



2021 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 16-19 • John S. Knight Center • Akron

Services & Celebrations



SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Christ Alive in Us!

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

* = Stand as you are able

PRELUDE

"Recit and Trio"

Couperin

NOTE:

The AC Worship Committee asks that those gathered in groups not sing during Annual Conference worship services so that fewer water droplets that could carry COVID-19 are propelled into the air. In addition to wearing masks and being socially distanced from one another and from those in the John S. Knight Center, worship team singers are using microphones to project their voices. The words to hymns are being projected on-screen to enhance the worship experience. Thank you in advance for complying with this request.

CALLING THE CONFERENCE TO ORDER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

*PROCESSIONAL SONG

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

UMH 383

*GREETING AND PRAYER

NOTE:

A limited number of people are inside the John S. Knight Center during AC worship services this year as a precaution during the pandemic. To ensure that congregational responses can be heard on the livestream feed, those responses are being led from the stage by a person other than the liturgist so that the congregation is represented during the service.

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 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

Siblings in Christ, we are all made one with the death of Jesus Christ and raised with him 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 his body to serve as his representatives in the world.

We all start here. The Spirit leads us all.

Remember you are baptized and be thankful.

We reaffirm our baptism and our common call to ministry.

SONGS OF PRAISE

**“Do It Again”
“Come Like a Fire”**

North Canton Faith UMC Praise Team

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED, ORDAINED, OR RECOGNIZED

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

Jon Priebe

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.

REGISTRAR FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Lisa Kropinak

We present these persons for commissioning as provisional members: (Elders and Deacons)

William Thomas Baker
Sean M. McLeod

Amy Renee Vittorio
Jennifer Lynn Whitmore

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF MINISTRY

Jon Priebe

We present these persons for ordination as Deacon and Elders:

CHAIR OF THE ORDER OF ELDERS

Kimberly Arbaugh

Donald Thomas Ackerman, III
Marelize Bruner

Theodore Cleary Buehl
Mikayla Glenná Kovacik Doecker

Jason Harlen Rife
Tina M. Siroki

Ivy Jo Kirtdoll Smith

CHAIR OF THE ORDER OF DEACONS

Linda McCowen

Jennifer Mei Lin Lam

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF MINISTRY

Jon Priebe

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!**

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

Siblings in Christ,

As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with bishops, Elders, Deacons, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries, 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, to look after the concerns of God's kingdom 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 set apart 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 for 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.

Will you, for the sake of the Church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the life of the order into which you are ordained, commissioned?

Will you give yourself to God through the order or fellowship, in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day?

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.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:1-10

SERMON

"Graced and Gifted for the Good"

Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin

EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

A provisional member is bound to the service of God and supervised by the bishop and guided by of ordained and lay colleagues in the Board of 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.

EXAMINATION OF ELDER CANDIDATES

An elder is 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
and honor the spirit of those ordained before you.

Friends, 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.

EXAMINATION OF DEACON CANDIDATES

A Deacon is 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 into 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.

Friends, 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.

WESLEY'S HISTORIC QUESTIONS TO THE ORDINANDS

- 1) Have you faith in Christ?
- 2) Are you going on to perfection?
- 3) Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
- 4) Are you earnestly striving after it?
- 5) Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work?
- 6) Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
- 7) Will you keep them?
- 8) Have you studied the doctrines of The United Methodist Church?
- 9) After full examination, do you believe that our doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
- 10) Will you preach and maintain them?
- 11) Have you studied our form of Church discipline and polity?
- 12) Do you approve our Church government and polity?
- 13) Will you support and maintain them?
- 14) Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?
- 15) Will you visit from house to house?
- 16) Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?
- 17) Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?
- 18) Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in your work?
- 19) Will you observe the following directions?
 - a. Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any one place than is strictly necessary.
 - b. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience sake.

Source: *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2016*, ¶336

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS – COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon Name

Send them among us to serve and to continue to learn the way of life of the order into which *they* may be ordained.

