





TRADITIONAL WORSHIP June 25, 2023

PRELUDE "Praeludium in E Major" by Dieterich Buxtehude

featuring Carolyn Hoff, organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Linda Stephan

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP* Melanie Miner

Leader: We gather this day to acknowledge a threshold moment—

a thin place between what's been and what will be—

ALL: Bless this liminal time and space and those who stand in

thresholds looking back and looking ahead.

Leader: May it be with a sense of gratitude and anticipation, with

awareness and wonder.

ALL: May we sense that God goes before us, today and always. Amen.

GRADUATION RECOGNITION Rev. Linda Stephan

ALL: May God go before you. May God go behind you.

May God go beside you. May God guide all your paths. Amen.

HYMN "This is a Day of New Beginnings" UMH No. 383 (vs. 1-4)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE Melanie Miner

THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Mendelssohn

featuring John Flesher, vocalist

SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Melanie Miner

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God. People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Bittersweet: The Taste of Leadership Change" Dean Francis

CELEBRATING PASTOR LINDA Wes Bara

ALL: We will support you and serve Christ and the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

SUNG RESPONSE "Our God Reigns" John Flesher

INVITATION TO GIVING Rev. Linda Stephan

DOXOLOGY UMH No. 94

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!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS Rev. Linda Stephan

HYMN "We Are the Church" UMH No. 558

BENEDICTION Dean Francis

POSTLUDE "Litanies" by Jehan Alain

featuring Carolyn Hoff, organist

You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience. (If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR: Rev. Linda Stephan GUEST SPEAKER: Dean Francis LITURGIST: Melanie Miner

MUSIC: Carolyn Hoff, organ; John Flesher, vocalist
AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Tom Bartlett, Silvio Ciccone, Tom Atkinson,
Lynne Lombard, John Sonnemann
Meagan Thomas Wells, production manager

The Five Values of Central United Methodist Church

*Be shaped by the historic Wesleyan emphasis
on a vital personal faith, social justice,
ecumenism and global concern;
*Provide opportunities for passionate worship,
intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service,
and extravagant generosity;
*Nurture an inter-generational community;

*Offer radical hospitality to all people in a friendly downtown church; *Respect diverse perspectives, while uniting in Christian essentials