

WORSHIP HANDOUT
Sunday May 15th



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Song of Welcome: Open Doors, by Chris McManus

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace

To be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world.

Today is the day

God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captives, gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free.

And so shall we.

A companion litany to our social creed. Para 166 UMC BOD, 2016.

Opening Hymn: UMH 548, In Christ There Is No East or West

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God, may we hear your voice

In the stillness of night, in clatter of day

You call us, and we respond,

Here I am!

May we follow you and

May we love as you love.

Holy One, through trials and turbulence

Make us steady, your hands

Holding strong the fragile and weak

May we love as you love.

Gracious God, may the fruits of our lives

be food for the hungry, bread

clothing, shelter, fire, water, Word

May we love as you love.

God of justice, remove the barriers

Of our lives that keep us from

One another, barriers we construct
Based on skin color, religion, or gender
May we hear, and follow, graciously.
May we love as you love.

Loving God, take this day our fears our
Worries, distractions, and all
Turn them into grace and mercy,
And, following the example of Martin Luther King, Jr.
and all your Saints,
May we love as you love.

Amen.

— written by Terri, and posted on the **RevGalBlogPals** blog. <http://revgalblogpals.blogspot.com/>

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER (MUSIC) 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 now and forever. Amen.

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER Jesus Loves Me 191 v I

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN TFWS 2175, Together We Serve

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;

UMH 95

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER**

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives.

DEDICATION OF THE FAN

ANTHEM Lamb of God, by Twila Paris

LESSON I Acts 11:1-18 CEB

The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. 2 When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. 3 They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!" 4 Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. 5 "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. 6 As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. 7 I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' 8 I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9 The voice from heaven spoke a second time, 'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' 10 This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. 11 At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house

where we were staying. 12 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. 13 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. 14 He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' 15 When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. 16 I remembered the Lord's words: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 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?" 18 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."

May God add a blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2

John 13:31-35

CEB

31 When Judas was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Human One has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify the Human One in himself and will glorify him immediately. 33 Little children, I'm with you for a little while longer. You will look for me—but, just as I told the Jewish leaders, I also tell you now—'Where I'm going, you can't come.' 34 "I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. 35 This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE UM because of our Love.

HYMN TFWS 2175, Together We Serve

BENEDICTION
 UMH 364 Because He Lives, refrain only

POSTLUDE