

**Confirmation Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 10am**  
**Huntington UMC, Jesse Lee UMC, and UMC of Monroe**

**Acolytes** Evelyn Eddinger (HUMC), Dillon Courtney (HUMC)  
**Greeters** Evelyn, Dillon (HUMC)  
Aidan Zvovushe-Ramos (UMCM)  
Jonathan Berg (JLUMC)

**Confirmands**

**Huntington UMC**

Dillon Courtney  
Evelyn Eddinger  
Vincent Gasbarro  
Mary Staecker

**Jesse Lee UMC**

Jonathan Berg  
Brian Sideleau

**UMC Monroe**

Zoe Robertson  
Aiden Wallace  
Liam Whalen  
Aidan Zvovushe-Ramos

**Order of Service**

**Opening Hymn**

UMH 64 Holy, Holy, Holy

Verse 1

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Verse 2

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Verse 3

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

Verse 4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

**Call to Worship**

**Mary Staecker (HUMC)**

Leader: We gather in the presence of God, uniting our hearts and voices in worship.

**Congregation: We celebrate the faith journey of our confirmands, honoring their commitment and dedication.**

Leader: From Huntington, Monroe, and Jesse Lee, we come as one body, diverse in our paths, united in our purpose.

**Congregation: We offer our support, our prayers, and our love to these young believers as they affirm their faith.**

Leader: Let us remember the strength found in our unity, the joy in our fellowship, and the hope in our shared faith.

**Congregation: We commit to walk alongside our confirmands, guiding and nurturing their spiritual growth.**

Leader: Let us worship God, who guides us all on our individual paths, yet brings us together in a tapestry of faith and love.

**Congregation: With joy and gratitude, we celebrate this milestone in our confirmands' faith journey and our united church community.**

## **Opening Prayer**                      Zoe Robertson (UMCM)

Loving God, On this special day of confirmation, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude and joy. We thank You for the journey of faith that has brought our confirmands to this momentous occasion. Bless them with courage, wisdom, and a deepening love for You.

We are grateful for the unity and fellowship shared among Huntington, Monroe, and Jesse Lee United Methodist Churches. May our coming together today symbolize the strength and beauty of Your church, united in purpose and love.

Guide us in this service of celebration, and may our worship be pleasing to You. In Your holy name, we pray.

Amen.

## **Welcome and Announcements**    Pastor Jacob

### **Hymn**

TFWS 2129      I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Verse 1

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus - no turning back, no turning back.

Verse 2

The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me - no turning back, no turning back.

Verse 3

Though none go with me, still I will follow, though none go with me, still I will follow, though none go with me, still I will follow— no turning back, no turning back.

## **Children's Sermon**                      HUMC

This Little Light of Mine

## **Passing of the Peace**

## Combined Choir Anthem & Offering

“Have Faith” by Walt Harrah

**Ushers:** Aiden Wallace UMCM, Jonathan Berg JLUMC

### Doxology

UMH 94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Offering Prayer Liam Whalen (UMCM)

Gracious God, we bring our offerings with joyful hearts. Bless these gifts, Lord, and use them for the work of Your church, in our communities and beyond. May these offerings be a symbol of our commitment to support not only our confirmands but also the united mission of Huntington, Monroe, and Jesse Lee United Methodist Churches. Guide us to use these resources wisely and compassionately, reflecting Your love and grace in all we do.

In gratitude for Your endless blessings, we dedicate these offerings to Your glory. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

### First Scripture Reading Brian Sideleau (JLUMC)

Jeremiah 29:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup> Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup> I will let you find me.

### Second Scripture Reading Vincent Gasbarro (HUMC)

1 Timothy 4:12-16

<sup>12</sup> Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. <sup>13</sup> Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. <sup>14</sup> Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. <sup>15</sup> Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. <sup>16</sup> Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

## **Baptism & Confirmation**

### **Introduction – Pastor Jacob**

#### **Pastor Jacob**

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation, and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

#### **Pastors**

Fern Why We Believe What We Believe

Introduce sponsors for Brian and John

Chuck Why We Believe What We Believe

Introduce sponsors for Aidan, Aiden, Liam, and Zoe

Jacob Why We Believe What We Believe

Introduce sponsors for Dillon, Evelyn, Mary, and Vincent

#### **Sponsors**

I present Name(s) for baptism.

and/or

I present Name(s) for confirmation.

#### **Testimonies by Confirmands**

Why I Believe What I Believe

### **Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith – Pastor Chuck**

#### **Pastor Chuck**

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

#### **Confirmands**

**I do.**

#### **Pastor Chuck**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**Confirmands**

**I do.**

**Pastor Chuck**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**Confirmands**

**I do.**

**Pastor Chuck to Parents/Sponsors**

Will you nurture these children (persons) in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

**Parents/Sponsors**

**I will.**

**Pastor Chuck to Parents/Sponsors**

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

**Parents/Sponsors**

**I will.**

**Pastor Chuck to Sponsors**

Will you who sponsor these candidates support and encourage them in their Christian life?

**Sponsors**

**I will.**

**Pastor to Congregation**

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**Congregation**

**We do.**

**Pastor Chuck**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

**Congregation**

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

**Pastor Chuck**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**All**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**Pastor Chuck**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**All**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**[who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the**

**Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

**Pastor Chuck**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, [the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.]**

## **Baptism – Pastor Fern**

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Eternal Father:

When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

### **Baptism with Laying on of Hands**

*Name*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sisters and brothers in Christ.

**All**

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.**

**We are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.**

## **Confirmation of Faith – All Pastors**

### **Pastor Jacob**

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

### **Confirmands**

**Amen.**

### **Pastor Jacob, Chuck, and Fern**

*Names*, the Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Reception into the UMC**

### **Pastor Fern**

As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

### **Confirmands**

**I will.**

## **Reception into the Local Congregation**

### **Pastor Chuck**

As members of our congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

### **Confirmands**

**I will.**

## **Commendation and Welcome – Pastor Jacob**

### **Pastor Jacob**

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

### **Congregation**

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**



## Closing Hymn

UMH 593      Here I Am, Lord

### Verse 1

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? My hand will save.

### Chorus

Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

### Verse 2

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne by people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. They turn away. (Chorus)

### Verse 3

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to the. My hand will save. (Chorus)

**Benediction and Sending Forth**

Pastor David