

The Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist Church

Memorial Service June 20, 2023 | Renasant Convention Center | Memphis, TN

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ You're invited to stand in body or in spirit. | **Bold** words are spoken responsively.

VOLUNTARY	"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"	arr. Dr. Mary McDonald		
GATHERINGRev. Jerry WallaceLeader: The peace of Christ be with you.People: And also with you.Leader: With Christ's peace abiding in our hearts, let us join with all the saints as we come to worship God.Here a complex of the saints as we come to worship God.				
CHIMING OF THE H	IOUR	Dr. Ashley Davis, Organist		
+ PROCESSIONAL H	HYMN ~ UMH #733 "We're Marching to Zion"	MARCHING TO ZION		
CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Deborah Suddarth Leader: Abiding Creator, in a garden, You formed us from the fertile soil that nourishes the vine. People: We praise You for the faithful saints who abide in your eternal presence. Leader: Abiding Redeemer, in a garden, You rose to life after death through the power of love. People: We affirm our trust in Your promise of resurrection as we celebrate their lives of love and service to God and neighbor. Leader: Abiding Spirit, in the garden of the new creation, You have planted the tree of life, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. People: May our lives and may our worship proclaim the glory and grace of God to the world. Alleluia!				
We are not alone, w We believe in God: who has created who has come in to reconcile a	F FAITH AITH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CAI ve live in God's world. I and is creating, n Jesus, the Word made flesh, and make new, and others by the Spirit.	Rev. Dr. Deborah Suddarth NADA		

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks to be God. Amen.

+ GLORIA PATRI ~ UMH #70

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Renee Dillard

Lord Jesus Christ, as you spent time with your disciples in the upper room, you said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me."

## Jesus, we believe in you, and we give thanks for the hope of resurrection and eternal life.

Today, we come to remember the lives of those who have served you faithfully through the years,

the saints who now have received the blessed assurance of being welcomed into your Father's heavenly home.

As we shrink before the mystery of death,

## Help our hearts abide in your presence and peace.

Risen Christ, draw us more deeply into yourself, so that when our hearts are troubled, we will know you more completely as the way, the truth, and the life. As we seek to follow you, we offer our prayers on behalf of the church and the world.

Together, let us pray for:

The people of the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference and the United Methodist Church.

(pause for silent prayer)

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Anyone, anywhere who mourns with us this day.

(pause for silent prayer)

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Those who suffer and those in trouble.

(pause for silent prayer)

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The concerns of our local communities. (pause for silent prayer) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

The world, its people, and its leaders. (pause for silent prayer) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

The church universal – its leaders, its members, its mission. (pause for silent prayer) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

The communion of saints whose lives bear witness to the Lord of Love. (pause for silent prayer) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Receive these prayers, O God, and transform us through them as now, with the confidence of children of God, we 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.

ACT OF PRAISE "In Bright Mansions Above" Dr. Roland Carter

+ SCRIPTURE READING ~ 2 Timothy 4:1-8, 16-18

Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. <sup>6</sup>As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

SERMON	"The Good Fight"
	The dood right

Rev. Dr. Erin Beasley

## REMEMBERING THE DEPARTED SAINTS

William K. Armistead Joe Walter Beal Jeffery William Blum James R. Clark Bobbie W. Clarke Kary Y. Collier Temple Marie G. Craighead Isaac Jason Davis David Lewis Decker **Ruby Nell Skelton Decker** Elizabeth Anne Dubose Autura Eason-Williams Paul Howe Eubanks, Jr. Bevington Hartford Farnsworth Angela R. Ford Patty Lynn Franklin Samuel Delwyn Fryer John Adwell Halliburton

Nancy Bridges Hardaway Roger L. Henson Vauneida Henton **Roger Anthony Hopson** Joel V. Johnson Albert Clay Kelly **Evelyn Patricia Kingsley** Ernest H. Lampley Linda Anne McLargin Jackie A. McMurray Wendell A. Meggs Martha I. Moore Jo Helen Murphy Billie J. Paris Charles H. Poole **Carol Riley Powers** Norene C. Rainey Wayne G. Reece **Rosalina Salyers** 

Rev. Pat Freudenthal Robert Sidney Saywell Joe Kenneth Shelton, Sr. Larry Hyder Smith Carolyn Fay Smithmier Robert H. Spain Syble M. Spain Bettie Spiva Gwendolyn H. Stone May Bell Stuart William Edward Tate Debra R. Tyree Raymond Frank Walker Elizabeth Ann Weakley Phillip Barry Wright

PRAYER FOR THE SAINTS

Rev. Pat Freudenthal

<ul> <li>We bless your holy name, O God, for all your servants who, having now rest from their labors.</li> <li>Give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfu to your honor and glory; through Christ Jesus our Lord. A (ENGLAND, 20TH CENT., ALT.)</li> </ul>	e ulness,			
MUSICAL REFLECTION	Brandon Boyd, Jerome "Sign Me Up"	e Metcalfe, Kevin Young		
+ UMH #700	"Abide with Me"	EVENTIDE		
<ul> <li>+ BENEDICTION</li> <li>Listen to the promise Jesus makes:</li> <li>"I will never abandon you – I will come to you. Because I live, you will also live."</li> <li>Go in the knowledge that you do not go alone: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, And the communion of the Holy Spirit are your companions in this journey of life, death, and life beyond death.</li> <li>Praise be to God!</li> </ul>				
+ CHORAL BENEDICTION	"Total Praise"	Mr. Richard Smallwood		
POSTLUDE Arr. Dr. Ashley Davis Improvisation on "When the Saints Go Marching In"				
MUSICIANS Annual Conference Director Organist ~ Dr. Ashley Davis Pianist ~ Rev. Jackson Henry Percussion ~ Mr. Roney Sime LEADERSHIP	,	у		

Preacher ~ Bishop Gregory V. Palmer Resident Bishop ~ Bishop William T. McAlilly Retired Bishop ~ Bishop Joseph E. Pennel, Jr.