

**August 2, 2026**  
**Champaign FUMC**  
**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Communion**

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**\* Congregation is invited to stand in heart or posture**

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

*Praeludien and Interludien*  
Hermann Schroeder

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Welcome to our online church family; gather your bread and juice for communion later in the service.
- Today we will bless the backpacks and supplies that have been donated for empty tomb.
- Sign up at the Outreach table in Friendship Center South to participate in the August 16 rice & soy meal packaging for Midwest Mission.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The disciples cried, "Increase our faith!"

**People: We can do all things in Christ, who strengthens us.**

Leader: The road ahead seems hard; sometimes we feel inadequate.

**People: Yet, in all things, we are more than conquerors, through Christ who loves us.**

Leader: We are uncertain and afraid.

**People: Then we remember that God does not give us a spirit of fear, but rather a spirit of power and love.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 79, verses 1, 2, and 4**

*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

1. Holy God, we praise thy name;  
Lord of all, we bow before thee;  
all on earth thy scepter claim;  
all in heaven above adore thee.  
Infinite thy vast domain;  
everlasting is thy reign.
2. Hark, the glad celestial hymn  
angel choirs above are raising;  
cherubim and seraphim,  
in unceasing chorus praising,  
fill the heavens with sweet accord:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord.
4. Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit: three we name thee,  
though in essence only one;  
undivided God we claim thee,

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and adoring bend the knee  
while we own the mystery.

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

**Loving God, you know our hearts and the fears that whisper to us. Give us the courage to step forward when you call us. Let our trust in you be stronger than our doubts. Let our love for you increase. Let us go where you lead us, knowing that you will equip us to do whatever you call us to do. Let our lives be a living “yes” to your will.**

**ACT OF PRAISE**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*  
William M. Runyan  
Arranged by Diane Bish  
Gwen Uppinghouse, Handbell Solo

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Exodus 4:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you’?”

<sup>2</sup> Then the Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?”

“A staff,” he replied.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord said, “Throw it on the ground.”

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. <sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. <sup>5</sup> “This,” said the Lord, “is so that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you.”

<sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

<sup>7</sup> “Now put it back into your cloak,” he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

<sup>8</sup> Then the Lord said, “If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. <sup>9</sup> But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some

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water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground.”

<sup>10</sup> Moses said to the Lord, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”

<sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? <sup>12</sup> Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**WITNESS TO THE WORD**

*A Beautiful Mess - Moses: The Problem of Self-Doubt*

Pastor Paul Arnold

**THE OFFERING OF OUR WHOLE SELVES**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Arranged by Dale Wood

\*Doxology No. 94

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!

\*BACKPACK BLESSING (in unison)

Leader: As summer draws to a close and families prepare for another school year, Lord, bless our families, our daycare and the children and youth of this congregation.

**Congregation: Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, in their pursuit of art and athleticism, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do.**

Leader: Bless our teachers, Lord.,

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**Congregation:** As they embark on a new school year, grant them energy, passion, discipline, and endurance for their daily tasks. Infuse their classrooms with an atmosphere of care and mutual respect, that all interactions there will be bathed in patience and understanding. Help their lessons to grow pupils in both knowledge and character, and help us all to support the work these teachers do building up our community and our future.

Leader: And, bless these backpacks and school supplies and the children who will use them.

**Congregation:** Let these physical gifts be symbols of the love and support we give to the children of our community throughout the year. Help us to look upon every child in our community as one of our own, helping them to grow in character and knowledge. Amen.

## THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

### THE INVITATION

Pastor: 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 sins before God and one another.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All:** 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.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: 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!

**People:** In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**All:** Glory to God. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up to the Lord.

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

**People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

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And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, broke the bread, gave thanks for it, gave it to his disciples and said: 'This is my Body, broken for you, do this in remembrance of me.'

When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks for it, shared it with his disciples and said: 'This is my blood of the new covenant for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins, do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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.

**All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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**

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**temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

B. W. Sanders

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Jesus, Bread of Life, you have nourished our souls with your grace. In the days ahead, guide our steps in the path of righteousness. Strengthen us in times of trial, and help us to be witnesses of your love in the world. May the fruit of this Communion meal be evident in our lives, bringing glory to your name. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

\*HYMN NO. 121

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.
2. There is welcome for the sinner,  
and more graces for the good!  
There is mercy with the Savior;  
there is healing in his blood.
3. For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of our mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.
4. If our love were but more simple,  
we should rest upon God's word;  
and our lives would be illumined  
by the presence of our Lord.

