Christ UMC Worship 1.4.2026

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

OPENING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

CALL TO WORSHIP

**OPENING SONG "Angels From the Realms of Glory" 220 (Red)

Congregation and Worship Band

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear; suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: (Refrain)

Text: James Montgomery (public domain)

**OPENING PRAYER

ACT OF PRAISE "We Three Kings" Arr. Craig Courtney

Celebration Singers; Gilbert Lovell and Michael Higgins, soloists;

Bernie Walker, trumpet

Composer: John H. Hopkins (public domain). Arr. Craig Courtney. © 2010 Beckenhorst Press. OneLicense.net #A-734439.

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 Isaiah 60:1-6 Kevin Stefano

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lanie Perkins

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 Virginia Vest

SERMON Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE "Brightest and Best" arr. Getty

Worship Band

Words and Music by Reginald Heber. Arranged by Keith Getty, Ben Shive and Fionán de Barra. Arr. © 2021 Getty Music Publishing (BMI), Fionán de Barra (BMI), Getty Music Hymns and Songs (ASCAP). CCS #10398.

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION, Kalee Hope Hinkson & Kierslee Ann Hinkson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Mark Price

INVITATION

CONFESSION 8 (Red)

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.

OFFERING Dr. Jonathan Vest

**DOXOLOGY 94 (Red)

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!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

2257 (Black)

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.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or you had formed the earth,
from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,

made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

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,

hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light. 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.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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 this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared at our baptism. For you have washed away our sin, and you clothe us in righteousness throughout our lives.

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 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, amen, amen. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

11 (Red)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

**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. OneLicense.net #A-734439.

CLOSING MUSIC

Dr. Johnathan Vest

Today's Communion rail benefits our January Ministry Outreach Partner, Williamson County Homeless Alliance.

Thank you for your support.

Prayer List

New Prayer Concerns:

Angela Dugger Nancy Schowalter

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Tom Beadles
AmySue Bernthal
Anne Bracey
Suzanne Brandon
Don Campbell
Esther Cast
Joy Cobb

Janet Cothron and family following the death of her mother, Peggy Stafford

Dennison Craddock

Micah Davis Brett Dean Nancy Edmunds Bettye English Scott Farmer Margaret Fortney

Karen Galloway and family following

the death of her father

Amanda Garner Edith Ann Gibb Linda Godsey Michael Ham Carolyn Hatchett Tommy Hatchett Tammy Hollis Kathy Holtz

Immigrant Community in Will. Co.

The Ivie Family Gary Janke Donnie King Jerry Kirk Baby Levon

Manila, Arkansas HS Community following student car crash

Melanie

Ed & Sue Mueller Susan Murillo Chuck Neighbors

Sharlet Panhalkar & family following the death of her mother, Pramila Thomas Ujay Panhalkar and family following the death of his father, Benjamin

Terry Paradise Tom Parrish

Peace in the Middle East

Judson Randolph Joan Ratcliff

Jeff Ridings and family following the

death of his mother, Mary

Pat Ring

Room in the Inn Aaron Seay Kathryn Seay Wilma Spivey Merry Carol Starr

Eric Stuckey and family following the

death of his mother, Peg

Jennifer Sturgill Sulaiman Tunkara

Ukraine
Carole Vietti
Susan Ward
John Wigant
Terri Wildman
Jeff Williams
Karen Yarbrough
Bernard Aw Yong
Linda Chiu Aw Yong