Send them 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!

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS – ORDINATION OF ELDERS

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon these, your servants.

Come upon Name.

Fill them 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.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS – ORDINATION OF DEACON

Come upon Name.

Fill them with every good and perfect gift for the office and work of a Deacon. As you have placed yourself into the hands of God, 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.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND PEACE

Christ our Lord invites all to the table,

who earnestly repent of their sin,
and seek to be at peace with God and one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you!
And also with you!

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You built your church
on the foundation of the prophets and apostles,
and instituted a holy ministry
so that your prophetic and apostolic Word
might be heard until the end of time.

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
He called disciples and empowered them for ministry.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church and made with us
a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus 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 in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, Jesus 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.”

When Jesus, the great Shepherd of your flock, ascended,
he sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel
and make disciples of all nations.
He promised to be with them always
and sent the Holy Spirit to lead them.

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with one another,
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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who is in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body,
because we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

SONGS WHILE RECEIVING

**“In Remembrance of Me”
“Fill My Cup, Lord”**

TFWS 2254
UMH 641

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Let us pray.

**We thank you, gracious God, for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us,
and united us in the communion of your Holy Spirit.
We bless you for raising up among us faithful servants.
Clothe them and us with your righteousness
and grant that we, with them,
may glorify you by giving ourselves to others,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH AND DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

NEWLY ORDAINED DEACON

Jennifer Lam

May the Lord of Love,
who calls each and every one of us into the service of ministry,
who challenges us to meet her at work in the world,
who desires that encounter with the Spirit would lead us closer to him and into the world around us,
place the renewed fire of the Spirit within your hearts.

NEWLY COMMISSIONED PROVISIONAL MEMBER

Amy Vittorio

May each and every one of us know, and have reaffirmed within us,
the call of God that overcomes our own obstacles of the flesh,
and leads us deeper into service to the Lord.
Amen.

SONG

“We All Are One in Mission”

TFWS 2243

POSTLUDE

“Dialogue”

Couperin

Source: Services for the Ordering of Ministry in The United Methodist Church, 2017-2020

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Preacher:..... Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin
Congregational Responses: Kimberly Green, Conference Lay Leader
Readers: Rev. Jon Priebe, Cuyahoga Falls First UMC
Rev. Lisa Kropinak, New Concord UMC
Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, Carrollton First UMC
Rev. Linda McCowen, Retired Deacon
Rev. Jennifer Lam, Deacon Serving in Extension Ministry
Rev. Amy Vittorio, Melmore & Republic Trinity UMCs
Song Leader: Ron Barkett, Dover First UMC
Organist: Bruce Shewitz
North Canton Faith UMC Praise Team:
Vocals/Guitar: James Ferguson
Vocals: Amy Ferguson
Bass: Aiden Cross
Drums: Brad Bruns
Keyboards: Sandy Wallace
Service Designer: Rev. Andrew Scott, Hope UMC
Service Designer: Rev. Laura White, Ashland Christ UMC

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Recit and Trio

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This is a Day of New Beginnings

Words: Brian Wren
Music: Carlton Young
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Do It Again

Steven Furtick, Matt Redman, Chris Brown,
Matt Brock
Music by Elevation Worship Publishing
Admin. at www.essentialmusicpublishing.com
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Come Like a Fire

JD Walt, Mark Benjamin, Mark Swayze,
Matthew Minor
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In Remembrance of Me

Words: Ragan Courtney
Music: Buryl Red
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Press, Inc.
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Fill My Cup, Lord

Words and Music: Richard Blanchard
© 1964 Sacred Songs
Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

We All Are One in Mission

Words: Rusty Edwards
Music: Finnish folk melody
© 1986 Hope Publishing Co.
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Dialogue

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SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021

Christ Alive in Us!

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

**Indicates to stand as able.*

PRELUDE

"Aria and Interlude"

Pinkham

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Court

Blessed be God, who shepherds us and sets us free!

