

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering/Doxology

UMH 95

Offertory Prayer

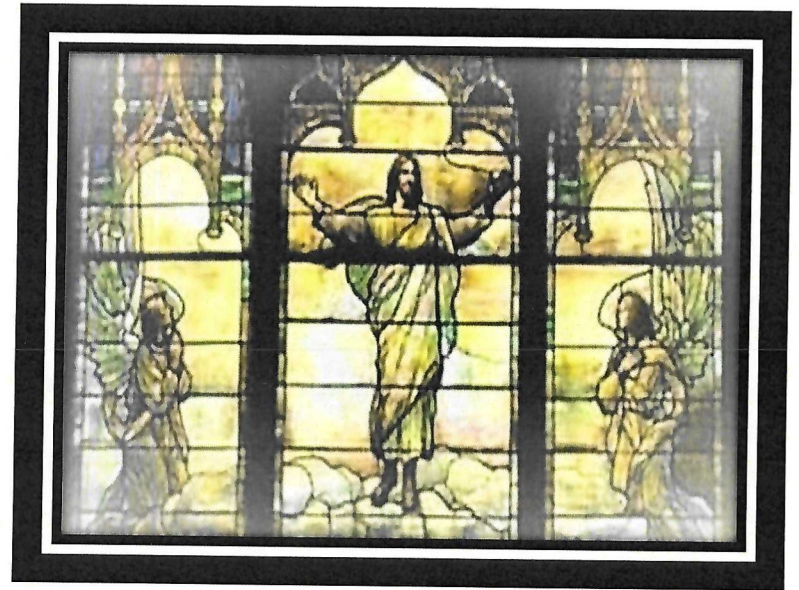
Service of Word and Table

UMH 13

Passing the Peace

Hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (v1) UMH 557

Benediction



GATEWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 12, 2026

301 Diamond Street, Fairmont WV 26554

Rev. Nici Masters, Pastor
Music Coordinator – Bev Slagle
Bell Choir Director – Val Huffman
July Head Usher – Rob Moore

Acolytes

Esme and Ollie Allen
Haeden and Kenslie Futton
Nora Rae Huffman

The Celebration of Worship

Order of Worship

Announcements

Prelude

"Let's Just Praise the Lord"

Gaither CCLI3296614

Let's just praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Let's just lift our hearts to heaven and praise the Lord.

Let's just praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Let's just lift our hearts to heaven and praise the Lord.

*Call to Worship

L: We are called together this day to praise God.

All: We ask that God will put us in pathways of service to others.

L: The Lord will walk with us as we faithfully witness to Christ's love.

All: Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your words and will.

L: Come, let us worship God!

All: Let us sing our praises to God our Redeemer and Healer. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, mend our brokenness and our sadness. Give us spirits of joy and enthusiasm for service to you by serving others. Lift us and place us on your pathways of peace and hope, that with our lives we will witness to your redeeming love. AMEN.

Children's Chat

Christy Miller

Hymn

"Rescue the Perishing" v 1,3,4 UMH 591

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35:1-4

1 The desert and the parched land will be glad, the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, 2 it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.

3 Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; 4 say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

Sermon Scripture

Galatians 6:1-10

1 Brothers and sisters if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks they are something they are not, they will deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load. 6 Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor.

7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Sermon

"The Opportunity of Today"

Rev. Nici Masters

Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation" v 1,4,5 UMH 545

10 praise prelude songs

1. We Have Come Into His House

Ballinger CCLI 3296614

We have come into His house, and gathered in His name to worship Him, We have come into His house and gathered in His name to worship Him, We have come into His house and gathered in His name to worship Christ the Lord, worship Him Christ the Lord.
Let's forget about ourselves and concentrate on Him and worship Him, Let's forget about ourselves and concentrate on Him and worship Him, Let's forget about ourselves and concentrate on Him and worship Christ the Lord, worship Him Christ the Lord.

2. Surely The Presence

Wolfe CCLI 3296614

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face, surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. 2x.

3. Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Lemmel CCLI 3296614

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace. 2x

4. My Life Is In You Lord.

Gardner CCLI 3296614

My life is in you Lord, my strength is in you Lord, my hope is in You Lord in You, it's in You My life is in You Lord, my strength is in You Lord, my hope is in You Lord, in You it's in you, I will praise you with all of my life, I will praise you with all of my strength, with all of my life, with all of my strength all of my hope is in you. My life is in you Lord, my strength is in you Lord, my hope is in You Lord in You, it's in You My life is in You Lord, my strength is in You Lord, my hope is in You Lord, in You it's in you, in You.

