

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Unfolding Light

Leader: God of love, Creator of life, we hear your

voice.

People: You call to us in love, and we answer.

Leader: Christ of love, shepherd of your sheep, you

lead us out in love.

People: You walk in love, and we follow you.

Leader: Holy Spirit, breath of love, you give us life.

People: We worship and go forth to serve in love.

Alleluia!

*HYMN

The Strife Is O're, the Battle Done #306 UMH

Antiphon:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed; let shouts of holy joy outburst: Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped; He rises glorious from the dead; all glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live, and sing to thee:

Alleluia! (Antiphon)

Translator: Francis Pott (1861) Composer: Giovanni P. da Palestrina (1591) Arranger: W. H. Monk (1861) *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed #881
I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23 (NRSVUE)

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20AM

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN—9:40AM

HYMN

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead us Ending of 2nd verse #381 UMH

Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray. Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

> Words: Dorothy A Thrupp (1836) & Music William Bradbury (1859)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from a writing by Craig Mitchell

Welcome to a calm moment where we put aside our daily cares. Welcome to an honest moment where we wake up to the world's troubles.

Welcome to a quiet moment where we sit in solitude for a while.
Welcome to a rowdy moment where we open our ears to the world's cries.

Welcome to a peaceful moment where we are reminded of what is good. Welcome to an unsettling moment where we see more clearly what is wrong.

This is God's world – beautiful and broken. We are here – broken and beautiful.

God of the stillness, we settle and wait for You. God of the storm, we hold fast and wait for You. We trust and we tremble. We worry and we hope There is no moment that is not Yours. There is no time that is not Yours

We are Your people. Carry us today, hear us as we pray saying:

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Offer the peace of Christ by saying: The peace of Christ be with you. Respond: And also with you!



HYMN

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead us Ending of 2nd verse #381 UMH

Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray. Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

GIVING

*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 7:9-17 (NRSVUE)

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks Be to God.**

MESSAGE

No More Tears Rev. David W. Brown

*HYMN

Marching to Zion #733 UMH

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain:

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion; we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad. (Refrain)

The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields, or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. (Refrain)

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry; we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. (Refrain)

> Author: Isaac Watts (1707) Author (refrain): Robert Lowry (1867) Composer: Robert Lowry (1867)

BENEDICTION

Adapted from Unfolding Light

Trusting in your gentle leading, may we follow you into the world to share your love and to do your will, to tend the lost and wounded feed the hungry for the sake of healing,

To the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer we praise. **Amen!**

*POSTLUDE

*Stand in body or in spirit

Liturgist at 8:20 – Lisa Dayton Liturgist at 9:40 – Shelley Bamberger

Celebrate mom or another special woman in your life with a muffin during Coffee Fellowship! Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40am service.





We learned this week of the passing of Rev. Paul Tropf, the pastor of Armstrong Chapel from 1978-1990. He was 101 years old. If

you would like to send a card of memory to his wife, Lois, her address is 3093 Futuna Lane, Naples, FL 34119.











Armstrong Chapel wants to celebrate the hard work and amazing accomplishments of the graduating Class of 2025.

We will recognize graduates during Worship services on May 18. If you're graduating from high school, college, or beyond, fill out the form and let us know (even if you are unable to attend)!

https://bit.ly/41WrQ5g
DEADLINE = MONDAY, MAY 12!



Service of Praise & Patriotism

Featuring River's Edge Brass Band Sunday, May 25 — 9:40am Worship

No Sunday School. There will be childcare for nursery through age 3.

147th Memorial Day Observance

Monday, May 26 — 10:30am Old Armstrong Chapel (outside)



Outreach—IPM Summer Picnic

Volunteers needed on Monday, June 9 from 9:15am-12:15pm to grill and prepare bagged picnic lunches.

Our mission partner Inter Parish Ministry (IPM) in the Eastgate area is once again celebrating summer with drive-thru picnics. Guests will be provided with a hot meal that includes a hot dog or hamburger, chips, cookie, and fruit.

Sign up at: https://bit.ly/443si4v



