

South Community United Methodist Church  
October 20, 2024

PRELUDE

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE ENTER INTO GOD'S DIVINE PRESENCE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)**

Welcome all who long to encounter Jesus, the one who loves, tends, sustains, and saves us.

**Jesus said, "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."**

Welcome all who walk the halls of power, who feel pushed and pulled to fight for position, status, and authority.

**Jesus said, "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."**

Welcome all who feel burned out, who have given more than they have day in and day out and long for someone to notice that you, too, need help and support.

**Jesus said, "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."**

Welcome, followers of Christ, who came to serve and show God's abundant love and grace among us.

**We come to worship Jesus who shows us that serving is the fruit of our love and being served by one another is the source of our power as the Body of Christ. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN – "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" UMH 158**

**\*UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

**Faithful God, we come into your presence with thanksgiving, deeply grateful for the unfailing love and faithfulness you have shown toward us, your people. When we call out to you, you answer. When we are exhausted, you give us the strength to go on. When we find ourselves in trouble, you are there, standing beside us. And so we come before you with gratitude and praise, offering you the worship of our hearts and lives. Open our eyes to see and know you here among us; open our ears to recognize your voice. And then send us out from here to live and work in the world as your faithful disciples. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**WE CONFESS OUR SINS TO GOD**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (congregation in bold)**

We have sinned against you and one another, O God.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our confession.**

*Silence*

We have not loved you wholly, O God.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our confession.**

*Silence*

We have not denied ourselves and taken up our own cross daily, O God.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our confession.**

*Silence*

We have not loved kindness, pursued justice, or walked humbly with you, O God.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our confession.**

*Silence*

We have not shared the good news with our lips or in our lives, O God.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our confession.**

*Silence*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (congregation in bold)**

The saying is sure: If we confess our sins, God is merciful and just and forgives us our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven.

**In the name of Christ, we are forgiven.**

**All: Glory to God! Amen!**

As forgiven and reconciled people, share Christ's peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people share the peace of Christ with one another.*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED**

**SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 10:35-45**

**SERMON – “The Path to Joy”**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE – “Are Ye Able” UMH 530**

**WE RESPOND IN JOYFUL SERVICE**

**MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

**Sharing our Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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 OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD**

**\*Doxology**

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious and loving God, we are humbly thankful for our blessing including the unexpected and surprising ones you give us. In return we offer ourselves that we may be conduits to help**

others to rise up. May the treasures we bring today be used to shower others with love and grace so that they, too, may walk and leap and praise you! In the name of our savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN – “Here I Am, Lord” UMH 593**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*South Community Hymn of Blessing #664**

**“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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**Sabbath Day: Friday**