5. Open Our Eyes Lord.

Cull CCLI3296614

Open our eyes Lord, We want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch Him and say that we love Him, Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen, Open our eyes Lord we want to see Jesus, 2x

6. Thy Word.

Smith CCLI 3296614

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path, When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me, and nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. 2x

7. I Will Enter His Gates

Brethorst CCLI 3296614

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart, I will enter His courts with praise, I will say this is the day, that the Lord has made, I will rejoice for He has made me glad. He has made me glad, He has made me glad, I will rejoice, for He has made me glad. He has made me glad. He has made me glad. I will rejoice for He has made me glad. 2x

8 Come Into His Presence

Brethorst CCLI3296614

Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your heart and give Him praise and give Him praise, Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your heart your voices raise, your voices raise, give glory and honor and power unto Him, Jesus, the name above all names.

9 Sanctuary

Scruggs CCLI 3296614

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true, with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you, 2x.

10 Bind Us together

Gillman CCLI 3296614

Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together with love. There is only one God, there is only one King, There is only one body, that is why we sing, Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together with love

PRAYER REQUESTS

Faye Dodd, Rusty Freeland, Mary Beth Furbee, Carol Hall, Ezra Hall, Lisa Kerns, Jeff Kerns
Linda Lomicka, Charlotte Merriman, Dan Ross, Madalee Wilson, Kay Young

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12 – Prayer Team
July 14 – Yoga in Asbury Hall – 10am
July 15 – Dinner/Church on the Green -5pm-7pm
July 25 – GUMM Breakfast

JULY ATTENDANCE

July 5 – 57
July 12 –
July 19 –
July 26 –

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS

Anyone who would like to sing for the cantata is invited to attend rehearsals each Wednesday evening at 6pm.

Gateway Contact Information

Church Office Phone – 304-363-7847
Pastor's Phone – 219-242-4678
Pastor's email – nicimasters@yahoo.com
Church E-mail – gatewayumc@gmail.com
Website – gatewayumc-wv.org
YouTube Link – <https://youtube.com@gatewayumc.wv>

Loose Change/Food Pantry Collection

Loose change (coins only) – Honey Bags
Items for July – shampoo/deodorant

Mary Priscilla Women's Group & Gateway United Methodist Men

Baked Steak Dinner

Baked Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Salad & Dessert

Friday, September 18, 2026

3:30 – 6:30 PM

Dine-In or Take-Out

Gateway UMC – 301 Diamond St – Fairmont, WV

\$17.00 per dinner

Checks Payable to

Mary Priscilla Women's Group

Galatians 6: 1-10

Isaiah 35:1-4

This passage is the practical application of Paul's letter to the Galatians. He explains how to live out the "law of Christ" (love) by restoring fallen believers, sharing each other's heavy burdens, taking responsibility for our own actions, & persistently doing good without growing weary.

1. Restoring the Fallen (1)

Paul instructs mature believers to gently restore anyone who is caught in a sin.

** The Goal: Healing & Restoration, rather than gossip, condemnation or ostracization.*

** The Attitude: Humility; Paul warns those who are helping to be careful, as they are equally susceptible to temptation.*

2. Bearing Each Other's Burdens (2)

Christians are called to carry each other's heavy, overwhelming burdens (such as grief, financial crisis, or deep tragedy). By doing this the church fulfills the "law of Christ," which Jesus defined as loving one another. (John 13:34)

3. Personal Responsibility (3-5)

Paul balances the instruction to help others by reminding individuals of their own personal accountability.

** Avoid Comparison: Don't compare yourself to others to feed a sense of pride or superiority.*

** Test Your Own Work: Every person should evaluate their own life & actions against God's standards.*

** Carry Your Own Load: While we carry other's crushing burdens, we must take ownership of our own individual responsibilities & duties.*

4. Sowing & Reaping (7-8)

Paul uses an agricultural metaphor to explain a universal spiritual truth.

** If you plant (sow) the seeds of your sinful human nature, you will harvest decay & death.*

** If you plant seeds of the Holy Spirit (love, kindness & obedience), you will harvest eternal life.*

5. Persevere in Doing Good (9-10)

Paul concludes this section by urging believers to never give up on doing what's right. He assures the church that a spiritual harvest will come if they do not lose heart. He emphasizes that while we should all bless people, we have a special responsibility to prioritize the needs of the "household of faith" (fellow believers).

Overview

The goal of dealing with the transgressor is not punishment, but restoration & healing. While seeking to restore the transgressor, community members are to take care that they themselves are not tempted (1). Paul likely means being tempted to a false evaluation of self in comparison to the fallen brother or sister (3).

(2) Paul has a radical understanding of the responsibility believers have for one another. They are to share all burdens, even the burdens of guilt & shame when 1 of them goes astray. This is another way of fulfilling the "law of Christ," the command to love one's neighbor as self. (5:14)

Loving the neighbor this way means resisting self-deception (3), recognizing that I am every bit as vulnerable to temptation as my neighbor, every bit as dependent upon the grace of God. It means that rather than comparing myself to my neighbor, I engage in self-examination. (4-5)

Paul seems to contradict himself. Though we are to bear one another burdens, we each carry our own load. Though we bear responsibility for one another, judgment belongs to God alone. We need to examine our lives, not in comparison of our neighbor, but only to see if we are walking according to the spirit. In the final judgment, we each will answer for our own lives.

