

## Welcome to Worship with Memorial United Methodist Church

Transfiguration and Confirmation Sunday, February 14, 2021, Worship Guide  
Pre-recorded worship premieres at 8:30 a.m. Sunday; In-person (livestream) starts at 10:30 a.m.  
Available at [www.gladstonechurch.org](http://www.gladstonechurch.org)

### We Gather to Worship God

#### Call to Worship

Praise Team

This is the day we worship, Creator God, grateful for your grace at work in our lives.

**Every day is grace with you, Creator God.**

This is the step we take to follow you, Lord Jesus, led by your love for each of us.

**Every step is love with you, Lord Jesus.**

This is the breath we draw, Holy Spirit, inspired by your life-giving power.

**Every breath is life with you, Holy Spirit.**

#### Opening Hymn: “*Living Spirit, Holy Fire*” W&S 3109

Praise Team

Living Spirit, holy fire, burning bright to light our way, blaze among us and inspire lives that praise you day by day.

Warm us, draw your people near when our love draws weak or cold. Free our frozen hearts from fear, that each story may be told.

Melt away the masks we wear, hiding what we know and feel. Risking growth, we want to share love in action, love that’s real.

Open hearts; affirm us all, many-splendored, one in you, we embrace the work, the call: you are making all things new.

Words: Ruth Duck © 2005; music: Lori True © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc.

### We Share the Story of God

#### Sharing from the Gospel of Mark 9:2-10

Terri Branstrom

Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain where they were alone. Jesus was transformed in front of them, and his clothes were amazingly bright, brighter than if they had been bleached white. Elijah and Moses appeared and were talking with Jesus.

Scripture taken from Common English Bible: Mark 9:2-4

#### Message for Today

Pastor Cathy Rafferty

### We Respond to God

#### Sung Response: “*The Summons*” TFWS 2130 (vv. 1-3)

Praise Team

Will you come and follow me, if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known? Will you let my life be grown, in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Graham Maule | John L. Bell

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**Confirming the Baptismal Covenant** (at 10:30 in-person service)

## Offering Our Gifts, Commitments, and Prayers

Please give online at [www.gladstonechurch.org](http://www.gladstonechurch.org)

Or mail checks payable to: Memorial UMC, 1920 Lake Shore Dr., Gladstone, MI 49837

Please email prayer requests to [mumc@gladstonechurch.org](mailto:mumc@gladstonechurch.org) or call (906) 428-9311

## We Go, Blessed to Serve

### Blessing to Serve

May we go now to live the vows we have made, confirming the words of our mouths with the actions of our lives, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Sung Response: “The Summons” TFWS 2130 (vv. 4-5)

Praise Team

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I’ll go, where your love and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Graham Maule | John L. Bell

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W&S (Worship & Song), TFWS (The Faith We Sing), UMH (United Methodist Hymnal), UMBOW (United Methodist Book of Worship).

## **Confirming the Baptismal Covenant [UMH 33]**

**Pastor:** Friends, family, siblings in Christ: we celebrate baptism as an outward and visible sign of the grace we share in Jesus Christ. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into the Christian community of faith. We acknowledge God's gracious acts of salvation, and we are given new birth through water and the Spirit. All of this is God's gift, offered to us without price. It is our practice in the United Methodist Church for parents to bring their children to be baptized, to make vows on behalf of those children in covenant with God and the church. Then, when each baptized person is ready, they publicly confirm those vows, taking responsibility for their own faith journey, for their relationship to God, and for their membership in a particular church congregation. Confirmation is also an opportunity for the church congregation to affirm their love and acceptance of those being confirmed, to pledge their ongoing support, and to reaffirm their own faith and commitment.

**Lay Leader:** 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. On this Transfiguration Sunday, February 14, 2021, I present the following persons for confirmation:

Caiden Mattonen, Owen Mattonen, Nate Moore, Allie Ettenhofer, Maggie Buckley, Camryn Buckley, Sylvia Nault, Landon Stammer, Carter Stammer, and Claire Marlett.

*Confirmands come forward.*

**Pastor:** Since the earliest times, the vows of Christian baptism have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. Today our candidates for confirmation will publicly profess for themselves the solemn vows that were made at their baptism. So, on behalf of the whole Church, I now ask those to be confirmed:

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

**I do**

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

**I do**

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?

**I do**

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?

**I will**

**Lay Leader:** Congregation, do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do**

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

**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.**

## **Apostles' Creed (UMH 882)**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving Over the Water (UMH 36)**

**Pastor:** *Let us pray* – Eternal God: 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.

**Congregation: Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

**Lay Leader:** 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.

**Congregation: Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

**Pastor:** 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.

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

### **Confirmation of Faith (UMH37) for each confirmand**

**Lay Leader:** *Name*, please step to the baptismal font. Confirm your baptism and be thankful (*confirmand touches water, traces cross on self*).

**Pastor:** *Name (pastor and lay leader place hands on confirmand)*, 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.

**Congregation: Amen.** (*Lay Leader: Present confirmand with certificate*)

### **Reception into Memorial United Methodist Church (UMH 38)**

**Pastor:** As members of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**Confirmands: We will.**

**Lay Leader:** As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**Confirmands: We will.**

At this time, I also present Dylan and Devin Messina who have transferred to this congregation having been already confirmed at Grace UMC in Houghton, Michigan.

**Pastor:** 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.

**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.**

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.