May the dawn from on high break upon us to guide us into the way of peace.

With God's tender compassion, Christ walks with us, opening the scriptures, and making himself known to us in the breaking of bread.

Source: Dwight W. Vogel and Daniel T. Benedict

The Book of Offices and Services

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Kindle Edition

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*OPENING SONG

"For All the Saints"

UMH 711

*PRAYER

The Holy One be with you;
and also with you.

Let us pray.

God of mystery and mercy: You have created all things and called them good. You breathe into us the breath of life and sustain us all our days. When we are lost, you provide the way. Come upon us in freedom and grace that we may seek the lost, heal the sick, announce God's reign, and delight that our hearts know you as you walk with us on the Way. Amen.

Source: Dwight W. Vogel and Daniel T. Benedict
The Book of Offices and Services

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Kindle Edition

REMEMBERING THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Eternal God, whom our words may cradle but never contain,
we thank you for all the sound and silence and color and symbol,
which through the centuries have helped the worship of your Church
to be relevant and real.

**With thanksgiving, we remember the preachers, the readers, the musicians, the leaders, the teachers, mentors and classmates who have helped us to come to faith,
by singing us songs or telling us stories,
by inviting us in when we felt distant,
by praying for us without being asked,
all those by whose sensitivity and skill we grow in faith and joy in worshipping you.**

In silent celebration, we name them now.

Clergy

Gary George

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

Patricia G. Allen-Lintela
Brian C. Briggs
Randy G. Cetorelli
Walter S. Chisholm
Jack L. Dearth
Thomas W. Dickinson
Edgar Farmer
Charles H. Frye

Kenneth E. Maddox
John G. McLachlan
Gene R. Miller
James E. Patterson
George E. Schreckengost
Paul G. Schurman
Robert H. Schwenk
Allan D. Teter

Robert J. Tolbert, Jr.
Roy A. Walther
Charles Warren
Paul D. Whipple
Kenneth L. Williams
Donald A. Yaussey

Spouses

Cindy Peterson

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

Patricia Olive Blackwell
Betty Ann Boulton

Helen M. Brown
A. Jeannette Garey

Jeanne Garth
Clara Mae George

Thelma Hawkins
Dawn A. Kent
Paul D. LaLonde
Joan MarLett

Lola M. Milligan
Barbara M. Roush
Beverly Ann Sperry
Francis E. Stultz

Evelyn Taylor
John Topping

Laity

Kimberly Green

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

Paul Black
James M. Brucker
Anthony David Kazee

Bonnie Ray
Kermit Lee Richert
Richard Schwarz

Curt Thompson
Gayle Thompson
Cynthia Ward

Family

Kimberly Green

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

We give you thanks for those who encourage people to praise you both inside and outside of the sanctuary: Those who take prayers into neighborhoods, hospitals, bars, schools and prisons.

**We remember people who cannot pray and struggle to believe,
or who fear changes in family, community, nation, Church,
praying that they might be encouraged, and that love might dispel fear.**

And we pray for the renewal of the church ... *(silence)*

PRAYER OF CELEBRATION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Mighty God, we offer you praise and thanks for your grace manifested in your saints. These saints, by their lives and labors, have shown forth as lights in the darkness. In worship and integrity of life, continue our holy communion with them, and by their examples, guide us to be mindful of what is required of us for our time as they have been in theirs, through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen.

Amen.

Reprinted from *A Lukan Book of Feasts and Holy Days: Basic Forms of the Daily Office*
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SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)

SERMON

"Invitation to Rest"

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

When we turn our feet toward home, God runs to us and embraces us, full of compassion, inviting us to eat at Christ's table and celebrate the joyful feast.

Trusting such boundless hospitality and steadfast love, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Loving and merciful God, we offer you all our personal and corporate sins, and those offenses in which we are complicit, knowingly and unknowingly.

– *silent confession* –

Merciful God, consume our sins with the fire of your love.

