

Wednesday Evening Worship

September 9, 2026

On the go with God

Prelude

Lighting of candles

Announcements, Joys & Concerns

Exchange of peace

Call to Worship

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless
God's holy name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**
Psalm 103:1-2

Opening Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

UMH #451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

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Let us pray,

God, as we gather in worship, open our hearts to your voice.

Nourish us with your truth and prepare us to share your love in the
world. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

God's word for God's people

Psalms 103:6-13

(Read responsively)

⁶ O Lord, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷ **You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.**

⁸ Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹ **you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.**

¹⁰ You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us

according to our iniquities.

¹¹ **For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

¹² As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³ **As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.**

Matthew 18:21-22

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Sermon

Hymn

The Servant Song

TFWS #2222

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey;
we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Because we often fall short and are not willing to love as Jesus loves, let us confess our sins and ask for forgiveness.

Holy God, even though we choose to follow Jesus we often go our own way. Jesus sends us out to care for others, but we put ourselves first at the expense of others. Forgive us for neglecting our neighbors and our community; for the good left undone and the wrong done. Help us to be faithful disciples on the Way.

In Christ, we are forgiven, justified, and transformed to carry on in the way of love and justice. Savor the good news of this pardon – your sins are forgiven +in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UMH #526 v. 1

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

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Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Lord, Be Glorified TFWs #2150 vs. 1 & 4

1. In our lives, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.

In our lives, Lord,
be glorified today.

4. In your world, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.

In your world, Lord,
be glorified today.

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Gracious God, we return to you a portion of what you have first given us. May all that we offer be used to feed the hungry, welcome our neighbors, and spread your love and justice everywhere we go. Bless both the giver and the gift that they may bear fruit for your kingdom. Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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 and ever. Amen.

Invitation to the table.

The table is set for you. If you are hungry, tired, weary, or worn, or joyful or full, or care free, there is space for you here. Come, the bread of life and the cup of blessing await you. The body and blood of Christ given for you. Amen.

Holy Communion

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks for feeding us at your table, Lord. May we become what we have received, the body of Christ, for the sake of the world. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Joyful, Joyful

UMH #89

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the
joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine; teach us how to
love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

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Benediction

Go and do no harm. Do good and, as you go, +may the love of God enfold you, the peace of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain you, now and forever. **Amen.**