly welcome to partake of your abundance.

Now companioned by the Spirit, go forth and be evidence of the all-inclusive hospitality of our welcoming God! Amen.

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POSTLUDE "Toccata in Seven" Rutter

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Hoover Auditorium restrooms
Hoover Auditorium backstage rooms
Lakeside UMC basement
Fountain Inn Aigler Room
Fountain Inn bathrooms

Campground shower buildings Pavilion Annex restrooms Wesley Lodge restrooms Wo-Ho-Mis Lodge lower stairwells

Contributors to the Service

Presider: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Preacher: Rev. Karen Burtner Graham – Lakeside UMC (FL)

Liturgists: Pastor Jake Heskett – Nankin Community/Polk UMCs (MO)

Pastor Kelsey Orosan – Lorain Lighthouse (FL) Susan Achberger – University Circle UMC (NC)

Choral Music: The East Ohio Conference Choir **Choir Director:** Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Organist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Song Leader: Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)
Service Designer: Rev. Andrew Scott – Hope UMC (NC)

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Gather Us In Joshua Brodbeck

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For the Beauty of the Earth John Rutter

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This is a Day of New Beginnings

Words: Brian Wren Music: Carlton Young

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Gather Us

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Toccata in Seven
John Rutter

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MORNING WORSHIP

Thursday, June 13, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m.

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

John 15:9-15 (CEB)

*Indicates to stand as able.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Kropinak

Jesus, though you were of one age, you spoke to the ages.

Jesus, though you lived long ago,

you spoke words that continue to move, motivate, mature, and transfigured us.

Jesus, though you were of Palestinian color and culture, you spoke to all cultures and colors.

We thank you for your timeliness and timelessness.

May the church that bears your name continue to reach out with love and compassion toward other members of the human family, no matter what age, culture, color, or context.

Written by Leonard Sweet. Posted on *Preach the Story*, www.preachthestory.com.

***SONGS OF WORSHIP**

Jefferson UMC Worship Team

"Send it on Down"
"This is Amazing Grace"
"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"
"We Believe"
"O Draw Me Lord"

*UNISON PRAYER

We share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one Name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

Together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; know

and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and up build one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness. Together we pray; together we serve God in this world.

Written by Nolan Palsma. Printed in *Prayerful Preparation: Living God, Renew Us.* Published by the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

SCRIPTURE John 15:9-17 (NIV)

CHORAL ANTHEM "How Great is Our God" Schrader

INTRODUCTION OF PREACHER Bishop Tracy S. Malone

SERMON "What's Love Got to Do with It?" Rev. Dogba Bass

*SONG OF WORSHIP "Above All" Jefferson UMC Worship Team

*BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH Jefferson UMC Worship Team

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Hoover Auditorium restrooms Hoover Auditorium backstage rooms Lakeside UMC basement Fountain Inn Aigler Room Fountain Inn bathrooms Campground shower buildings Pavilion Annex restrooms Wesley Lodge restrooms Wo-Ho-Mis Lodge lower stairwells

Contributors to the Service

Presider: Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Preacher:
Rev. Dogba Bass – Aldersgate UMC (NC)
Liturgists:
Rev. Lisa Kropinak – New Concord UMC (SH)
Praise Music:
Jefferson UMC (WR), led by Dr. Mick Gilliam

Choral Music: The East Ohio Conference Choir **Choir Director:** Ron Barkett – Dover First UMC (TW)

Accompanist: Joshua Brodbeck – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (COLS)

Service Designer: Rev. Dr. David Rittgers – Orrville Trinity UMC (CN)

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Send it Down Geron Davis

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This is Amazing Grace Phil Wickham

Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Peter Scholtes

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We Believe

Matt Hooper, Richie Fike

Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

O Draw Me Lord David Baroni

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How Great is Our God Arranged by Jack Schrader

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Above All

Lenny LeBlanc, Paul Baloche Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

Annual Conference 2019 Speakers

Bishop Tracy S. Malone was assigned to the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church effective September 1, 2016.

As resident bishop, she provides spiritual oversight; shares in equipping, teaching and encouraging mission, outreach, witness and service; and serves as a shepherd of the church in providing a prophetic witness of justice, mercy and unity.

Malone serves on the Boards of Trustees at the United Methodist-affiliated colleges, seminaries and organizations in East Ohio. She also is currently the president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, is a member of the Board of Directors of The Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of Africa University.

During her ministry, she has pastored several churches in the Northern Illinois Conference, represented that conference at four General and Jurisdictional Conferences, served as a district superintendent, and been dean of the Cabinet. She has written chapters for several books, published articles, blogs and book reviews, and taught courses as an adjunct professor at Aurora University and at Northern Baptist Seminary in Lombard, Illinois.