Remove all the stains of sin, and through your grace, restore us mercifully with your kiss of peace. We offer you all that is good in us, in order that you may amend and sanctify it, perfecting it more and more, that we may live faithfully in your loving presence.

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, through God's boundless love you are forgiven in good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over!

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

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all!

And also with you.

Let us share signs of reconciliation and peace with one another.

Source for The Invitation through The Peace
Order of St. Lukes Red Book, pgs. 8-9

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Bishop Tracy S. Malone & Rev. Cindy Patterson

It is right, and a good and joyful thing
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Our souls proclaim your greatness, O Lord. Our spirits rejoice in you, our Savior. For you, the Almighty, have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you. You have shown strength with your arm. You have scattered the proud in their conceit. You have deposed the mighty from their seats of power and raised the lowly to high places.

And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

MUSIC RESPONSE

TFWS 2257-b

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, your Beloved, with whom you are well pleased.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He sought the lost and welcomed home the wayward. He healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with sinners, that there might be joy in the presence of your angels over each sinner who repents.

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.

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 in 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." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

MUSIC RESPONSE

TFWS 2257-c

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Help us to hold these mysteries fast in our hearts and to bear fruit with patient endurance that we might be neighbor to the least, the last, the little, and the lost.

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 the 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 for ever.

MUSIC RESPONSE

TFWS 2257-d

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 894

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
He whom the universe could not contain,
is present to us in this bread.
He who redeemed us and called us by name
now meets us in this cup.
So take this bread and this wine.
In them God comes to us
so that we may come to God.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Come from the East and the West, from the North and the South and share in the bread and the wine
made holy.

Source: Order of St. Lukes Red Book, pgs. 10-15

COMMUNION SONG

"I Come with Joy"

UMH 617

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

CLOSING SONG

"Marching to Zion"

UMH 733

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"For All the Saints"

Smith

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop/Preacher: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Liturgist: Rev. Steve Court, Director of Connectional Ministries
Congregational Responses: Connor Prusha
Readers: Rev. Dr. Gary George, Assistant to the Bishop
Rev. Cindy Peterson, Board of Ministry Administrative Coordinator
Kimberly Green, Conference Lay Leader
Acolyte: Connor Prusha
Cross Bearer: Kimberly Green, Conference Lay Leader
Banner Bearer: Dawan Buie
Communion Element Bearer: Rev. Benita Rollins, Retired Elder
Song Leader: Ron Barkett, Dover First UMC
Organist: Bruce Shewitz
Hand Bell: Ron Barkett, Dover First UMC
Service Designer: Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, OSL, Christ UMC Cleveland
Service Designer: Rev. Kyle Gould, OSL, Aldersgate UMC Alliance

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Daniel Pinkham

E. C. Shirmer Music Company

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TBD

George Crisp

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For All the Saints

Words: William W. How

Music: Ralph Vaughn Williams

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Marching to Zion

Words: Isaac Watts

Music: Robert Lowry

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I Come with Joy

Words: Brian Wren

Music: *The Southern Harmony*; harmony by Charles H. Webb

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For All the Saints

L. Smith

Lorentz Publishing Company

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BOARD OF MINISTRY CELEBRATION OF RETIREMENT

2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021

Christ Alive in Us!

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

**Indicates to stand as able.*

WELCOME

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 today'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 our clergy's call.

NURTURING THE CALL

NOTE:

The AC Worship Committee asks that those gathered in groups not sing during Annual Conference worship services so that fewer water droplets that could carry COVID-19 are propelled into the air. In addition to wearing masks and being socially distanced from one another and from those in the John S. Knight Center, worship team singers are using microphones to project their voices. The words to hymns are being projected on-screen to enhance the worship experience. Thank you in advance for complying with this request.

SONG

"Unstoppable God"

The Bridge Band

REFLECTIONS

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

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!

CELEBRATING THE CALL

NOTE:

A limited number of people are inside the John S. Knight Center during the sessions of Annual Conference this year as a precaution during the pandemic, so, to ensure that responses can be heard on the livestream feed, those responses are being led from the stage by a person other than the celebration leader so that the people are represented during the Celebration of Retirement.

