

UMCM Morning Worship
February 12, 2023, 10:00 am

**Denotes Standing, in body and/or spirit*

Worship Theme: God Gives the Growth

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "The Mystery of God" RoseAnne Homola, Piano
by Paul Taylor

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Youth

***Call to Worship** Psalm 119 (*Responsively*) Leader

Leader: Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD.

People: **Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart - they do no wrong but follow his ways.**

Leader: You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed.

People: **Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees! Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands.**

Leader: I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.

People: **I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me.**

Leader: I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

People: **I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**

***Opening Hymn** "The Church's One Foundation" UMH #545
(v. 1, 2, 4)

***Opening Prayer** Leader
Heavenly Father, thank you for this opportunity to "unplug" from the world, and to "plug-in" to You. Please forgive us for those moments over this past week when our jealousy and anger separated us from You and Your will. Please allow this time to mature our faith, and to better know our place in Your plans. May we be gardeners that plant Your seeds of life, even if we don't know if, or what, will grow from

them. We love you Lord - and we are just thankful for another opportunity to learn from You today. *Teach us to do your will, for you are our God; may your good Spirit lead us on level ground. Amen.*

Offering One Another the Peace of Christ

Choir Anthem "We Shall be Thankful" by Andrew Duncan

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson: [1 Corinthians 3:1-9](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 5:21-37](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Gardeners for God" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "The Gift of Love" UMH #408

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns

***Doxology & The Offering of our Gifts**

Offering Prayer (By Denise Wiley)

Almighty God, we come before You today as Your precious sons and daughters. While we may be infants in faith, we ask you to receive these gifts, Lord, that are offered with thankful hearts. We place them in your holy presence, at your altar. May they plant, nourish and bless all opportunities to help those around us in need, and support the work of Your church. Thank you Lord for blessing them. We realize that they really come from You, and as we offer them back to You, we pray we will have the heart to always say yes to you. Yes to love, yes to serve, yes to give. We pray this in Your most holy name. Amen.

