

**Christ UMC Worship
4.28.2024**

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

OPENING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

MINISTRY MOMENT Center for Living and Learning

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

* CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN "Gather Us In" 2236 (black hymnal)
Congregation and Worship Band

**1 Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**2 We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion**

lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

**4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Songwriter: Marty Haugen. © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense.net #A-734439.

OPENING PRAYER

ACT OF PRAISE

“Draw the Circle Wide”
Celebration Singers and Worship Band

Light | Miller

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GOD SPEAKS THE WORD TO US

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

John 15:1-8

Rainey Fellows

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Sharyn Slaughter

SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26-40

Ryan Fellows

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

RESPONSE

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.**

OFFERING

"Love One Another"
Celebration Singers

Detweiller

Words and music by Janice Detweiller © 1973 CCCM Music;
 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing CCLI #11460403.

*DOXOLOGY

94 (Red hymnal)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise God, all creatures here below;
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts;
 praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit
 Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

SILENT REFLECTION

WE ARE SENT TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

CLOSING SONG

"There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"
Congregation and Worship Band

Faber

**1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
 like the wideness of the sea.
 There's a kindness in God's justice,
 which is more than liberty.
 There is welcome for the sinner,
 and more graces for the good.**

**There is mercy with the Savior,
there is healing in his blood.**

**But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.
For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.**

**If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.
There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.**

Words by Frederick William Faber (public domain).

SENDING FORTH

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

Dr. Johnathan Vest

*We encourage you to take your printed worship order with you
or to place them in the recycle baskets at the sanctuary exits.*

Prayer List

New Prayer Concerns

Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel
 Gerald Toledo
 Joe Brown
 Kara Gilliam & Nate Partee

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Irene Archambault	Peace in Sierra Leone
Abby Ayers	Beverly Talbot
Carol Barr	Ukraine
Tom Beadles	Ralph Walker
Flora Benker	Nick Wanczak and Family following the death of his father,
Velma Bradley	Woody
Dave Bradley	John Wigant
Judy Carlisle	Laura Willey
Hugh Charlton	Terri Wildman
Gene Cotton	Jeff and Kathy Zastrow and Family
Connie Dean and family following the death of her mom	
Jackson Emkes	
Linda Fellers	
Mary Fredenhagen	
Friends and Family of Grant Glewwe following his death	
Greg Hagedwood	
Jana Hall	
Alan Hall	
Brinley Kimbrough	
Jessica Mitchell	
Sue Mueller	
Bob Munn	
Chuck Neighbors	
Tammy Oliphant	
LeeAnn Parker	
Family and friends of Gabe Patillo following his death	
Peace in the Middle East	
Judson Randolph	
Amy Saffell	