





Almighty God, unto whom all hearts and minds are open and from whom nothing is hidden, we are gathered to worship you and to learn how to better serve you. Without you we are nothing and are incapable of doing good. But with you and the power of your Holy Spirit, all things are possible. We present ourselves before your throne of mercy. Let your Spirit have preeminence in our hearts. Then we can follow you, our praise offerings will rise to you as a sweet savor, and we will worship you in spirit and truth. In Jesus' mighty name, we pray. Amen

UNISON OPENING PRAYER





Announcements

O2 Morning Devotions

Mon-Sat, 6:00 am – 6:15 am, – 15-minute devotions resume, via ZOOM.

16 Luncheon

Thursday, September 15, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

95 Midweek Service

Thursdays, 7:00 pm, via YouTube.

12 HHF Initiative

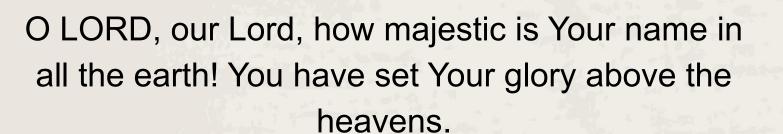
Sunday, August 28, we completed our pledge to the UPC HHF with small children initiative.







RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP



Lord, we are in awe of you, and we gather to offer you praise and thanksgiving.











FIRST RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 139: 1-6



O Lord. You have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; You understand my thoughts from afar.

You search out my path and my lying down; You are aware of all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, You know all about it, O LORD.

You hem me in behind and before; You have laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to understand.









AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES" CREED

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.









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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us away from temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine are the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION





Receive the good news. When we confess our sin and earnestly repent, God forgives us. Praise God for grace, mercy, and forgiveness of sin.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON







A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 14: 25-33

Large crowds were now traveling with Jesus, and He turned and said to them, "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Which of you, wishing to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has the resources to complete it? Otherwise, if he lays the foundation and is unable to finish the work, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This man could not finish what he started to build.' Or what king on his way to war with another king will not first sit down and consider whether he can engage with ten thousand men the one coming against him with twenty thousand? And if he is unable, he will send a delegation while the other king is still far off, to ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any one of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.











INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE



All glory and honor are yours, O God, for you bring life from death, joy from suffering, and dancing from mourning. We give thanks that abundant life is made known to us and present within us in your son Jesus, who has come to live and die as one of us, to reconcile all creation to life, and life everlasting. By him and with him and in him, the web of your love is made whole, and we with it

Jesus gathered his disciples and said, "Remember me." And so we do. We remember that he gathered not only his friends but even his betrayer around a common table, sharing the gifts of wheat and vine, the first fruits from the earth. We remember that he offered himself to us, that we may follow him even beyond death into your eternal love.

Gather us now at your table, O God, that we may be sustained in our journey of faith. May these gifts of the earth be for us the gift of your goodness made present, made known. And grant that we who eat this feast may be filled with your life and goodness.









PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS



The gifts of God for the people of God. Let us keep the feast.

This is the body of Christ given for you. Take eat it all.

This is the blood of love poured out for you. Drink it all.





