

## Saturday Worship

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Jami Vandock and Mary Todd Peters  
2023 Event Co-chairs

### **SENDING MUSIC**

*We've Come This Far*

Faith Albert Goodson

**We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord;  
Trusting in God's holy word, he's never failed me yet.  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh...can't turn around,  
We've come this far by faith.**

*P.A.U.S.E. (Pay Attention Until the Spirit Emerges)*  
*Joy*

Joe Davis

*This Joy that I Have*

Traditional, Negro Spiritual

**This joy that I have the world didn't give it to me.  
The world didn't give it. The world can't take it away.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Breathe in. You belong.  
Breathe out deeply. You are God's beloved.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **BENEDICTION**

Rev. CeCe Armstrong

Go out into the world in peace;  
have courage;  
hold on to what is good;  
return no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak, and help the suffering;  
honor all people;  
rejoicing that you are the beloved of God and that you live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Stephanie Vasquez

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:13

Old Testament Reading: Job 2:11-13

For the word of God among us.

For the word of God within us.

**Amen.**

**HYMN**

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

**Refrain:**

**Lead me, guide me along the way;  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power  
To help me over my weakest hour;  
Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in Thee,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]**

**I am lost, if you take your hand from me;  
I am blind, without Thy Light to see;  
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Revelation 3:20 (NRSV)

Rev. CeCe Armstrong

**SERMON**

“egnahC”

Rev. CeCe Armstrong

**SERMON HYMN**

I'm Gonna Live so God can Use Me

Traditional, Negro Spiritual

**I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Mary Todd Peters and Jami Vandock  
2023 Event Co-Chairs

I believe in God, the creator of the universe,  
who spoke, "Let there be light!" and there was light,  
setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the light of the world  
That shines in the darkness. The darkness cannot overcome it.  
He embodied humanity in the image of God.  
In kindness, truthfulness, humility and devotion,  
He suffered for the greater good.  
He was and is the Son of God.  
He died on the cross for us,  
God's saving grace!

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The guiding light of God in our world.  
Through his spirit, God penetrates and reveals  
The darkness of human sin, helps people grow and  
Become the people they are meant to be.

I believe in the power of transformation,  
Through God's spirit and light,  
Here in this world and in the world to come.  
Amen.

### **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

May the peace and unforced rhythms of God's grace be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **COMMUNION**

*Sung liturgy taken from Setting by Mark Miller*

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/musical-response-settings-for-holy-communication-from-the-faith-we-sing-i>

### **The Invitation to the Lord's Table**

Come to the mystery that is Love and know that God is with us.

We come with thankful hearts, for we know that God is with us.

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe.

Nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; calling, gathering, urging us to life.

Your presence never fails us, your Spirit transforms us.

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

#### **Preface (sung- insert music from pdf)**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, our creator. You have given us life and second birth in your Spirit. Once we were no people, but now we are your people. You claimed Israel as your chosen nation and raised up the church as a witness to the resurrection, breathing into it your life and power. From worlds apart, you gathered us together. When we go astray, you welcome us home. Always, your love has been steadfast.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

#### **Sanctus (sung–insert music from pdf)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In love with you and in compassion for all, Jesus healed and taught, challenged and comforted, welcomed and saved. He formed a community, promising to be with his disciples wherever two or three were gathered, and sending them on his mission of hope and healing in the world.

Jesus trusted his life to you, and went freely to his death, so the world might be set free from suffering and sin. You raised him from death and raise us also to live a new life with him. In the power of the Holy Spirit, you send us out to make disciples as he commanded.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Memorial Acclamation (sung—insert music from pdf)**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Give us strength to serve you until the promised day of the resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

**The Great Amen (sung—insert music from pdf)**

**Amen. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As Christ our Savior taught us, we are bold 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 debts,**

**as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

## **MUSIC AT DISTRIBUTION**

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

Traditional, Negro Spiritual

**I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;**

**I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, one of these days.**

**I'm gonna feast on milk and honey,**

**I'm gonna feast on milk and honey, one of these days.**

**I'm gonna eat and drink with Jesus;**

**I'm gonna eat and drink with Jesus, one of these days.**

**I'm gonna join with everybody;**

**I'm gonna join with everybody, one of these days.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance,

**You have fed us with your love, and you have gathered us together into one body.**

**Send us forth now to be repairers of the breach: to feed as we have been fed,**

**forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

### **SUNG RESPONSE**

Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines On Me

Paul Vasile

**Glory to God whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Gracious God, we come together in this season, hopeful for new beginnings.

**We hold both grief and gratitude, and we long to come into your presence more fully.**

Guide us on this journey as we find new paths for renewal.

**Hold us in your loving arms, as we name: the ways we are broken, when we ignore your voice and do not take time to rest in your arms...**

*(We pause for a moment of silent reflection)*

Holy God, we claim the good news that you forgive us and call us Beloved.

**In your compassion, turn us again to you. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we might serve you, our neighbors, and our world.**

As forgiven children of God, be filled now with wisdom and grace for the season ahead.

**In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines On Me

Paul Vasile

**World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

### **CREDITS**

We've Come this Far by Faith, Albert Goodson © 1965, 1993 Manna Music  
Joy, Joe Davis, © 2022 *We Rise Higher: Poems and Prayers for Graduates*  
This Joy that I Have, Traditional, Negro Spiritual  
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