Christ UMC Worship
11.8.2026
** - Please stand in body or spirit
Unless otherwise noted, all scripture readings are from
The New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

GATHERING MUSIC — Dr. Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

* CALL TO WORSHIP, from Psalm 37

Trust in the Lord and do good;
Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in God, and God will act.
Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently.
God will not forsake the faithful ones.

* OPENING HYMN — "Blessed Assurance" — 369 (Red)
Congregation

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
(Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,

filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
(Refrain)

Text: Fanny Crosby (public domain).

* OPENING PRAYER

ACT OF PRAISE "Keep Your Lamps" arr. Thomas
Choir Ensemble

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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 Matthew 25:1-13 John Dugger

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Tami Dangelo

SERMON Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE "Give Me Jesus" African-American Spiritual
Stephen Richardson, soloist

African-American Spiritual (public domain).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

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 Dr. Johnathan 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!

SILENT REFLECTION

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

*CLOSING SONG "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" 2153 (Black)
Congregation

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

African-American Spiritual (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.

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CLOSING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

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

Prayer List

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Family and friends of Danny Bonn following his death
Velma Bradley
Suzanne Brandon
Don Campbell
Esther Cast
Doug Davis
Sally Faith
Margaret Fortney
Edith Ann Gibb
Bill Greer
Alan Hall
Kathy Holtz
Joe Kennedy
Donnie King
Marvin Koontz
Suze Anna Koontz
Anna Long-Humphrey
Kent McNish
Rees Mitchell
Ed Mueller
Robert Myers
Deb Partee
David Pifer
Judson Randolph
Ann Saffell
Rachel Salmon Parks
Aaron Seay
Wilma Spivey
Lynda Szeglin
Jen Terry
Drew Thompson and family following the death of his wife, Ann
Ben and Alyssa Van Neste
Carole Vietti
John Wigant
Karen Yarbrough