

Faith - Family - Fellowship

Order of Worship Agape Worship Service Family Life Worship Center June 29, 2025

Video

Words of Welcome & Prayer of Transformation Peggy Lawton

Call to Worship ** Blessed Be Your Name Congregation & Praise Team

Song of Faith ** Still Waters Congregation & Praise Team

Affirmation of Faith The World Methodist Social Affirmation Peggy Lawton

Words of Wisdom Psalm 68:1-4:28-35 Megan Bates

Song of Hope Obey Praise Team

Doxology / Blessing of the Offering Peggy Lawton

Word of God Acts 8:26-39 Myron Jordan

Mission Moment Thanksgiving Fellowship David Beal

Spiritual Vitamin "Something for the Effort" Rev. Dr. Dan Miller

Superintendent-Oasis Conference

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer Peggy Lawton

Song of Love ** Blessed Be Congregation & Praise Team

Going Forth

^{**} Congregation remains standing

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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The World Methodist Social Affirmation

Leader: We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

People: We believe; God, help our unbelief.

Leader: We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom: in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

People: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

Leader: We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploration of people because of greed and indifference; through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology with endangers the earth and all life upon it.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come.

People: Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Words of Wisdom - Psalm 68: 1-4; 28-35

Psalm 68 is a triumphant celebration of **God as a victorious, compassionate, and sovereign King**. It weaves together imagery of divine warfare, deliverance, and worship, portraying God as the One who scatters enemies, defends the vulnerable, and reigns over all nations.

Here are the key themes that run through the psalm:

- God's Power and Majesty It opens with a call for God to arise and scatter His enemies, emphasizing His supreme authority.
- Care for the Vulnerable God is described as a "Father to the fatherless" and "Defender of widows," showing His heart for the marginalized.
- **Deliverance and Provision** The psalm recalls God's guidance of Israel through the wilderness, highlighting His faithfulness and provision.
- Victory and Ascension Verses 18 and onward celebrate God's triumph and foreshadow Christ's ascension, linking Old Testament imagery with New Testament fulfillment.
- **Universal Worship** The psalm ends with a vision of all kingdoms acknowledging God's strength and offering Him praise.

Allow these words from King David to open up your heart to our awareness in why we worship the creator of the world.

Rise up, O God, and scatter your enemies. Let those who hate God run for their lives.

Blow them away like smoke. Melt them like wax in a fire. Let the wicked perish in the presence of God.

But let the godly rejoice. Let them be glad in God's presence. Let them be filled with joy.

Sing praises to God and to his name! Sing loud praises to him who rides the clouds.

His name is the Lord—rejoice in his presence!

Summon your might, O God. Display your power, O God, as you have in the past.

The kings of the earth are bringing tribute to your Temple in Jerusalem.

Rebuke these enemy nations—these wild animals lurking in the reeds, this herd of bulls among the weaker calves. Make them bring bars of silver in humble tribute. Scatter the nations that delight in war.

Let Egypt come with gifts of precious metals; let Ethiopia bring tribute to God. Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth. Sing praises to the Lord.

Sing to the one who rides across the ancient heavens, his mighty voice thundering from the sky. Tell everyone about God's power. His majesty shines down on Israel; his strength is mighty in the heavens. God is awesome in his sanctuary. The God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!

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

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

Word of God - Acts 8:26-39

Today's Word of God comes from the 8th Chapter of The Acts of the Apostles.

Now here the word of the Lord.

As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, "Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and walk along beside the carriage." Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The man replied, "How can I, unless someone instructs me?" And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him.

The passage of Scripture he had been reading was this:

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter.

And as a lamb is silent before the shearers,

he did not open his mouth.

He was humiliated and received no justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?" So, beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?" He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing.

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

People: Thanks be to