



# Mr. John Abuya's Retirement Celebration

Sunday, October 31 2021 @ 9:30 A.M.



**Sue Fowell & Kelly Louk ..... Mistresses of Ceremony**  
**Rev. Clarissa L. Martinelli .... FAUMC Senior Pastor**

# *ORDER OF WORSHIP*

## ♪ Mr. John Abuya's Retirement Celebration ♪

**PRELUDE**

**John Abuya**

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Clarissa**

**WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC**

**Vicki Roth**

**GRATEFUL APPRECIATION FROM THE SE DISTRICT & WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**HYMN        "Great is thy Faithfulness"    UMH 140**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

**Alana Dalton**

**L:** Let us sing and rejoice, O children of God, for we are in the midst of the Lord, the creator of heaven and earth.

**P:** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in.

**L:** This is the time to awaken our souls, for we have come to the house of the Lord to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

**P:** The Lord's salvation has come to us through Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, lay aside every ill thought and behavior and put on the armor of light for God is good and God's goodness lasts through all generation. Let us rejoice and sing!

**\*MORNING PRAYER WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Carol Flanders**

**All:** Almighty God, creator of the Universe: we give you thanks this day and every day for your overwhelming forgiveness and abounding love. We are ever mindful of your care for us, watching over us and seeking the best for us even as we are too casual or cavalier in our care of others or our obedience to you. As we enter the months of our thanksgiving and waiting season, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the joy of re-creation. Remind us to turn to you each day in an attitude of gratitude for all our blessings and all our challenges.

**We** give you thanks for the church. We give you thanks for our brothers and sisters in the faith. We give you thanks for the lessons learned and the example set forth by Christ Jesus who calls 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. Amen.

**A LOVING THANKS THROUGH MUSIC**

**Michelle Harrington & Skylla Thompson**

**READING        "Ode to John"**

**Ellen Johnson**

**A TENDER THANKS FROM THE TAR HEEL STATE**

**Martha Emery & Betsy Winquist**

**THE HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**Sue Fowell**

**L:** God's gift of faith is like a flame, and when the embers of the fire have cooled you must fan them again and keep them ablaze.

**P:** So don't be embarrassed to testify about our Lord or for me, His prisoner. Join us in suffering for the good news by the strength and power of God. God has already saved us and called us to this holy calling—not because of any good works we may have done, but because of His own intention and because eons and eons ago (before time itself existed), He gave us this grace in Jesus the Anointed, the Liberating King.

And now, the time has come! That grace was revealed when our Savior, Jesus the Anointed, appeared; and through His resurrection He has wiped out death and brought to light life and immortality by way of this good news. I was appointed a preacher, emissary,[a] and teacher of this message. This is exactly why I am suffering. But I am not ashamed because I know Him and I have put my trust in Him. And I am fully certain that He has the ability to protect what I have placed in His care until that day. Remember the words that you heard from me. Retain them as the model for healthy and sound teaching in the faith and love that are available in Jesus the Anointed. As for the precious thing entrusted to you, protect it with the help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

**L:** The Word of God for the people of God.

**All:** Praise to the Living God.

**MUSICAL MEDLEY**                      **Leslie Dalton**

**GRATEFUL FOR YOUR MINISTRY**                      **Pastor Clarissa**

**GIVING LOVE THROUGH MUSIC**                      **Dave & Polly Bertelsen**

**A MODERN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**                      **Kelly Louk**

**MUSICAL SELECTION**                      **Chancel Choir**

**A MESSAGE OF THANKS**                      **Debra Matties**

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**                      **Roger Mertz, Jim Hammen, Dave Bertelsen**

**GIFTS OF THANKS**                      **Pastor Clarissa**

**FROM THE YOUTH**    **“A Touch of Gold”**    **Aleah Latham**

**REMARKS**                      **John & Sandy Abuya**

**HYMN “O Happy Day, That Fixed My Choice”**    **UMH 391**

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**                      **Pastor Clarissa**

For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven. So, too, there is a time for movement, new adventure, fields of service not yet touched. With love, we send you forth in the Spirit of John Wesley: May the world be your parish. Brother John & Sister Sandy Abuya, go into the world and respond to the love of Christ in all you do. Live out the vision God is giving you. May God's grace, mercy, and peace be with you, and may you be channels of divine mercy, grace and peace to the world wherever you may be! Amen.

**POSTLUDE**                      **JOHN ABUYA**

**♪ PLEASE JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR A RECEPTION ♪**



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The people of The United Methodist Church™**



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