

# FUMC | Downtown Bentonville

Traditional Worship 15 May 2022

Rev. Dr. Michelle Morris, Lead Pastor

Rev. Andrea Cummings, Associate Pastor

Dr. T. Ray Wheeler, Director of Traditional Music & Worship

Mr. Matt Nelson, Collaborative Accompanist

Prelude

Mr. Matt Nelson

**Gathering Hymn**

**O Church of God, United**

**No. 547 UMH**

*O church of God, united to serve one common Lord,  
proclaim to all one message, with hearts in glad accord.  
Christ ever goes before us; we follow day by day  
with strong and eager footsteps along the upward way.*

*From every land and nation the ordered ranks appear;  
to serve one valiant leader they come from far and near.  
They chant their one confession, they praise one living Lord,  
and place their sure dependence upon his saving word.*

*Though creeds and tongues may differ, they speak, O Christ, of thee;  
and in thy loving spirit we shall one people be.  
Lord, may our faithful service and singleness of aim  
proclaim to all the power of thy redeeming name.*

*May thy great prayer be answered that we may all be one,  
close bound, by love united in thee, God's blessed Son:  
to bring a single witness, to make the pathway bright,  
that souls which grope in darkness may find the one true light.*

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Andrea Cummings

**Call to Worship**

**Rev. Andrea Cummings**

**One:** Inspiring God, grant us the power of curiosity and imagination  
to see the world as you do.

**All:** **Help us to look on others with love and acceptance; to welcome the stranger with  
warmth and generosity.**

**One:** Awaken our compassion to recognize the dignity and humanity within each one of your  
children.

**All:** **To welcome all your children regardless of who they are, who they love, or where  
there are from. Strengthen us with the power of the Holy Spirit to be the hands and  
feet of Christ.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Rev. Andrea Cummings**

**Life-giving Father, Almighty God, you created us in your image, and with a rich diversity of character and personality. We are loud and quiet, we are excited and reserved, we are energetic and reflective. Inspire us to embrace our individuality; to give thanks for the quirks and abilities that make us who we are. Guide us to respect and value difference in each other and to appreciate the variety that makes life interesting; that makes friendship vibrant; that sparks creativity. Encourage us to love without judgment or fear, and with confidence in your eternal love for us. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Gloria Patri**

**No. 70 UMH**

**Hymn of Praise**

**In Christ there Is No East or West**

**No. 548 UMH**

*In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north;  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.*

*In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,  
And neither slave nor free,  
Both male and female heirs are made,  
And all are kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

Scripture Lesson

Act 11:1-18

Rev. Dr. Michelle Morris

*The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!"*

*Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. "I was in the city of Joppa praying when I had a visionary experience. In my vision, I saw something like a large linen sheet being lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came all the way down to me. As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' The voice from heaven spoke a second time,*

*'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. The Spirit told me to go with them even though they were Gentiles. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered that man's house. He reported to us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. I remembered the Lord's words: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, then who am I? Could I stand in God's way?"*

*Once the apostles and other believers heard this, they calmed down. They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled Gentiles to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life."*

*(Common English Bible)*

Sermon

Breaking the Law

Rev. Dr. Michelle Morris

**Canadian Affirmation of Faith**

**Rev. Andréa Cummings  
No. 883 UMH**

*We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.*

Offertory Moment

Rev. Andréa Cummings

Offertory

Piano Solo

Mr. Matt Nelson

**Doxology**

**No. 94 UMH**

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Andréa Cummings

Anthem

**Bound for the Promised Land**  
Arr. by Jerry DePuit

**Chancel Choir**  
Mr. Blaine Hill, Guest Director

**INVITATION/CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**Rev. Andréa Cummings**

**Page 12 UMH**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

*Leader to people:*

Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

*People to leader:*

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
Glory to God. Amen.**

Holy Communion

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**  
**Sung Responses**

**Rev. Andréa Cummings**

**Page 23 UMH**

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.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

**Taking the Bread and Cup**

**Rev. Andréa Cummings**

**Communion Hymn**

**Let Us Break Bread Together**

**No. 618 UMH**

*Let us break bread together on our knees,  
let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

*Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

*Let us praise God together on our knees,  
let us praise God together on our knees.*

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Michelle Morris

Choral Benediction

Chancel Choir

Postlude

Mr. Matt Nelson