

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

KICK-OFF SUNDAY

Welcome in the Name of our Risen Lord!

This morning we celebrate the beginning of a new year with, what is now called Kick-Off Sunday. It's a day when we lift up all the ministries of the church - from our children and youth ministries, to adult and congregational programs, to community and worldwide outreach. We are so blessed to be a part of this amazing community. Let's give thanks to God this day for MTMUMC!

THE BELL TOLLS – Welcoming us to worship God

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CELEBRATIONS

+CALL TO WORSHIP [Adapted from Psalm 100]

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

People: Come into God's presence with singing!

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,

People: Come into God's courts with praise!

Leader: God's love endures forever,

People: God's faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: Lift up your voice and rejoice!

+OPENING HYMN #89 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (v. 1-3)*

UMH

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love,
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

+OPENING PRAYER (join in prayer)

A Blessing for Learners

Gracious God, as we gather today, we remember our role as learners and seekers of the faith. We give thanks for all those present or away, who are a part of the Body of Christ. Bless our children and youth – who will be participating this year in our church school and youth programs. Bless our teachers and all our adults as well, for our times of study and prayer, so that we may grow in faith. Bless our times of fellowship, so that we may truly live as brothers and sisters in Christ. Bless our times of worship so that we may be enriched in our spirits. And bless our missions and ministry in the world. In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

Halle, Halle, Halle
Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (join in prayer)

Lord, you have said that it is with childlike faith that we enter your Kingdom. We are all your children; help us to hear your Word and respond in faith, always. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 18:15-16

NRSV

Jesus Welcomes Little Children

People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them, and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

CHILDREN'S TIME (Young people are invited to come forward.)

Pastor Roy

**BREATH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor Roy

PRAYER HYMN #2065 Lord You Are, More Precious than Silver (2X) TFWS

Lord you are more precious than silver. Lord you are more costly than gold.
Lord you are more beautiful than diamonds, and nothing I desire compares with you.

OFFERING

PRESENTATION “The Doxology”

**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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (join in prayer)

Great God in Heaven, in a hushed whisper you quietly summon us to do your will. Awaken our minds, enabling us to hear and to act courageously on your desire for our lives. Our knowledge of your truth inspires us to follow your teachings and to give freely. Accept our offerings to bless anyone in need. We pray in your exalted name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 29:11-14
A Future With Hope

NRSV

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. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

MESSAGE

“A New Day”

Pastor Roy

CLOSING HYMN #733

Marching to Zion

UMH

Come ye that love the Lord, and let your joys be known,
Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord.
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion; the beautiful city of God

Let those refuse to sing, who never knew our God;
But children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King,
May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion; the beautiful city of God

Then let our songs a bound and every tear be dry;
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground; we're marching through Emmanuel's Ground,
To fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion; the beautiful city of God.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE