



June 21, 2026 | 11:00 | Traditional Worship

ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

Assisted listening devices are available in the sound booth.

PRELUDE

Canticle of Praise

Music by Fenton Groden

† CALL TO WORSHIP

† *Indicates the congregation should stand.*

L: As we gather, we come together as people of the cross and resurrection.

P: We come as children of the Father

L: Reconciled by grace through the Son

P: And filled with God's love through the Spirit

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 129

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

† PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we come before You today remembering Your Word and Your promises. Pour out Your Spirit of reconciliation among us. Heal the divides in our homes and communities, turning the hearts of the older generations to the youth, and the hearts of the children to their parents. Keep us spiritually awake, focused, and ready as we await Your ultimate return. May our families be places of peace, mutual honor, and love. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

† PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. As Christ welcomes everyone, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Now greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

L: The peace of Christ is here among us.

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Men's Gospel Choir

Gonna Ride Up in the Chariot

Music by Cristi Miller

Gonna ride up in the chariot. Soon-a in the mornin'. And I hope I'll join the band. O, Lord, have mercy on me, and I hope I'll join the band. Gonna meet my brother there, yes. Soon-a in the mornin'. Chatter with the angels soon-a in the mornin'.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

CALL TO THE WORD

Today, we hear the final words of the Old Testament and find ourselves standing on a spiritual bridge. Writing centuries before the birth of Christ, the prophet Malachi leaves God's people not with a final period, but with a profound pause. He looks backward to the foundations of their faith and forward to the fulfillment of God's promises. This passage is a powerful reminder that spiritual renewal begins with a hunger for God's Word and bears fruit in our closest relationships. It challenges us to look at our own lives: Are we passing our faith to the next generation? Is there a need for reconciliation and forgiveness in our families before the Lord returns?

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Malachi 4:4-6 (NIV)

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. ⁶He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Fathers and the Dreadful Day of the Lord Pastor Markus Wegenast

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

L: Holy God, for centuries Your children have called You Father, a term of endearment as protector, guide, and steadfast paternal figure over our lives. You create and mold. We are made in your image. We are known to You and You are known to us, as children held by their parent. In the example of the fathers who have stood as Your faithful servants, we pray.

P: God of Adam, care for all those who are fatherless.

L: God of Abraham, care for those who are asked to sacrifice their children.

P: God of Noah, care for those who face impossible scenarios.

L: God of Issac, care for those whose children create rivalry and conflict.

P: God of Jacob, care for those who parent by favoritism.

L: God of Esau, care for those families that are divided.

P: God of Moses, care for those who obey their Heavenly Father above all others.

L: God of Moses's father-in-law, care for those who offer advice in all the ways it is received and rejected.

P: God of David, care for those who mourn the death of a child.

L: God of Eli, care for those who adopt children.

P: God of Job, care for those who lose the children they love.

L: God of Mordecai, care for those who step in as a parent when family members cannot.

P: God of Joseph, Mary's husband, care for those who raise a child who is not his own.

L: God of Jesus, care for those who welcome all children.

P: God of Paul, care for those who consciously remain single and wonder about their legacy.

L: As Paul wrote, "Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord," we come to You as our heavenly Father. Prepare each of us, children of Your church, in Your ways that we may pass these instructions on through words, actions, and deeds. In the name of the Child You sent to Earth as a Savior, we pray as He taught us:

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.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

OFFERTORY

O Christ, Our Heart's Desire

Music by Robert Powell

† DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Faithful God, we worship You with joy and gladness. You have loved and sustained us through every generation. As we give, let our offerings strengthen ministries that bring hope, healing, and transformation to the world. With thankful hearts, we rejoice and sing. Amen.

GO FORTH WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† RECESSIONAL HYMN 415

Take Up Thy Cross

GERMANY

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

Toccata Regale

Music by Anthony Giamonco

Scripture readings are New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE) unless otherwise noted.

IN WORSHIP TODAY

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Doug and Mary Ann Bell in honor of their 34th wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Markus Wegenast, *Senior Pastor*
Regan Boord and Les Sper, *Lay Readers*
Joe Galyon, *Director of Worship and Arts*
Men's Gospel Choir, *Musicians*
David Eberhardt, *Director of Contemporary Worship*

TELL US YOU'RE HERE

Thank you for worshipping with us. Please use the yellow communication sheet or this QR code to tell us you are here and to share prayer requests. If worshipping online, use [this link](#).



See www.cos-umc.org for more information about our ministries.