



July 5, 2026 | 11:00 | Traditional Worship

ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

Assisted listening devices are available in the sound booth.

PRELUDE

The Rejoicing

Music by G.F. Handel

† CALL TO WORSHIP

† *Indicates the congregation should stand.*

L: Happy are those whose way is blameless.

P: Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord.

L: Happy are those who keep God's decrees.

P: Blessed are those who seek God with their whole heart.

L: God has commanded that His precepts be kept diligently.

P: We pray that we may be faithful in keeping all His statutes.

L: If we pay attention to all His commands, we will not be put to shame.

P: As we learn God's righteous judgments, we will praise God with an upright heart.

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 88

Maker, in Whom We Live

DIADEMATA

† PRAYER

Most Loving and Gracious God, we praise You and we thank You for the guidance that You give us from day to day in Your Word and by Your Spirit. We thank You for choosing to dwell among us and praise You for calling us to be Your faithful people. Bless this time of worship and of prayer, that those who need comfort may be comforted, those who need challenge may be challenged, and that all of us may grow closer together as Your children—as members of the body of Christ Jesus our Risen Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

† PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

God makes peace within us; let us claim it. God makes peace between us; let us share it. Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

L: The peace of Christ is here among us.

P: Thanks be to God.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

CALL TO THE WORD

God knows what is good and bad for us, and He has recorded this information in the Bible to save us from the heartache and suffering that the wrong choices—what the Bible calls sins—bring. But humanity as a whole has chosen to try to discover right and wrong by trial and error. Even worse, most people choose to experiment for themselves, not even learning from the mistakes of others! God's commandments are not complicated or convoluted, like so many of human laws are. But they guide us in all areas of life and provide a structure for understanding the other complementary teachings of the Bible.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 20:1-6

¹Then God spoke all these words, ²"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Do We Need Rules for a Better Life?

Pastor Markus Wegenast

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

OFFERTORY

Covenant Choir

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Music by Howard Helvey

For the bread which You have broken, for the wine which You have poured, For the words which You have spoken, now we give You thanks, O Lord. By this pledge that You do love us, by Your gift of peace restored, by Your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord. With our sainted ones in glory seated at the heavenly board, may the church that's waiting for You keep love's tie unbroken, Lord. In Your service, Lord, defend us, in our hearts keep watch and ward; in the world where You have sent us, let Your kingdom come, O Lord.

† 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

† INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

† CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence

L: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth....And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Congregation is seated

Holy are You and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ....And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain!

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine....Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy Church, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

IN WORSHIP TODAY

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Pam Senefeld and Russ Naber in honor of Audrey (9) and Cameron (4) Bittner's July birthdays. Happy 4th of July to all!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Markus Wegenast, *Senior Pastor*
Abel Tyler, Tom Burdin, *Lay Reader*
Larry Verdier, *Communion Assistant*
Joe Galyon, *Director of Worship and Arts*
Covenant Choir, *Musicians*
David Eberhardt, *Director of Contemporary Worship*
Troy Travis, *Video Mixer*

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.