



We invite you to join us online ([www.westmarketchurch.org](http://www.westmarketchurch.org)) or by radio ([WPET 950 AM](#) & [92.7 FM](#)) to participate in worship this Sunday.

Below you will find the bulletin for the

11:00 a.m. service for the Third Sunday of Easter, April 14, 2024.

We come as Christ's body to honor God's presence together.

We come to share faith, hope, and love with one another.

We come to proclaim and to hear "God is with us! Thanks be to God!"

*~Pastors Otto and Jeremy*



**April 14, 2024**

**Third Sunday of Easter  
ECC Sunday**

**11:00 a.m.**

### **Silent Meditation**

*Through the particular ministry of childcare,  
we extend the nurturing ministry of the church  
and proclaim justice to children, families, and communities.  
The church has important responsibilities in initiating, encouraging,  
and participating in the highest quality of childcare for children and families.*

*United Methodist Book of Resolutions, Resolution #3081*

# GATHERING

## WELCOME

### PRELUDE:

“He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands”

arr. Stan Pethel

Lola Weikel, flute

### GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMISSIONING:

Leader: We gather today, united in purpose, to commission those who carry the flame of service and dedication for the postponed 2020 United Methodist General Conference to be held in Charlotte, April 23 – May 3. General Conference is the only body that can set official policy and speak for the denomination. 862 delegates, half clergy and half lay, will come together to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy, and economic issues. The General Conference will also approve plans and budgets for church-wide ministry for the next four years. Delegates will worship, pray, debate, and vote as one body. Volunteers will serve in a variety of ways to welcome bishops, delegates, and guests to Charlotte. Their service will help create the space for holy conferencing.

Delegates and Volunteers: We stand ready, hearts open wide, to serve with courage, love, and pride.

Leader: For this sacred task, we call forth leaders, delegates, chosen and appointed, to represent the diverse voices of our faith, in the spirit of humility and grace.

Delegates: We answer the call, with minds prepared to listen, discern, and faithfully share.

Leader: May the Spirit of wisdom dwell within you, empowering you to speak truth to power, and to advocate for the marginalized and oppressed, with courage and unwavering resolve.

Delegates: With boldness, we stand for righteousness’s sake; in the face of adversity, we will be attentive to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **May you walk with integrity and wisdom, guided by the light of God's eternal love, as you navigate the complexities of our time, seeking justice, mercy, and reconciliation.**

Delegates: With humility, we embrace this sacred trust.

Leader: For those who will give of their time and talents to offer hospitality to our brothers and sisters from around the world, may your hearts be filled with compassion and your words seasoned with kindness and empathy, as you share unconditional love and respect for all.

Delegates and Volunteers: We covenant to honor the dignity of each soul in our actions and our words as we shine the light of Christ in Charlotte.

Congregation: **As you embark on this sacred journey, know that you are surrounded by our prayers and supported by this community of faith. We are bound together by the love of God.**

Delegates and Volunteers: With gratitude, we receive this charge today. In God's grace, we journey together in faith and love. May our work be a testament to the glory of God and the transformation of the world.

All: **Amen.**

Prayer of Commissioning for General Conference Delegates and Volunteers

## ENTRANCE

† CALL TO WORSHIP: Meredith Kasten, ECC Director

We share our faith with children.

**We help them see themselves as persons of worth.**

We share our faith with children.

**We help them become better stewards of God's creation.**

We share our faith with children.

**We help them practice the rule of love in all attitudes and relationships.**

We share our faith with children.

**We use the language of faith in interpreting experiences.**

We share our faith with children when we walk side by side,  
**recognizing each other's gifts and sharing the richness of everyday living together.**

*Adapted from the Guidelines for Weekday Preschool Ministry Programs in United Methodist Churches, General Board of Discipleship, Summer 2011, Volume 1.*

† HYMN OF PRAISE: No.111

“How Can We Name a Love”

TERRA BEATA

1. How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind, in-dwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find? Within our daily world, in every human face, Love's echoes sound and God is found, hid in the commonplace.
2. If we awoke to life built on a rock of care that asked no great reward but firm, assured, was simply there, we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore, Love unconfined, a father kind, a mother strong and sure.
3. When people share a task, and strength and skill unite in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight, our Friend and Partner's will is better understood, that all should share, create, and care, and know that life is good.
4. So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet a presence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street. Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun: In Christ alone is Love full grown and life and hope begun.

