

Christ UMC Worship  
3.19.2023

OPENING MUSIC

Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*OPENING HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"  
*Congregation and worship band*

451 (Red hymnal)

1 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 Great God of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Ancient Irish, trans. Mary E. Byrne; versed by Eleanor H. Hull  
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\*OPENING PRAYER

ACT OF PRAISE

"There is a Balm" arr. Sanborn  
*Celebration Singers; Tami d/Angelo, soloist*

Text and Music: African American Spiritual. Arr.: Jan Sanborn  
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## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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

SCRIPTURE	Psalm 139:8-18	Katie Higgins
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE		Carrie Gerow
SCRIPTURE	John 9:1-41	Malenda White Mike Higgins Katie Higgins
SERMON		Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes
RESPONSE	"A Living Prayer" <i>Worship Band</i>	Block

Composed by Ron Block.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
*Sung Response:*

Rev. Anne Hook

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics 'Search me, O God, and know my heart.' are written below the notes. The second staff is identical to the first.

From "Search Me, O God," composed by Heather Sorenson. © 2022 Hal Leonard LLC.  
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Gracious and merciful God,  
we often fail to see our world through your eyes.  
When we assume everyone views the world the same as we do:  
**Forgive us, O God, and open our eyes.**  
When we are blind to the needs of your hurting world:  
**Forgive us, O God, and open our eyes.**

When we willfully ignore the ways our leaders abuse power  
and oppress others,  
because their actions don't affect us directly:

**Forgive us, O God, and open our eyes.**

And when we care more about our own vision than  
the vision you have for your people.

**Forgive us, O God, and open our eyes.**

*All may offer silent prayers of confession*

**Merciful God,  
open our eyes to the beauty and joy you offer us.  
Help us to see you more clearly, to love you more dearly,  
and to follow you more nearly, this day and every day.  
Strengthen us with your Spirit during this Lenten season  
that our sight is restored,  
and all creation experiences your healing love.  
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen R**

Hear this good news:

Jesus read from the scroll of Isaiah,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free those who are oppressed,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” (Luke 4: 18-19)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we all are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Mark Price

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

CLOSING SONG

"Amazing Grace"  
*Congregation and Worship Band*

378 (red hymnal)

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

4 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

Words by John Newton (public domain)

DISMISSAL

Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

BLESSING SONG

"The Lord Bless and Keep You"

Strathdee

**The Lord bless and keep you,  
the Lord make his face to shine on you,  
and be gracious, gracious.  
The Lord bless and keep you,  
the Lord lift his countenance on you  
and give peace, give you peace.  
Shalom, shalom.**

Music by Jim Strathdee. © 1981 Desert Flower Music.  
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CLOSING MUSIC

Johnathan Vest

## **Prayer List**

### **New Prayer Concerns**

Ann Salyers following the death of her father  
Ann Saucier  
Jane Kirk  
Melody Connley  
Pauline Rogers

### **Ongoing Prayer Concerns**

Chris Auten  
Flora Benker  
Floyd Crain  
Caregivers and healthcare workers  
Robb Castele  
Kendra Cates  
Hugh Charlton  
Greg Clingman  
Shelly Cook and Family following the death of her mother, Eve  
Doug Davis  
Nancy and Dave Edmunds  
Brent Greene  
Alan Hall  
Scott Heard  
The Heep Family  
Chrissy Hicks and Family  
Reese Hudy  
David Jenkins  
Robin Kennedy  
Caroline Lantz  
Students and Faculty of Michigan State  
Gary Minor  
Sue Mueller  
Jerry Nail  
Chuck Neighbors  
East Palestine, Ohio  
Judson Randolph, long-time friend of Dave Hook  
Jo Bentley Reece and Family following the death of her husband Rev. Wayne G. Reece  
Amy Saffell  
Steve Smith and Family following the death of his sister, Faye Page  
Temple Stevenson and Family following the death of her brother, Steven Crain  
Turkey-Syria  
Ukraine  
Ned Wheeler  
John Wigant  
Wilkes Family following the death of Christen Wilkes  
Melanie Woods and Family following the death of her son