



**W**ELCOME

January 13, 2019

# Order of Worship

*Please silence your cell phone.*

## THE GATHERING AND QUIET PREPARATION

“Pastorale” from *Christmas Oratorio*

Saint-Saens

### \*THE OPENING HYMN NO. 111 “How Can We Name a Love”

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy

Leader: Creator God, you call us to hospitality;  
to give as generously to others as you have given to us.

**People: For there are angels among us.**

Leader: Loving God, you call us to give you glory  
in the compassion we show to one another.

**People: To love without judgment, of ourselves or of others.**

Leader: We gather as one Body,  
seeking to walk in the way you set for us.

**People: We gather as one Body to worship the one who is Love.**

### \*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 334

**There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.  
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived  
when we shall leave this place.**

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### THE TIME OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

*The Ritual of Friendship folder is located at the center aisle; please sign and pass.*

### THE MISSION MOMENT: Mission Candle

Carrie Morse

**THE ANTHEM** (9:30 & 11:00) “Christ the Sure Foundation”  
Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

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## **THE CALL TO PRAYER**

### **THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Thom Shuman

**We are always uncomfortable, Watching God, when you notice how we want to sit in the seats of honor. We can be so proper, so good, so well-off, that it is easy to imagine we are superior to the poor. We are so busy completing our “to do” list each day, that we forget to do good when we have the chance.**

**Forgive us, Welcoming God. Fill our emptiness with your grace and humility, that we would spend our lives alongside Jesus, our Lord and Savior, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, the oppressed.**

### **THE SILENT PRAYER**

### **THE WORDS OF GRACE**

### **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.**

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### **THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

#### **THE OFFERTORY**

“Be My Church”  
Chancel Choir

David Lantz III

#### **\*THE DOXOLOGY NO. 94**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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#### **\*THE HYMN OF PREPARATION** “Draw the Circle Wide”

(Inserted)

**THE SCRIPTURE**

Luke 14:1, 7-14

(Pew Bible pg. 953)

This is God's living Word for God's living people. ~ **"Thanks be to God!"**

**THE SERMON**

"A Generous Welcome"  
(*Welcome to Marwen*)  
Rev. Elbert Dulworth

**\*THE HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 548** "In Christ There Is No East or West"

**\*THE BENEDICTION AND PERIOD OF SILENCE**

*Please remain quietly in your pew during the recession of the clergy.*

**\*THE POSTLUDE** "Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts" from *Christmas Oratorio* Saint-Saens

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*\*Congregation Standing*

*\*\*\*Seating of Worshipers*



**BIRMINGHAM FIRST**  
A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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**Elbert Dulworth**, Senior Pastor

**Shawn Lewis-Lakin**, Senior Associate Pastor

**Zack Dunlap, Lindsey Hall, Dan Hart and Suzanne Walls**, Associate Pastors

**John E. Harnish, William A. Ritter and Robert P. Ward**, Pastors Emeriti

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**Our Purpose:**

To gather, nurture and equip disciples of Jesus Christ for ministry and mission in the world.

**Our Core Values:**

Welcome All	Put Love Into Action
Honor God Through Excellence	Embrace Bold Vision
Encourage Lifelong Spiritual Growth	Support One Another

**Our Welcoming Statement:**

Embracing the example of Jesus, we welcome you here with hearts that know no boundaries of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, or economic circumstance.