Prelude        *Praise to the Lord*  
arr. Hans Friedrich Micheelsen
Velda Graham Bell, organ

Welcome and Announcements  
Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Call to Worship  
Linda and Erin Wiig

One: Praise to the Lord Almighty!  
All: Open our hearts, fill us with your message.  
One: Praise to the Lord, who so wonderfully reigns over all.  
All: Show us how to live like you, changing the world with your light.  
One: Praise to the Lord, who nourishes and restores.  
All: Let us move past human strife and live fully in you.

Hymn        *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*  
UM Hymnal #139, v. 1, 2, 4, 5

1. Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him,  
for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
own to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord,  
who o'er all things so wondrously reigning  
bears thee on eagle's wings,  
e'er in his keeping maintaining,  
God's care enfolds,  
all, whose true good he upholds.  
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

3. Praise to the Lord,  
who guidest me with skillful hand  
with uprightness and soundness of way,  
all my path upholdeth.  
For all thy service and thy work  
maintains my love and my desire.

4. Praise to the Lord,  
who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,  
fitting thee well  
for the tasks that are ever before thee.  
Then to thy need  
God as a mother doth speed,  
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

5. Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen  
sound from his people again;  
gladly forever adore him.

Morning Prayer  
Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon  
Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus’ Prayer
Loving God, Sacred One, Blessed be your name. May your kingdom come, your dream  
arrive, your purpose prevail, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us  
the wrong we have done, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Help us steer clear of  
temptation, and protect us from evil. We trust you in this, for the kingdom, its power and its  
beauty, are yours forever. Amen.

Children’s Message  
Jojo Coffin-Langdon

Anthem        *Hymn of Promise*  
Natalie Sleeth
Elise Hintzman, vocalist
Scripture Reading

John 12:24-26

Jesus said, “Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. God in heaven will honor the one who serves me.”

Sermon

If the Church Were Christian…

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Hymn

You Are the Seed

UM Hymnal #583

1. You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;
you’re a star that will shine in the night;
you are the yeast and a small grain of salt,
a beacon to glow in the dark.
You are the dawn that will bring a new day,
you’re the wheat that will bear golden grain;
you are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,
your witnesses where’er you go.

Refrain: Go, my friends, go to the world,
proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace,
eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness,
from the dead I arose;
“Lo, I’ll be with you forever,
till the end of the world.”

2. You are the flame that will lighten the dark,
sending sparkles of hope, faith and love;
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world
through valleys and pastures of peace.
You are the friends that I chose for myself,
the word that I want to proclaim.
You are the new kingdom built on a rock
where justice and truth always reign.

Refrain: Go, my friends, go to the world,
proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace,
eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness,
from the dead I arose;
“Lo, I’ll be with you forever,
till the end of the world.”

3. You are the life that will nurture the plant;
you’re the waves in a turbulent sea;
yesterday’s yeast is beginning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a city to hide,
nor a mountain can cover its might;
may your good deeds show a world in despair
a path that will lead all to God.

Refrain: Go, my friends, go to the world,
proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace,
eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness,
from the dead I arose;
“Lo, I’ll be with you forever,
till the end of the world.”

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Offertory

He Giveth More Grace

Michael Hintzman, saxophone; Velda Graham Bell, piano

Words for Going Forth

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude

Praise to the Lord

Velda Graham Bell, organ
Considering joining the church? Find out more about Methodism, First United Methodist Church and Hillside United Methodist Church at a special Zoom new member class on Sunday, August 30, following worship. This is the only session needed in order to join the church.

Thank you to Emma Rustan, Michael Goodlet and Velda Graham Bell for leading the hymns today.

Thank you to Bill Alexander and Alex Flinner for recording, compiling, editing and distributing the videos to create our online worship service.

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