RECOGNITIONS 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 and be in service to the world. These things you have done.

We thank God for the community of the faithful in which the Word of God found a 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. Local pastors through your license you received authority to proclaim the word of God and to administer the sacraments in the church you were appointed. By God's grace, you all did all 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 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.

Source: *The United Methodist Book of Worship* #735

SONG

"This Is Amazing Grace"

The Bridge Band

PRESENTATION OF THE RETIRING CLASS OF 2020

Carolyn Berry

Rev. Andrew Angel
Rev. Paula Archdeacon
Rev. Teresa Baker
Pastor Harry Finkbone
Rev. Mick Foster
Rev. P. Douglas George

Rev. Dr. Beverly Hall
Rev. Ken Kelley
Pastor David Koch
Rev. Christine Nees
Pastor Dail Parrish
Rev. Jeff Proya

Rev. H. Kevin Rinkes
Rev. Susan Ritts
Rev. Benita Rollins
Rev. Vernon Shepherd
Pastor Christine Tobergte
Rev. David Vensel

PRESENTATION OF THE RETIRING CLASS OF 2021

Carolyn Berry

Rev. Dan Bryant
Pastor Jean Cooper
Rev. Steve Court
Rev. Coralee Cox

Pastor Thomas Dawson
Rev. Gordon Ferguson
Rev. Dr. Gary George
Rev. Larry Hinkle

Pastor Daniel Holt
Rev. Ricardo (Tony) Jones
Pastor Deborah Kellar
Rev. Carol McCartney

Rev. Toni McKee
Pastor Randy Mercer
Rev. Jerry Penrod
Rev. Travis Phillips

Pastor Richard F. Smith
Rev. Thomas Snode
Rev. Dale Sutton
Rev. Dr. Johnnie Faye Swann

Rev. Donald Trigg
Rev. Randy Weaver
Pastor Robert Welch
Rev. Jan Yandell

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.

ENCOURAGING THE CALL IN OTHERS

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 spirit.

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)

SONG

"Victory in Jesus"

The Bridge Band

CLOSING PRAYER

Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CELEBRATION

Presiding Bishop: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Liturgist: Rev. Carolyn Berry, Smithville UMC
People's Responses: Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Ohio Valley District Superintendent
Prayer: Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, Carrollton First UMC
The Bridge Band: Carrollton First UMC
Lead Vocals: Abe Schaffer
Guitar/Backing Vocals: John Schaffer
Guitar/Backing Vocals: Shelly Yoder
Tambourine: Marcia Schaffer

Bass:Carl Leonard
Drums: Rod Yoder
Celebration Designer: Carolyn Berry, Smithville UMC

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Unstoppable God

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This Is Amazing Grace

Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, Paul Wickham
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WB Music Corp. Bethel Music Publishing
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Victory in Jesus

E.M. Bartlett
© 1967 Mrs. Eugene M. Bartlett by permission of Albert E. Brumley & Sons, Inc.
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All The People Said Amen

Matt Maher, Paul Mogan, Trevor Morgan
© 2013 Thankyou Music (PRS)
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MORNING WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 18, 2021

Christ Alive in Us!

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

**Indicates to stand as able.*

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Offertory”

Krapf

NOTE:

A limited number of people are inside the John S. Knight Center during AC worship services this year as a precaution during the pandemic, so, to ensure that congregational responses can be heard on the livestream feed, those responses are being led from the stage by a person other than the liturgist so that the congregation is represented during the service.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda McCowen

Sing praises to God, O you saints,
and give thanks to God’s holy name!

We exalt you, O God, for you have restored us to life!

We may cry through the night, but your joy comes with the morning.
You hear us, O God, and you are gracious in our distress.

You turn our mourning into dancing!
Our souls cannot be silent!
O God, our Savior, we give thanks to you forever!

