



Faith - Family - Fellowship

**Order of Worship**  
**Agape Worship Service**  
10:10 a.m.  
May 25, 2025

Video

Words of Welcome & Prayer of Transformation

Prelude

Layne Thompson

Call to Worship

Chancel Choir

Hymn of Faith

Crown Him with Many Crowns  
UMH#327 (vs 1,4)

Congregation & Chancel Choir

Psalter Reading

Psalm 37:1-11

Alec Schumacher

Gloria Patri

Words of Wisdom

Jeremiah 29:11-14

Alec Schumacher

Anthem of Hope

Chancel Choir

Doxology / Blessing of the Offering

Jim Vaughn

Word of God

Romans 12:1-5

Betty Greenberg

Spiritual Vitamin

Embracing Our Journey

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Doug Hammond

Hymn of Love

My Hope is Built  
UMH#368 (vs 1,4)

Congregation & Chancel Choir

Postlude

Layne Thompson

## **Prayer of Transformation**

**Pastor:** Please join me in today's Prayer of Transformation.

**People:** Lord Jesus, I am your witness.  
I receive your righteousness and release my sinfulness.  
I receive your wholeness and release my brokenness.  
I receive your fullness and release my emptiness.  
I receive your peace and release my anxiety.  
I receive your joy and release my despair.  
I receive your healing and release my sickness.  
I receive your love and release my selfishness.  
I receive your readiness and release my resistance.

**Pastor:** Lord, may we open up our hearts, minds, and souls to your presence in our lives. As living examples of a church that matters, allow us to be gracious in our love to all people in our words, our thoughts, and our deeds.

**People:** May we ever be reminded that we as your church will;  
Glorify God, Commit to Christ, Teach the Truth, Fellowship through Faith,  
and Love the Least, Lost and Lonely.

**Pastor & People:**

Come Holy Spirit transform my heart, mind, soul, and strength so that my consecration becomes your demonstration; that our lives become your sanctuary.  
For the glory of God our Father, amen.

## **Psalter Reading - Psalm 37:1-11**

Psalm 37, written by King David, is a wisdom psalm that offers guidance on trusting in God rather than being troubled by the apparent success of the wicked. It reassures believers that divine justice will prevail and encourages patience, righteousness, and unwavering faith.

**Leader:** Do not fret because of those who are evil  
or be envious of those who do wrong;

**People:** for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

**Leader:** Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

**People:** Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

**Leader:** Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your  
righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

**People:** Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people  
succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

**Leader:** Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

**People:** For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will  
inherit the land.

**Leader:** A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will  
not be found.

**People:** But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.

## **Words of Wisdom - Jeremiah 29:11-14**

Jeremiah 29:11-14 is a well-known passage that offers hope and reassurance to God's people. In this chapter, the prophet Jeremiah writes a letter to the Israelites who are in exile in Babylon, reminding them that their suffering is not the end of their story.

These verses are often quoted as a reminder that God's plans are good, even when circumstances seem difficult. They encourage us to seek God wholeheartedly. This passage highlights God's faithfulness, His desire for a relationship with His people, and His promise of restoration.

Allow these words to offer you hope when we embrace the journey that God has planned for us.

For I know the plans *and* thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace *and* well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear your voice *and* I will listen to you. Then with a deep longing you will seek Me *and* require Me and you will find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you,' says the Lord, 'and I will restore your fortunes, and I will free you and gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,' says the Lord."

O Lord, you have given us the gift of your Word.

**People: May we ever protect and keep it pure. Amen.**

Paul begins today's text by urging believers to offer themselves as living sacrifices to God. This means surrendering our lives—not in a one-time act, but as a daily, ongoing devotion. Unlike the Old Testament animal sacrifices, Paul emphasizes a spiritual offering—giving our hearts, minds, and actions to God as an act of true worship.

So, here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So, since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**