Malone has a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and Sociology, with a minor in Computer Science, from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, a Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and a Doctorate of Ministry from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Bishop Gregory V. Palmer was elected to the episcopacy in 2000, while serving in the East Ohio Conference as senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of Berea. He served eight years as bishop of the Iowa Conference and then four years in the Illinois-Great Rivers Conference before being assigned to the West Ohio Conference in 2012. Prior to his seven years at UMC Berea, Palmer was superintendent of the Youngstown District, was the organizing pastor of James S. Thomas UMC in Canton and had served Werner and East Glenville UMCs.

Palmer has served The United Methodist Church in many ways: as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the General Council on Ministries, and the Senegal Task Force of the General Board of Global Ministries; as President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Canton; and as a General and Jurisdictional Delegate.

He has also served on the Ministry Study Commission, been a study leader for Schools of Christian Mission, a teacher at Pastor's School in the Burundi Annual Conference, and a trustee for Baldwin-Wallace College, Ohio Wesleyan University and United Theological Seminary. He was elected President of the Council of Bishops from 2008-2010.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Palmer received his undergraduate degree from George Washington University, and later earned his Master of Divinity from Duke University. In 1999 he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea.

Rev. Andy Call is the lead pastor at Church of the Saviour (North Coast District) in Cleveland Heights, where his leadership focus is to equip the Church to live into the Kingdom of God through committed discipleship and dynamic faith-sharing. His ministry gifts include teaching, preaching, organizational leadership, equipping laity, and social justice.

Prior to being appointed to Church of the Saviour in 2015, Call served as pastor at First United Methodist Church of Oberlin (Firelands District) for three years. He was associate for Music and Worship at Westlake United Methodist Church before entering pulpit ministry and was the director of Choral Activities at New Philadelphia High School prior to engaging in full-time church work.

Call was elected a lay delegate to General Conference 2012, was the choir director at Annual Conference 2013, and chaired the AC Worship Committee from 2009-2011. Call earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Miami University, a master's degree in Choral Conducting from The Ohio State University and a Master of Divinity from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

Rev. Karen Burtner Graham is pastor of Lakeside United Methodist Church (Firelands District), to which she was appointed in 2018. Ordained an Elder in 1987, she previously served Tiro UMC (1984-1990), Mogadore UMC (1990-2000), Streetsboro UMC (2000-2005), Church of the Redeemer in Cleveland Heights (2005-2012), and New Concord UMC (2012-2017).

Throughout her pastoral ministry, Graham has served on several boards and committees, including the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the Conference Episcopacy Committee, District Lay Servant, District Superintendency and Finance Committees, and each district Committee on Ministry. She was named the Canal District Pastor of the Year in 2005, and the North Coast District Pastor of the Year in 2010.

Graham is a member of the 2019 class of Leadership Ottawa County and currently serves as a compass group coordinator and as a trainer in the principles of the Rule of Christ. She is also chairperson of the East Ohio Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships, which received a local initiative grant from the Council of Bishops for the 2018-2019 year to develop information cards about OCUIR to be shared with congregations and annual conferences.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Earlham (IN) College and her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

Rev. Dogba Bass is pastor of Aldersgate United Methodist Church (North Coast District) in Warrensville Heights, a church he has served since 2016. His first appointment in the East Ohio Conference was as pastor of Werner UMC in Cleveland, which he served from 2005-2011 before shepherding the congregation through a merger with Celebration UMC in Euclid. Bass then served as pastor of Celebration UMC until his appointment to Alsdersgate UMC. He served 21 years in Massachusetts as a youth minister and pastor before coming to the East Ohio Conference. In his 10th year as a certified clergy coach and mentor to new pastors, Bass also serves on the North Coast District Committee on Ordained Ministry, which interviews prospective new clergy, and the East Ohio Conference Committee on Investigation.

A former educator, financial analyst, and entrepreneur, Bass earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Bowling Green State University, a master's degree in Economics from Cleveland State University, a Master of Divinity from Methodist Theological School in Ohio and has completed coursework toward a Ph.D. in Religious Studies through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston University.

Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr. is director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, and is the James C. Logan Professor of Evangelism (an E. Stanley Jones Professorship) and Professor of Urban Ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Powe is an ordained Elder in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church who is committed to helping urban congregations and congregations in transitional areas flourish through community partnering. His research interests are church revitalization, urban theology, and Methodist theology. A published author, Powe will share his experiences in evangelism and reaching new people during his time with us at Annual Conference. His most-recent book, coauthored with Henry H. Knight, III, is titled Transforming Community: The Wesleyan Way to Missional Congregations. It followed Not Safe for Church: The Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations, co-authored with Jasmine Rose Smothers; Religio-Political Narratives in America: From Martin Luther King, Jr. through Jeremiah Wright, co-authored with Johnny Hill and Angela Sims; New Wine, New Wineskins: How African American Congregations Can Reach New Generations; Just-us or Justice: Moving Toward a Pan-Methodist Theology; and Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith, co-authored with Henry H. Knight, III. Powe earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economic-Management from Ohio Wesleyan University; a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia; and a Doctorate in Systematic Theology from Emory University.



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