Source: *Book of Worship* #453
Jann C Weaver, U.S.A., 20th Century

NOTE:

The AC Worship Committee asks that those gathered in groups not sing during Annual Conference worship services so that fewer water droplets that could carry COVID-19 are propelled into the air. In addition to wearing masks and being socially distanced from one another and from those in the John S. Knight Center, worship team singers are using microphones to project their voices. The words to hymns are being projected on-screen to enhance the worship experience. Thank you in advance for complying with this request.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

UMH 400

OPENING PRAYER

God, like a baker woman,
you bring the leaven which causes our hopes to rise.
With your strong and gentle hands, shape our lives.
Warm us with your love.
Take our common lives and touch them with your grace,
that we may nourish hope among humanity.
We pray trusting in your name, through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

Source: *Book of Worship* #469
Ruth Duck, U.S.A., 20th Century

RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF DEACONS

How will we know where Deacons are?

Where all the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable are met. Where we gather the gifts of the church and take them to the world and gather the needs of the world and bring them to the church.

How will we know where Deacons are?

Where we look upon the path, grass worn down from their movement from the altar to the gutter and back again, where we will come to see with striking clarity, the link between the blood in our chalices and the blood in our streets.

How will we know where Deacons are?

Where all people respond to the challenge to live, not in the love of power but in the power of love.

Today we celebrate together the ministry of the Deacons among us, doing the critical work of proclaiming God's Incarnate Word in speech and deed to those who desperately need to hear it and who may not have the opportunity. We rejoice that our Deacons lead us in pulling back the veil that hides the suffering outside our church doors, urging us to follow in ministry to heal bodies and society of the ills that we face. We thank our Deacons for doing the difficult work of leading us into suffering while holding the light of Christ's hope for the world.

Source: adapted from "Holy Rescuers"
by Ven. Irma Wyman in *Soundings*, August 2001

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pamela Monteith

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

SERMON

"Joy in the Midst of Grief"

Rev. Carrie Antczak

SONG

"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands"

UMH 273

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, almighty God,
that all who confess your name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations,
in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation,
that we may use its resources rightly
in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours,
and grant that we may serve Christ in them,
and love one another as Christ loves us.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles,
and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died,
that your will for them may be fulfilled;
and we pray that we may share with all your saints
in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Source: *The Book of Worship* #495
The Book of Common Prayer, U.S.A., 20th Century Alt.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

SONG “Lord of the Dance” UMH 261

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE “Postlude” Krapf

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Preacher: Rev. Carrie Antczak, UMC Berea
Liturgist: Rev. Linda McCowen, Retired Deacon
Reader: Rev. Pamela Monteith, Retired Deacon
Congregation Responses: Michelle Anderson
Song Leader: Ron Barkett, Dover First UMC
Organist: Bruce Shewitz
Service Designer: Rev. Kyle Gould, OSL, Alliance Aldersgate UMC
Service Designer: Jonah Mitchell

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Prelude and Offertory

Gerhard Krapf

Concordia Publishing House

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Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758

Music: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

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Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands

Words: Margaret Cooper, 1975

Music: Old French melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

Lord of the Dance

Words: Sydney Carter, 1963

Music: 19th Cent. Shaker tune;

Adapted by Sydney Carter, 1963;

harmony by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

Used by Permission: CCLI #3245220

Postlude

Gerhard Krapf

Concordia Publishing House

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MORNING WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 19, 2021

Christ Alive in Us!

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

**Indicates to stand as able.*

PRELUDE

"Introduction and Fugue"

Hayes

WELCOME

Richard Sammartino

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:4-10

NOTE:

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***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are God's people, representing many congregations, many communities, and many life-situations.
We worship now to give thanks and to proclaim God's steadfast love.

This gift of love has no end.

We receive God's gift with open hearts and open hands.

We are ready to worship and to serve.

