

# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—July 12, 2026



If you love him, why not serve him?  
If you love him, why not serve him?  
If you love him, why not serve him?  
Soldiers of the cross.

We are climbing higher, higher;  
we are climbing higher, higher,  
we are climbing higher, higher;  
soldiers of the cross.

Author: Afro-American Spiritual  
Composer: William Farley Smith (1986)  
Adapt. and arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Nicene Creed #880*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic  
church.

We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 139 & *Discipleship Ministries UMC*

LEADER: Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.

PEOPLE: **Lead me in the way everlasting.**

LEADER: The voice of God is calling us to come with  
all that we are and all that we carry to  
worship.

PEOPLE: **Come! Let us worship!**

Leader: God calls us to gather, to receive grace in  
our gathering, and to reorient us again to  
the ways of God.

PEOPLE: **Come! Let us worship!**

### \*HYMN

*We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*  
#418 UMH

We are climbing Jacob's ladder;  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder;  
soldiers of the cross.

Every round goes higher, higher;  
every round goes higher, higher,  
every round goes higher, higher;  
soldiers of the cross.

Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
Soldiers of the cross.

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## SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139: 1, 7-12(NRSVUE)

- <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- <sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
- <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- <sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and night wraps itself around me,"  
<sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## TIME SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20am

### TIME WITH CHILDREN—9:40am

## HYMN

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*  
#528, final line UMH

Nearer, my God to thee, nearer to thee!

Words Sarah F. Adams (1841)  
Music: Lowell Mason (1856)

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from Kwasi I. Kena & Valerie Bridgeman Davis

Have mercy us on, O God, according to your steadfast love. For we know our sins which are always in front of our eyes. We have not loved you as deeply as our own heartbeat. We have failed to care for your body and for the whole of creation. Forgive us. According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions and cleanse us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain in us a willing spirit. Free us to know joy and gladness and to live our days in praise.

Equip us, God, for the work of ministry. For the work involved with building unity of purpose and vision. Equip us with saints who will say yes to your will and yes to your way. Equip us, God, to journey with Jesus through life's uncertain paths. Equip us, God, with maturity that comes from knowing you. Equip us, God, to speak the truth in love even when it's uncomfortable. Equip us to move beyond a childish faith that whines for more while giving less. Equip us, O God, for the work of ministry that you have called us to do.

Receive now the words Jesus taught us to pray saying:

**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.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Offer the peace of Christ by saying:*

**The peace of Christ be with you.**

*Respond: And also with you!*

## HYMN

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*  
#528, final line UMH

Nearer, my God to thee, nearer to thee!

Words Sarah F. Adams (1841)  
Music: Lowell Mason (1856)

## GIVING

### OFFERTORY

### \*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:9-11 (NRSVUE)

<sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to God. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, God who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

*Life in the Spirit*  
Rev. David W. Brown

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## \*HYMN

*O Spirit of the Living God*

#539 UMH

O Spirit of the living God,  
thou light and fire divine,  
descend upon thy church once more,  
and make it truly thine.  
Fill it with love and joy and power,  
with righteousness and peace;  
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,  
and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow  
until our minds are free  
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,  
which blind our eyes to thee.  
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips  
with flaming love and zeal,  
to preach to all thy great good news,  
God's glorious commonweal.

Teach us to utter living words  
of truth which all may hear,  
the language all may understand  
when love speaks loud and clear;  
till every age and race and clime  
shall blend their creeds in one,  
and earth shall form one family  
by whom thy will is done.

So shall we know the power of Christ  
who came this world to save;  
so shall we rise with him to life  
which soars beyond the grave;  
and earth shall win true holiness,  
which makes thy children whole;  
till, perfected by thee, we reach  
creation's glorious goal

Text: Henry H. Tweedy (1935)

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906)

## BENEDICTION

adapted from Nancy C. Townley

May the Triune God bless you as you go to answer  
God's call to worship in everything you do in thought,  
word, and deed that you may be a blessing of love,  
hope, and peace to all you meet.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer  
we pray. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

*\*Stand in body or in spirit*

*Liturgist at 8:20 – Carol Ney*

*Liturgist at 9:40 – Jane Florer*

*Greeters at 9:40 – Charlene Pfingstag Lewis and Sondra and  
Jim Hunt*



*Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium  
following the 9:40 service!*

REGISTER YOUR  
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE  
GIVING



*A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ*

*Stay connected with*  **Armstrong  
CHAPEL** United Methodist Church

5125 Drake Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45243

513-561-4220

acumc@armstrongchapel.org

Follow us on...

[armstrongchapel.org](http://armstrongchapel.org) 

**Rev. David Brown**, Lead Pastor

**Amy Voss**, Director of Preschool

**Rev. Elizabeth Brown**, Congregational Care Pastor

**Shanon Rice**, Director of Digital Communications

**Rev. Brandon Long**, Director of Discipleship

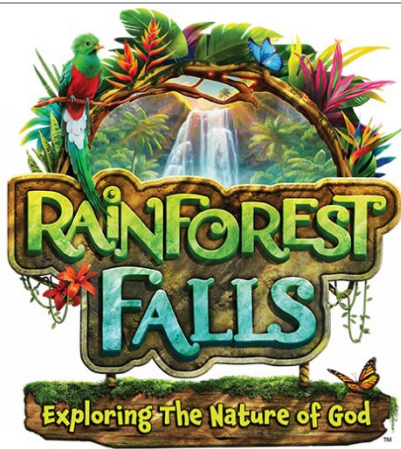
## Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—July 12, 2026



Backpacks  
Pens, Pencils, Highlighters  
Crayons, Markers  
Binders, Paper, Dividers  
Spiral Notebooks  
Flashcards, Post-it Notes  
Index Cards  
School Year Planners and Calendars  
Whiteout and Erasers  
Thumb Drives (new/unopened)  
or monetary donations and we will shop

Benefitting Found House IHN  
Supplies Due by July 19

**We'll be filling backpacks during  
Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, July 26!**



## Vacation Bible School celebration

**Sunday, July 19**

Combined Worship  
at 10am

in the Worship Center

(8:20am service in the Old Chapel as scheduled)

**MEN'S  
BREAKFAST**  
• BREAKFAST, COFFEE, AND GREAT FELLOWSHIP. •

**JULY  
18** | **SATURDAY  
8:00 - 9:30 AM**  
IN THE ARMSTRONG ROOM

**COME HUNGRY. LEAVE ENCOURAGED.**

### Armstrong Garden Ministry for IPM

For the second year, Maureen Smith has planted a vegetable garden in the Preschool fenced area behind the church. If any home garden growers have any surplus during any week, feel free to bring to church Sunday and place in the IPM box in between the Atrium doors. Rachel Ney delivers all fresh produce every Monday to IPM (along with all other donations).