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Fuga*

Dietrich Buxtehude

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### **HOLY COMMUNION AT FUMC**

All are welcome to take communion at FUMC. Holy Communion is Christ's table, and we believe that Christ's grace is offered to all; you do not need to be baptized or a member of this congregation to receive that grace. Communion is open to anyone who seeks to respond to Christ's love and lead a new life of peace and love. Bread is used as a means of remembering the body of Christ. We use grape juice (rather than wine) to remember the blood of Christ. Gluten-free elements are available at the check-in table and on stands in the middle aisle at the front of the sanctuary.

### **WORSHIP TEAM**

We are extremely grateful for the many people who work together to bring worship to our church family! Our thanks this week goes to:

Reverend Paul Arnold, Directing Pastor  
Ray Wiggs, Organist  
Chad Beyler, Liturgist  
Catie Ford, Cantor  
Gwen Uppinghouse, Handbell Solo  
Bob and Barb Cicone, Communion Assistants  
Cathy Mitchell, Communion Steward  
Meghan Broga, Dave Berner, Riley Berner, Ryan Berner, A/V Tech  
Barbara Zachow, Director of Music and Worship

### **THE MUSIC**

#### **Holy God, We Praise Thy Name**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 79

Text: Ignaz Franz, 18th cent; trans. By Clarence Waldworth, 1853

Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, ca. 1774

Tune: GROSSER GOTT; Meter: 78.78.77

#### **Great is Thy Faithfulness**

Music: William M. Runyan

Arranged by Diane Bish

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#### **SongSelect Example**

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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**Doxology**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 94

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN; Meter: 88.44.88 with Refrain

**There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

The United Methodist Hymnal No. 121

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854

Music: Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877; harm. By Charles H. Webb, 1988

Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Tune: WELLESLEY; Meter: 87.87

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME!** It is a privilege to extend Christ's welcome to you.

**PLEASE REGISTER** your attendance by commenting on our Facebook page during the worship service.

**WEBSITE** please explore our website! [champaignfumc.org](http://champaignfumc.org)

**NEWCOMERS** If you are new to our community of faith, our pastor would like to have a conversation with you and get to know you better. Pastor Paul wants to be your pastor and he hopes FUMC will be your church home. Please fill out the CONNECTION CARD found on our website. <https://www.champaignfumc.org/connection-sheet>

**SIGN UP FOR MORE!** We would like to communicate with you by email newsletter! If you would like to receive letters from the pastor and church news, please go to our website, [champaignfumc.org](http://champaignfumc.org), and fill out our CONNECTION CARD!  
<https://www.champaignfumc.org/connection-sheet>

**PRAYER REQUESTS** If you would like prayers, email your prayer request to:  
[info@champaignfumc.org](mailto:info@champaignfumc.org)

**PASTORAL VISITS** Pastor Paul is available for visits during the afternoons, most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For an appointment, please call Sharon Johnson in the church office (217-356-9078).

**PRAYER WARRIORS** If you would like to be an FUMC Prayer Warrior, please contact Sharon Johnson at: [sjohnson@champaignfumc.org](mailto:sjohnson@champaignfumc.org)

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**UPCOMING**

Sunday, August 2

Backpack Sunday  
VAN Reserved for Sunday morning  
10:30am In-Person Worship Service  
10:30am Worship Service On Facebook and YouTube

Monday, August 3

Building Closed for Cleaning  
FUMCCC Closed for August Break

Tuesday, August 4

Building Closed for Cleaning  
FUMCCC Closed for August Break  
11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch - Martinelli's  
5:30pm DREAAM Volleyball Camp  
7:15pm Worship Ministry Team

Wednesday, August 5

FUMCCC Closed for August Break  
10:30am UWF Fall Fundraiser Planning Meeting  
1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group  
7:30pm Venturing Crew 1

Thursday, August 6

FUMCCC Closed for August Break  
8:30am Messenger Deadline  
5:30pm DREAAM Volleyball Camp

Friday, August 7

FUMCCC Closed for August Break

Saturday, August 8

Sunday, August 9

VAN Reserved for Sunday morning  
10:30am In-Person Worship Service  
10:30am Worship Service On Facebook and YouTube

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Meredith Garreau

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