

## Order of Worship, Sunday, October 17, 2021

### Prelude

### Gathering Words/Greeting

Pastor Peter

### Centering Moment/Invocation

Pastor Peter

### The Lord's Prayer (Together)

### \*Call to Worship

Judy Mack

Leader: Father, you inhabit eternity;

**People: The heavens declare your glory and the earth announces your beauty.**

Leader: Your presence fills the universe and yet in Christ you come to us with compassion and mercy.

**People: Help us find light in our darkness,**

Leader: Joy in our sorrow,

**People: Healing in our sickness,**

Leader: And your great grace that covers a multitude of our sins.

### \*Opening Prayer

**Your grace is near, O God, for you are the God of the storm. You wait in silence for us until we are open to you. Tune us to hear your voice, to face your silence without fear. Speak and bring to us our Savior, Jesus Christ, giver of your peace. In the name of this one whom we know as the world's Savior, we pray. Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

77 UMH

### Children's Moment

Jen Messaros

### Scripture

Acts 2:37-47 (CEB)

Judy Mack

<sup>37</sup> When the crowd heard this, they were deeply troubled. They said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Change your hearts and lives. Each of you must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> This promise is for you, your children, and for all who are far away—as many as the Lord our God invites." <sup>40</sup> With many other words he testified to them and encouraged them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted Peter's message were baptized. God brought about three thousand people into the community on that day.

### Community of believers

<sup>42</sup> The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. <sup>43</sup> A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were united and shared everything. <sup>45</sup> They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. <sup>46</sup> Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. <sup>47</sup> They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

<b>Sermon</b>	Simplicity	Pastor Peter
<b>Joys and Concerns</b>		Gavin Lisiewski
<b>Invitation to the Offering</b>		
*Doxology	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"	95 UMH
*Offertory Prayer		
<b>Announcements</b>		Judy, Rebecca
<b>*Closing Hymn</b>	"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"	2223 TFWS
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>*Postlude</b>		

**\*Those who are able, are invited to stand**

### **Participating in Worship Today:**

Lead Pastor	Pastor Peter Matthews
Musician	Amy Enloe
Liturgist	Judy Mack
Children's Message	Jen Messaros
Acolytes	Gavin & Dylan Lisiewski

### **Fall at OUMC:**

**Youth Group** – Sunday nights, 6:30pm.

**Oct. 31:** No youth group.

**Tuesday nights: Bible Study** with Pastor Peter – 6:30pm

**October 29:** Our next **Fishes & Loaves meal** at Lakewoods – Baked Ziti.

**October 31: Halloween** – We are collecting candy donations to be handed out on Halloween. You can leave them in/by the church office, or in the kitchen if labeled.

**November 1:** Annual Charge Conference, 6:30pm.

**November 14:** Thanksgiving Fellowship Lunch after Worship

**\*Wed, Nov 3:** Normandy Bazaar 10am-4pm; **Sat, Nov 6:** Holiday Market, 9am-3pm, both at Normandy United Methodist, 450 Alex Bell Rd, Centerville.

October 17, 2021

*In C. Gavin Rowe's World Upside Down: Reading Acts In The Graeco Roman Age, we discover how to practice theological knowledge. It's practice is located in the origin of the tension created in "the confession of Jesus as Lord of all," "the universal mission of light," and "the formation of Christian communities as the tangible presence of a people set apart." In other words, it reveals how a follower of Jesus "practices what they preach."*

Dear Family In God,

Tuesday in Bible Study we continued our collective "excavation" into the word covenant as it's found in the Hebrew Bible in the book of Malachi. The word, which (once more) in the religious sense denotes a sacred commitment between God and Gods people. My Pastoral prayer is that we EACH OF US give more attention to our respective sacraments as we consider our lives, our families, our church, and the entire city of Oakwood. Join us this Tuesday at 6:30pm EST as we continue to examine daily the feeding of our souls through:

Salvation (corporate worship 3x monthly)  
Solitude (10 minutes a day of silent contemplation)  
Supplication (Praying with and for our grief ministry)  
Study (Identifying a study to attend 3x monthly)  
Service (Lakewood Apartments initiative)  
Stewardship (10% of time, talent, and treasure)  
Simplicity

Each spiritual discipline has a special place in the Methodist church and provides nourishment for our soul in both simple and profound ways. Values. Virtues. Vision. These disciplines remind us how to both listen and how to follow God along with moving in unity together. Or as Martin Luther King, Jr once exhorted, "We may have all come over on different ships, we are all on the same boat now."

Different ships? Same boat? Indeed, the notion of unity is a very difficult thing to grasp and almost impossible to live into. Yet, the key word in the previous sentence was "almost." We have been endowed by our Creator to live into almost impossible situations as to model what the kingdom of heaven is down "here" in these chaotic times. Convene. Create. Celebrate. To embody community in difficult times means to work together in ways to put God first. Acts 2 provides a glimpse into that way of life. Let us NOW examine the 6th step in our covenantal journey.... Simplicity

Let us worship God  
Pastor