Source: Adapted from "Contemporary Gathering Words" by Karen Ellis
published in *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015*, Abingdon Press, © 2014, p. 57

***PRAYER**

God, move in us today. Help us to be open to your transforming love. Open our hearts to be present in this time of worship, that we may experience you and praise you fully. Help us to let go of fears and judgments and ideas that prevent us from freely experiencing your love for us and all creation. Transform our hearts through your Word, so that we may receive and live and share your love. Through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Source: Adapted from Invocation 104, *Sourcebook of Worship Resources Volume 5*,
Communication Resources, Inc. © 2009, p. 56

NOTE:

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SONG	"Open the Eyes of My Heart"	W&S 3008
SONG	"My Life Is in You, Lord"	TFWS 2032
INTRODUCTION OF PREACHERS		Bishop Tracy S. Malone
GOSPEL READING	John 12:20-26	Rev. Karen Oehl
SERMON	"Where I Am"	Rev. Karen Oehl
SONG	"Hymn of Promise"	UMH 707
*A LITANY FOR JUNETEENTH		Dawan Buie

We give thanks to God our Creator for bringing us into this world and sustaining us through the journey.
We, the people, will be free.

We remember those who were kidnapped from the Motherland, stripped of their native tongue, separated from their family and forced into chattel slavery because of their sun-kissed skin.
We, the people, will be free.

We remember those who were tortured, beaten, maimed, treated inhumanely, even to their point of death, but were given heavenly freedom in a home not built by human hands.
We, the people, will be free.

We acknowledge those that are now able to repent for their role in an oppressive system by denouncing the practices that perpetuate systems of inequity.
We, the people, will be free.

We acknowledge those who continue to fight for justice, by pushing forward for human rights and dismantling racism.
We, the people, will be free.

In all things we are reminded that whom the Son sets free is free indeed!
We, the people, will be free!

Source: Words adapted for EOC AC 2021 by Sheena Cameron
 from "A Litany for Liberation" by Amina McIntyre at <http://oaklandcemetery.com>

ANTHEM

“Where the Spirit Is”

COTS/CORY Collective

A PRAYER FOR JUNETEENTH

Sheena Cameron

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who has brought us thus far on the way. We stand here in unity with all peoples of the African Diaspora. We stand in the tension of being free from slavery but yet still resisting the oppression of our people. We celebrate how far we have come, and we ask You to carry us forward. Help us to enjoy this Juneteenth day as we reflect on the plight of our ancestors and the victories we have won. The fullness of Your joy will be our strength as we tell the story of our liberation to our children and grandchildren. It is in Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Source: Written by Rev. Dawan Buie and Rev. Sheena Cameron
First sentence by James Weldon Johnson from “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

GOSPEL READING

John 1:14-18

Rev. Gregory E. Kendrick, Jr.

SERMON

“Good Works”

Rev. Gregory E. Kendrick, Jr.

SONG

“Christ is Alive (1,3,4,5)”

UMH 318

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary”

Greene

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SERVICE

Presiding Bishop: Bishop Tracy Malone
Preacher: Rev. Karen Oehl, Gay Street UMC
Preacher: Rev. Gregory E. Kendrick, Jr., Cory UMC & Church of the Saviour UMC
Liturgist: Richard Sammartino
Liturgist: Rev. Dawan Buie, Medina UMC
Liturgist: Pastor Sheena Cameron, Mt. Pleasant UMC
Congregational Responses: Rev. Karen Graham, Lakeside UMC
COTS/Cory Collective: Church of the Saviour UMC & Cory UMC
Song Leader: Ron Barkett
Organist: Bruce Shewitz
Service Designer: Rev. Karen B. Graham, Lakeside UMC
Service Designer: John C. Wilson

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Paul Baloche

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My Life is in You, Lord

Daniel Gardner

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Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth

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Where the Spirit Is

CCLI Song #1952874

Kirk Franklin

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Christ is Alive

Brian Wren

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Voluntary

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of the
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Services & Celebrations



East Ohio Conference

The United Methodist Church

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