The time remaining before the final judgment is not a time for growing lax or "weary in doing what is right." It's rather an opportune time for working for the good of all, so that the eschatological harvest will be even greater (9-10).

Verse 1

The idea of restoring those overtaken in sin is of someone who has fallen into sin; It's not a deliberate, planned aspect of sin that is stressed but rather the unwitting element. Mistake rather than misdeed is the force of the word, though without absolution of responsibility.

The overtaken ones need to be restored. They are not to be ignored. They are not to be excused or destroyed. The goal is RESTORATION.

Restore: It's instructive; to put in order. It must always be done in the spirit of gentleness, with full understanding of our weakness & corruption. Guard against temptation of pride.

** Mark 1:19*

Paul says if we are waling by the spirit, led by the spirit, & keeping in step with the spirit we will do 4 things as we speak to those who have transgressed:

- 1. Restore them with gentleness*
- 2. Keep watch on yourself - The effects of pride are contagious. Make sure we have the right heart & spirit.*
- 3. Bear their burden (2) - Whatever the transgression is, Paul says to pick it up & carry it away from them.*
- 4. Test your work (4-5)*

Verse 2-5

The focus isn't on expecting others to bear your burdens. That's self-focused & always leads to pride, frustration, discouragement, & depression. God always directs us to be others-focused; "Bear one another's burdens"

We are fulfilling the simple law of Christ.

** John 13:34-35*

Pride prevents us from bearing one another's burdens & fulfilling that law of Christ. It's often pride that keeps us from ministering to one another as we should. Pride is self-focused & says I'm more important than you. Out of pride, people will refuse to receive help when someone else reaches out to help bear their burden.

** Philippians 2:3b-4*

To be proud is to be blind - blind to the freely given favor & gifts of God, blind to our sin & depravity, blind to the good in others & blind to the foolishness of self-centeredness.

Let each one examine his own work- Instead of deceiving ourselves, we must take a careful & sober examination of our works before God. If we don't & If we carry on under our self deception, then we may think our works are approved by God, when really they aren't. We want to have our work approved before God so that our rejoicing on the day of reward can be for our own work & not in the work of another.

For each one shall bear his own load - A day when our works will be examined before the Lord. This is the judgment seat of Christ.

** Romans 14:10*

** 2 Corinthians 5:10*

The word for load (5) was a common term for a man's backpack. The word for burdens (2) was a different meaning "heavy burdens" - those that are more than man should carry. In the end, we are all responsible for our own work, but we can help bear the burdens of others.

(2) talks about a burdens as a heavy weight, a problem that is weighing someone down.

(5) the burden is used for an individual pack & connotes the idea of individual responsibility - God has called you particularly & specifically to do something.

Verses 6-10

Doing good to others in the household of faith

The right relationship between teacher/minister, being taught, & a congregation is one of koinonia, fellowship or partnership. So Paul writes, "Let him who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches." It isn't payment; it's sharing.

** Luke 16:11*

** 1Corinthians 9:11-14*

** 1Timothy 5:17*

For those who are hesitant to share in all good things with those who teach then, Paul reminded them of God's principle of sowing & reaping. Their giving is like planting seeds & whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. It is selfishness that mocks God's generosity towards those who give to Him.

As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially those who are of the household of faith. Not losing heart, we seek to do good with our resources & to do good to all.

To sow to the flesh is to look forward to the wants of the present life, without any regard to a future life. They who do this will gather fruit corresponding to the seed which they have sown. To sow in the flesh is supposed by some to mean indulgence in the translation & from Erasmus.

By the spirit I understand the spiritual life to which they are said to sow whose views are directed more to heaven than to earth & whose life is regulated by the desire of reaching the kingdom of God. From their spiritual employments they will reap in heaven incorruptible fruit.

Though eternal life is a reward, it does not follow either that we are justified by works or that works are meritorious of salvation. The underserved kindness of

God appears in the very act of honoring the works which his grace has enabled us to perform, by promising to them a reward to which they are not entitled.

- 1. We have no good works which God rewards but those which we derive from his grace.*
- 2. The good works we perform by the guidance & direction of the Holy Spirit are the suits of that adoption which is an act of free grace.*
- 3. They are not only unworthy of the smallest & most inconsiderable reward but deserve to be wholly condemned because they are always stained by many blemishes; What have pollutions to do with the presence of God?*
- 4. Though a reward had been 1000 times promised to works, yet its not due but by fulfilling the condition of obeying the law perfectly; And how widely distant are we all from that perfection?*

We are unable to do anything but by the free grace of God & yet that the benefits resulting from our works receive the name of a reward.

We are instructed not to be weary in assisting our neighbors, in performing good offices & in exercising generosity. We are naturally reluctant to discharge the duties of brotherly love & many unpleasant occurrences arise by which the ardor of the best disposed persons is apt to be cooled.

In short, the world presents innumerable hinderances, which tend to lead us aside from the right path.

We shall reap the fruit which God promises, if we “persevere to the end.”

** Matthew 10:22*