

# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—July 26, 2026



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from *Unfolding Light*

LEADER: Loving God, we are yours; and we praise you.

PEOPLE: Crucified and Risen Christ,  
we are made new, and we thank you.

LEADER: Holy Spirit, we live by your power alone,  
and we serve you.

PEOPLE: Holy God, we come to tell the story of your  
grace and to sing your praise.

Leader: We come to hear your love,  
and to sing love to you.

PEOPLE: We come to worship. Alleluia!

### \*HYMN

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*  
#500 UMH

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;  
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,  
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
no angel visitant, no opening skies;  
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?  
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.  
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;  
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.  
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh,  
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,  
one holy passion filling all my frame;  
the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove,  
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Author: George Croly (1867)  
Composer: Frederick C. Atkinson (1870)

### \*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.

\*universal

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## SCRIPTURE

Psalm 105:1-6 (ESV)

- <sup>1</sup> Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples!
- <sup>2</sup> Sing to him, sing praises to him;  
tell of all his wondrous works!
- <sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!
- <sup>4</sup> Seek the Lord and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!
- <sup>5</sup> Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
- <sup>6</sup> O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

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

*Standing on the Promises*  
#374, Chorus UMH

Standing, standing, standing  
on the promises of God my Savior;  
standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.  
Words & Music: R. Kelso Carter (1886)

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*Adapted from Unfolding Light*

God, we give you thanks, for you have called us according to your purpose. You have destined us to be conformed to the image of Christ, to be called, to be justified, to be glorified.

Christ, we give you thanks, for you have died and been raised and intercede for us. You have given up everything for us, and justified our lives, so that no one may condemn. In you nothing can separate us from the love of God: not life or death, hardship or distress, persecution, poverty, danger, suffering or violence. No earthly powers or choices or anything else in Creation can separate us from God's love in you.

Holy Spirit, we give you thanks, for through you all things work for good to those who love God. We do not know how to live as we ought, but you intercede for us in ways deeper than words. You empower us to live as more than conquerors, through the love with which you love us. We love you, and we entrust ourselves to you.

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

*Standing on the Promises*  
#374, Chorus UMH

Standing, standing, standing  
on the promises of God my Savior;  
standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Words & Music: R. Kelso Carter (1886)

## 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 8:31-39 (ESV)

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

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<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

## MESSAGE

*The Power of Divine Love*  
Rev. David W. Brown

## \*HYMN

*How Can We Name a Love*  
#111 UMH

How can we name a Love  
that awakens heart and mind,  
indwelling all we know  
or think or do  
or seek or find?  
Within our daily world,  
in every human face,  
Love's echoes sound  
and God is found,  
hid in the commonplace.

If we awoke to life  
built on a rock of care  
that asked no great reward  
but firm, assured,  
was simply there,  
we can, with parents' names,  
describe, and thus adore,  
Love unconfined,  
a father kind,  
a mother strong and sure.

When people share a task,  
and strength and skills unite  
in projects old or new,  
to make or do  
with shared delight,  
our Friend and Partner's will  
is better understood,  
that all should share,  
create, and care,  
and know that life is good.

So in a hundred names,  
each day we all can meet  
a presence, sensed and shown  
at work, at home,  
or in the street.  
Yet every name we see,  
shines in a brighter sun:  
In Christ alone  
is Love full grown  
and life and hope begun.

Text: Brian Wren (1973)

Music: TERRA BEATA

Adapter: Franklin L. Sheppard (1915)

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## BENEDICTION

adapted from *Liturgical Calendar*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and  
love of God, and of the Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and  
the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, Redeemer,  
and Sustainer, be among you, and remain with you  
always. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

*\*Stand in body or in spirit*

*Liturgist at 8:20 – Greg Bailie*

*Liturgist at 9:40 – Shelley Bamberger*

*Greeters at 9:40 – Barry Dixon and Molly and Jim Barber*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Hanlin Bavelly in  
loving memory of his wife, Jane, on her birthday (7/21).*



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

REGISTER YOUR  
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE  
GIVING



## ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

Paul declares that nothing “will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Which of the following does Paul specify as unable to block God’s love?

- A. death; life
- B. angels; demons
- C. present; future
- D. height; depth
- E. all of the above

ANGELS  
death LIFE depth  
present HEIGHT  
FUTURE demons

Answer: E (See Romans 8:38-39, NIV.)



**We'll be filling backpacks  
during Coffee Fellowship  
today!**



### 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).



A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ

Stay connected with

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Amy Voss, Director of Preschool

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