

UNCERTAINTY

A person stands in the center of a narrow, brightly lit doorway, looking out at a cloudy sky. The doorway is set within a dark, textured wall. The floor is made of stone tiles, and the overall atmosphere is one of mystery and contemplation.

February 10, 2019

Order of Worship

**“And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”
1 Corinthians 13:13**

Please silence your cell phone.

THE GATHERING AND QUIET PREPARATION

“Old Hundredth”

Pachelbel

THE INTROIT (9:30 & 11:00)

“Fanfare” from the Sixth Double Concerto
Celebration Ringers

arr. John Behnke

***THE OPENING HYMN NO. 64** “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In this Year of our Lord, on this Sabbath Morning, in this Holy Moment...

People: We come seeking God’s presence with hope, with wonder, and with joy.

Leader: We come longing to be consoled, to be strengthened, and to be transformed through love.

People: On this Sabbath Morning, in this Holy Moment, we come to worship.

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 384

Verse 1

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.**

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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 MINISTRY MOMENT: Church and Society

Frank Driscoll

THE ANTHEM

(9:30)

“The Light of God’s Love”
Sonshine Choir

Mark Burrows

(11:00)

“Cantate Canon”
Genesis Choir

Douglas Moore

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THE CALL TO PRAYER

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Leader: Gracious God, scripture declares that love is patient and kind.

People: We confess the times when we have been impatient and unkind.

Leader: We are told that love is not jealous and that it does not boast.

People: We confess our tendency toward jealousy and the ease with which we boast.

Leader; Scripture says that love is not rude, and that it is not self-seeking.

People: We confess how we have been inconsiderate of those around us, thinking only of ourselves.

Leader: Love is not easily angered; it keeps no record of wrongs.

People: We confess how we keep score when we believe we have been wronged.

Leader: Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. Love protects, trusts, hopes, and always perseveres.

People: God of all Love, help us to place our full trust in you. Wash over us once more. Renew us. Redeem us. In our silence, help us hear your voice, calling to us and claiming us as your beloved.

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

“Assurance”
Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck

*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 NO. 103** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

THE SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 6:1-4
1 Corinthians 13:8-13

(Pew Bible pg. 622)
(Pew Bible pg. 1049)

This is God’s living Word for God’s living people. ~ **“Thanks be to God!”**

THE SERMON

“Facing Uncertainty...with Humility and Love”
Rev. Shawn Lewis-Lakin

***THE HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 88** “Maker, in Whom We Live”

***THE BENEDICTION AND PERIOD OF SILENCE**

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

***THE POSTLUDE**

“Grand Chorus”

Franck

**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

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.