

Order of Worship

The Path of the Disciple: Searching for the Face of God

August 20, 2023 10:00 AM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prelude

What God Ordains Is Always Good

arr. Dan Forrest

Lisa Gibbs-Smith, piano

What God ordains is always good; this truth remains unshaken.

Tho' sorrow, need, or death be mine, I shall not be forsaken.

I fear no harm, for with His arm He shall embrace and shield me; so to my God I yield me.

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Greeting

Leader: We come trusting in God's faithfulness,

People: And in the salvation our God supplies.

Leader: As God's people, we stand with arms open to all--

People: We embrace one another in God's love.

Leader: Let us open our hearts in worship,

People: For God reaches out to us in welcome!

Hymn

O For a Heart to Praise My God

UMH 417

Prayer of Confession

**God of grace, you invite us to draw near
and embrace the circle of your love.**

**We come in anguish at our broken relationships—
our alienation from one another,
our resistance to reconciliation,
and our readiness to give up
when persistence is called for.**

**Gather us in, and make a place to heal our anguish,
ease our alienation, and end our resistance.**

Ready us for reconciliation, forbearance, and persistence.

Turn our gaze to the one who calls our name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Wines

Leader: In coming forth, we take a single step,
and God faithfully bridges the gap.
We are loved and our spirits are mended
in the embrace of a God of love and healing.

People: Amen.

Children's Message

Scripture

Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Is It Fair?

Rev. Wines

Hymn

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

UMH 402

Prayer of the People

Offering

*You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.
You may text to give at 84321 or go to the Online Worship page of our website
and click "Make your online offering."*

Hymn

Lord, I Need You

Benediction

Rev. Wines

The prelude is offered in memory of Pastor Eugene Thomas (lead pastor of Clarendon UMC 2006-2014), who died on Monday, August 14, 2023. There will be a funeral service here at Clarendon UMC this Friday, August 25, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

We welcome guest drummer, Daniel Dowling! Daniel is currently a percussionist and drum set specialist with the United States Air Force Band in Washington, DC. From 2017-2019, he was a percussionist with the USAF Band of the West in San Antonio, Texas. After growing up in Houston, Daniel went on to attend Texas State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in sound recording technology. Before his military music career, Daniel worked as a freelance musician and educator in the Austin and San Antonio areas.

Prayer of Confession/Words of Forgiveness written by Paula A. Ferris and posted on ministrymatters.com:
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11311/august-20-2023-twelfth-sunday-after-pentecost-proper-15>

Prayer of the People adapted from a prayer written by Nancy C. Townley and posted on the MinistryMatters website.

Offering prayer written by Teri McDowell Ott and posted on the Presbyterian Outlook worship page.

"Lord, I Need You" words and music by Daniel Carson, Matt Maher, Christy Nockels, Jesse Reeves, and Kristian Stanfill © 2011 worshiptogether.com songs, sixsteps Music, Sweater Weather Music, Valley Of Songs Music, and Thankyou Music CCLI License # 290761