



First United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

Sunday, November 8, 2020 | 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

THE PRELUDE

My Lord, What a Morning

Joshua Starnes, *solo*
Afro-American spiritual

THE GREETING AND WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev^d Dr. Mark Conforti

THE GATHERING HYMN: NO. 715

Rejoice, the Lord is King

DARWALL'S 148TH



1. Re-joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore; mor-
 2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and love; when
 3. His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the
 4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Je - sus the Judge shall come, and



tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more. Lift up your
 he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift up your
 keys of earth and hell are to our Je - sus given. Lift up your
 take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home. We soon shall



heart, lift up your voice; re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.
 heart, lift up your voice; re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.
 heart, lift up your voice; re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.
 hear th'arch - an - gel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, re - joice!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder and glory. You are our strength and our delight; you give us all we need to live. Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping for more. Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness. Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice and be glad, for God is mighty to save and comes to you in peace to forgive,
restore, and strengthen you eternally in Christ.
Our hope is in Christ!

MISSION MOMENT

Mrs. Kris Mueller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Lord, to whom should we go? You have the words of eternal life. By the power of your Holy Spirit,
speak to us of your promises that we might hear your truth and enjoy you forever; in Jesus' name.
Amen.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13

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

SERMON

THE SONG OF RESPONSE

FOREST GREEN

Ten Bridesmaids Waited for the Time

Ten bridesmaids waited for the time the party would begin,
They took their lamps to meet the groom, for they expected him.
The wise ones went outside to wait, with oil and some to spare.
They found the groom had been delayed while he was traveling there.

The foolish bridesmaids waited, too, with lamps that lost their light.
For, unprepared, they'd left their fuel back at the house that night.
The bridegroom came with festive shout; the party soon began.
The fools had lamps that soon went out; the wise had lamps at hand.

O Lord, remind us that your Day will come with great surprise.
So may we faithfully obey as people who are wise.
For deeds of justice, words of prayer, and acts of kindness, too,
Are ways we daily can prepare as we wait here for you.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; © 2014. All rights reserved.
Music: Traditional English melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.
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OFFERING

We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. *Amen.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. *Amen.*

1. Lo, He comes with clouds de - scend - ing, Once for fa - vored
 2. Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him, Robed in splen - dor's
 3. Now the Sav - ior, long ex - spect - ed, See, in sol - emn
 4. Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee, High on Thine e -

sin - ners slain; Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 maj - es - ty; Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 pomp ap - pear; All who have not Him re - ject - ed
 ter - nal throne; Sav - ior, take the Him pow'r and glo - ry,

Swell the tri - umph of His train: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree, Deep - ly wail - ing,
 Now shall meet Him in the air: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Claim the king - dom for Thine own: Oh, come quick - ly,

al - le - lu - ia! God ap - pears on earth to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, Shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 al - le - lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear.
 oh, come quick - ly! Ev - er - last - ing God, come down.

WORDS: St. 1,2,4, Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; st. 3, John Cennick, 1718-1755
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart. 1813-1879

REGENT SQUARE
 8.7.8.7.8.7.

BLESSING AND COMMISSION

THE POSTLUDE

Steal Away to Jesus / Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Joshua Starnes, solo
Afro-American spiritual

THOSE LEADING TODAY'S SERVICE

The Reverend Dr. Mark Conforti	Senior Pastor
The Reverend Stacey Lundy	Associate Pastor
Miss Regan Roakes	Acolyte
Mr. Nate Shaffer	Acolyte
Miss Jenna Robinson	Lector
The Reverend Richard Paschall	Song Leader
Mr. Carl Brown	Song Leader
Mr. Joshua Starnes	Director of Music and Organist
Mrs. Faye Cline	Altar Guild
Mr. Kevin Peltz	Security
Bill Noell, Captain, Chris Cook, Coleman Emerson, Julie & Barry Gainer, Steve Hatley, Ken Hollar, Dave McCoy, Patty Paffrath, George Shuler	Ushers



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“To make and nurture Christian Disciples through the presence and power of God.”