

Wednesday Evening Worship

October 7, 2026

On the go with God

Prelude

Lighting of candles

Announcements, Joys & Concerns & Peace

Call to Worship (from Philippians 4)

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

^{8b} whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Opening Hymn

Thy Word Is a Lamp

UMH #601

Refrain

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.

1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end. [*Refrain*]
2. Now I will not forget your love for me and yet
my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end. [*Refrain*]

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.**

Acts 18:1-11 **Confirmation class**

This Little Light of Mine - younger

Luke 19:1-10 **Middlers**

Sermon

Hymn *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry* TFWs #2051

1. "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
2. I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.
3. "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
4. If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme,
from dusk till rising sun.
5. "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
6. When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

7. "I was there to hear your boding cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold."

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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. Forgive us 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 *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*
TFWS #2223 v. 1 & refrain

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

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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

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

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

Lord of All Hopefulness

TFWS #2197

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3. Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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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.**

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