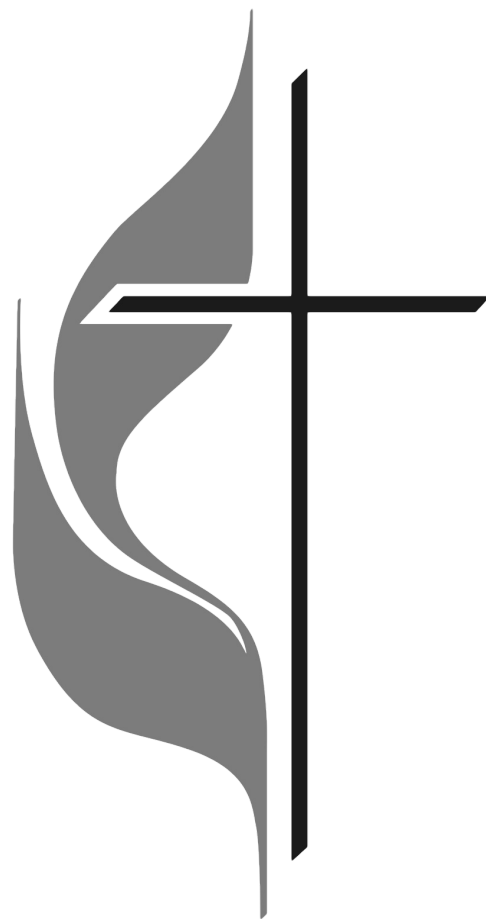




An Order of

WORD AND TABLE

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | July 12, 2026

College Avenue United Methodist Church
1609 College Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502
785-539-4191 — www.CAUMC.church

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome. We're glad to have you with us today. We seek to be a church that welcomes all people. Regardless of who you are, where you're from, what you've done, or whom you love, you are welcome here. In the name of Jesus Christ, all are welcome, and all means all.

Gathering of the Congregation

Intrada | *O Worship the King* | Dawn Anderson

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude | *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* | Dawn Anderson

CALL TO WORSHIP | Jennifer Sturges, Worship Leader

We gather today in the midst of busy lives and hectic schedules that mirror the chaotic pace of the world around us.

We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.

We gather as people inundated with constant information, fast-moving news cycles, and ever-present alerts vying for our attention.

We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.

We gather as people seeking to anchor ourselves in the faith as the world around us is blown to and fro by waves of fear, scarcity, and reactivity.

We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.

Beloved, come. Come to find rest, grounding, and guidance in the Spirit who dwells in you.

We come to set our minds on the Spirit who guides us and draws us together toward life, peace, and flourishing. Amen.

[Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, UMC Discipleship Ministries, January 2026.]

Opening Prayer | Forrest Buhler

O God, our Guide and our Guardian, You have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house. Grant us grace to worship you in Spirit and in truth, to the

comfort of our souls and the upbuilding of every good purpose and holy desire. Enable us to listen and understand your Word for us in order to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us. So may we worship you not with our lips at this hour, but in word and deed all the days of our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN | *Jesus Calls Us* | UMH 398

Scripture Reading | Isaiah 55:10-13

RESPONSE TO THE SCRIPTURE READING

Let us take to heart what the Holy Spirit has spoken through this scripture reading. **Amen.**

SONG | *Jesus Loves Me*, verse 1 | UMH 191

A Time for All God's Children | Jennifer Sturges

When the children's message has concluded, children aged three to second grade are welcome to join us in the education room, located in the basement, to attend Children's Church. For children under three, our nursery is available.

SONG | *Jesus Loves Me*, verse 3 | UMH 191

Special Music | *Nocturno Op. 7* by Franz Strauss | Deb Williams

Scripture Reading | Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Introduction to the scripture. This lectionary passage for this morning is what Jesus calls the "Parable of the Sower." As Jennifer reads this passage you will note that it is in two parts. The first part is the parable itself which is shared with the gathered crowd, and the second part is Jesus' explanation of the parable to the disciples only in which we are invited to listen in.

Sermon | Forrest Buhler

COLLEGE AVENUE'S GUIDING VALUES

**I will strive to live in ways which:
respect the dignity of others, communicate compassion, convey
hospitality to others, promote spiritual growth, strengthen our
sense of community, and enhance my discipleship.
May God, in Christ, through the Holy Spirit, bless my resolve.**

RESPONSE | *Gloria Patri* | UMH 71

Silent Prayers of Confession and Spoken Words of Assurance

Please take a few moments for silent prayers of confession.
Holy God we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us and a deep longing for goodness, we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice. O God we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as a strong and wise friend, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.

HYMN | *Open My Eyes, That I May See* | UMH 454

Intercessory Prayer

Gracious God, there are so many cries in the world today for: justice, peace, and understanding; for food, clothing and shelter; for respect, dignity and inclusion; for physical health, healing and mental well being. It seems overwhelming even to us your disciples. We long for your Holy Spirit to be present in us and with our leaders so that we may have the strength and courage to be your hands and feet in the world to share your message of love and hope. We ask for the wisdom, courage, compassion and strength to be mindful of the opportunities to love our neighbors. May we be so bound up in that love that we feel their needs as acutely as our own, and intercede for them with sensitivity and grace. We pray for your guidance as we welcome a new Pastor in Rev. Little. Bless him and us as we join together to nurture our seedbeds with your transformative love. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Will the ushers please come forward to receive our gifts and tithes.

Offertory | *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* | Dawn Anderson

RESPONSE | *Doxology* | UMH 94

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to serve you joyfully in all things. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

HYMN | *Thy Word Is a Lamp* | UMH 601

Dismissal with Blessing

Go forth in the coming week as lasagna disciples nurturing the seed of God’s Word by loving God and serving others. May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude | *Joy to the World!* | Dawn Anderson

It is at the heart of who we are to linger. Please take time to greet those around you and be in community.