

Communion Service

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

Keepsake



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Working Within Us Liturgist: Rev. April Arnold

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

ENTRANCE

GATHERING MUSIC

+ CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

+ CONGREGATIONAL MUSIC "How Great Thou Art" UMH #77

"How Great Is Our God" Chris Tomlin

+ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of us all, we give you thanks that in this Holy Mystery, you speak hope, life, joy, and love as you continue the work within. To You be all the praise and the glory. **AMEN**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

+ SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3: 17b – 20 (NIV)

^{17b} And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

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

People: Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC "I Believe" Mark Miller

Soloists: Prudence and Piper Turner

SERMON "Connect to the Spirit and Imagine!" Rev. Sharon Karamoko

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC "Crowded Table" Andrea Ramsey

Soloist: Opal Dyer

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

Rev. Sharon Karamoko, Presiding

Today we will receive Holy Communion by intinction or dipping the bread into the cup. There will be communion stations at the end of nearly every aisle. Please come forward as you are ready; ushers will direct you to the nearest station. You will be offered a piece of bread. Dip it gently into the cup and partake. Stations for special needs, including gluten-free bread and alternative serving methods, are clearly marked and available. Those unable to come forward may be served at their seat; please alert a nearby usher. All who seek to follow Christ, regardless of age or church membership, are welcome at the table.

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,

who seek to live into a future far greater than we ask or imagine, who long to be transformed by his power at work within us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will,

We have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,

We have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love towards us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere

to give thanks to you, Almighty God,

who called forth the Church

and shaped her from generation to generation,

who is doing in our time

what once could not be asked or imagined,

whose Spirit breathes renewal into tired hearts

and calls your people again to boldness and hope.

You formed us in your image

and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,

your love remained steadfast.

Our meager gifts you accept and expand.

Our humble efforts you magnify for the glory of your kingdom.

Our broken lives you make full and whole by the power of your grace.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

who revealed your glory in the Church

and entrusted to us a mission immeasurably beyond our grasp,

and yet entirely possible by your grace.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING OF THE BREAD & CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

"There Is a Fountain"
"Nothing but the Blood"

UMH#622 UMH #362

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

WORSHP PARTICIPANTS

LEADERSHIP

Resident Bishop Bishop David Graves
Liturgist Rev. April Arnold
Preaching Rev. Sharon Karamoko

MUSICIANS

Pianist Mr. Todd Arnold

Choral Singers Youth Choirs of Cookeville and Germantown UMC

Mr. Cass Roberts and Mr. Tim Wise, Directors

Worship Planning Team Mrs. Cynthia Haley, Director of Worship and Music

Rev. Susan Carrigan Rev. Linda Furtado Rev. Dr. Joey Reed Mr. Tim Wise