Text: Brian Wren, 1973 © 1975, Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

† COLLECT:

O God, tug on our hearts, like a child tugging a parent's sleeve,  
whisper in our ear, like a child sharing an important secret,  
clamor for our attention, like a young one who can't wait any longer,  
redirect our sights, like a child pointing out a wonder we almost missed.  
Don't let us miss your Holy Spirit this day, we pray. Amen.

*Christian Worship Resources for Children's Sabbath, Children's Defense Fund*

† GLORIA PATRI: No. 70

MEINEKE

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

Text: Lesser Doxology, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century

# PROCLAMATION

**MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN:** *Please join us in singing after the Children's Message*

No. 273 "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" AU CLAIRE DE LA LUNE

1. Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all, healing pain and sickness, blessing children small, washing tired feet, and saving those who fall; Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.
2. Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you; make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too, till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

Text: Margaret Cropper © 1979 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

## LESSONS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE:

**Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 12:21-22, & Ephesians 3:20-21 (KJV)**

**Reader: Heather Lyons, ECC Board Member**

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service... And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary... Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

The Word of God for the people of God  
**Thanks be to God**

**SERMON:**

**"Which Is Your Reasonable Service"**

**Mr. Ken Daly**

## RESPONSE

**RESPONSIVE MUSIC:**

"Jesus Loves Me!"  
Lola Weikel, flute

arr. Jayne Southwick Cool

## † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And 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, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
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. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**AN INVITATION FOR HOPES AND DREAMS: Meredith Kasten**  
**Celebrating the Gifts of the Early Childhood Center**

*As we celebrate and remember our collective call to the ministry of Early Childhood education,  
we invite you to consider the following:*

*1) How do you see God using the ECC for good in Greensboro?*

*2) If this church could do anything to support that good, what could we dream of doing?*

*You may write your responses on the provided cards. Please place them on the display as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.*

**THANKSGIVING TO GOD THROUGH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS:**

*For your convenience, you can give to West Market Street UMC by text message.*

*Text WMC to 73256. Follow prompts to complete your giving.*

*If you make a financial gift to the Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund,  
please write "ECC Scholarships" on your check or giving envelope.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:**

"Day of Arising"

Carl Shalk; arr. David Cherwien

*Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.  
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.*

*When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness,  
slowness of heart, yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation:*

*Stay, do not part. Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.*

*This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign: when the church gathers,  
when bread is broken, there Christ is with us in bread and wine.*

*Christ, our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.*

*Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.*

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien (1953-2021) © 1996 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

† **DOXOLOGY:** No. 94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted Gilbert H. Viera, 1978 © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

† **OFFERING BLESSING**

**SENDING FORTH**

† **HYMN OF DEDICATION:** No. 581 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" BEACH SPRING

- 1. Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart, consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.**
- 2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.**

3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.
4. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1961 © 1988, Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

## † BENEDICTION

† **BENEDICTION RESPONSE:** No. 664, v.1 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" THE ASH GROVE

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
God's grace did invite us and love shall unite us  
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

Text: Omer Westendorg, 1964 © 1964 World Library Publications. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

**POSTLUDE:** "In Celebration: The Solid Rock" arr. Gayden Sikes

***Our Service of Worship is ended.  
Let our worship through service begin.***

† Please stand as you are able.

Music presented via live-stream and broadcast is covered under ONE LICENSE #A-730713,  
under CCLI License #1874916 or is used with the composer's permission.  
Front page image was created by one of our wonderful ECC children.

We are joined in worship today by Ken Daly, a proud grandparent of seven  
Early Childhood Center children (current and alumni).  
Ken, lovingly referred to as the "ECC Mascot," is an active presence at drop off and pick up  
and often lends a hand with projects around the ECC.

**Flowers for today's service are given to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of Barbara A. Chard from Roger and Judy Williams.**