



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!



Photo by Rose Lucas

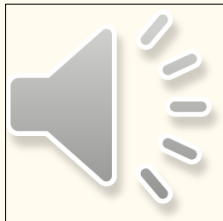


Photo by Rose Lucas

Happy Birthday

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.





To God Be the Glory - UMH 98



Art by Sue Carroll

To God be the glory great things He has done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; Let the earth hear His voice.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; Let the people rejoice.

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood
To every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.



Photo by James Gardner

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; Let the earth hear His voice
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; Let the people rejoice
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see.



Art by Sue Carroll

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
Let the earth hear His voice
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
Let the people rejoice
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

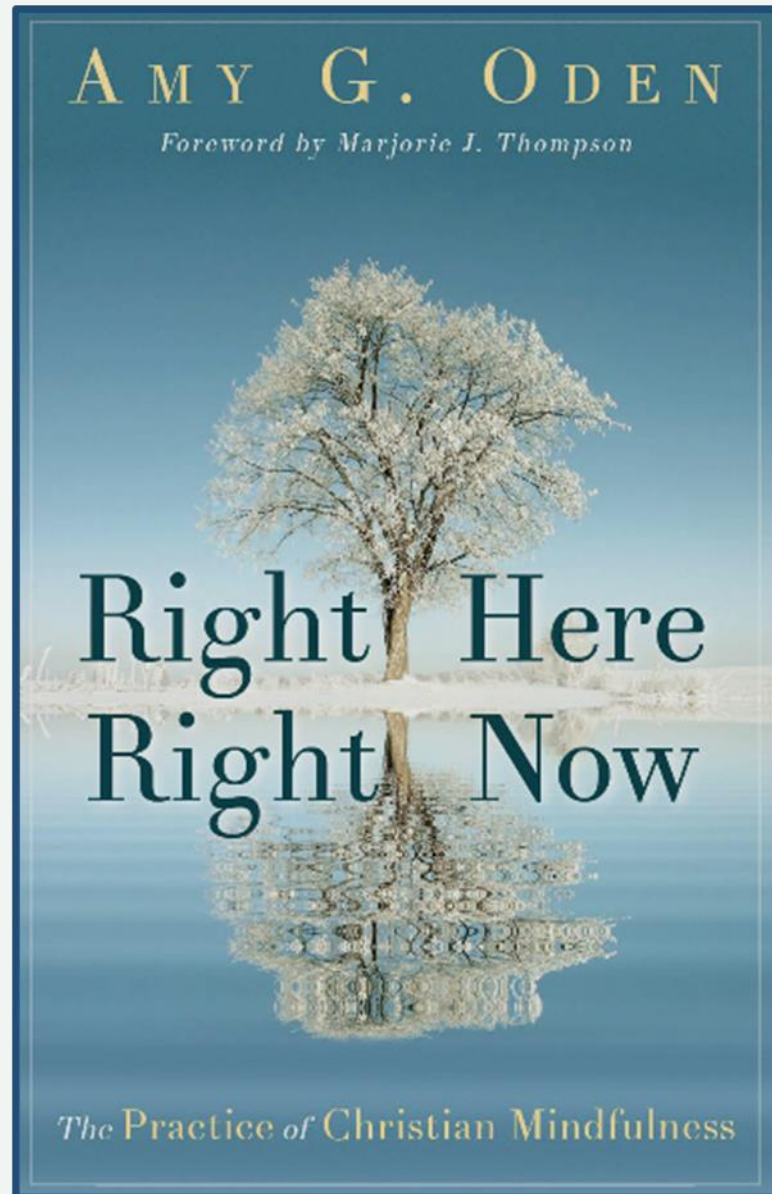
A photograph of a calm body of water, likely a lake or a wide river. The water is a deep blue, reflecting the sky above. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. In the foreground, there are green reeds or grasses growing in the water, their reflections visible on the surface. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Encountering God

Photo by James Gardner



Mindful Contemplativeness



Opening Prayer

Dear God,

Help us to build upon the foundation of mindful living by practicing patience without judgment, expressing generosity, and constantly living in gratitude.

Help us to dismiss our search for worldly things, and simply accept and let be what we are, where we are, and who we are in this moment – in You.

Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray, AMEN.



Jesus calls us to pay attention to the present moment because that is where the reign of God is, in the here and now. He proclaims the kingdom of God—God’s sovereign life here and now in us and around us—and then calls us to mindfulness:

See! Hear! Be mindful of what is truly real, what truly matters.

—Amy G. Oden



A wide-angle photograph of a beach at sunset. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the dark ocean. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds, and the beach in the foreground is a smooth, light-colored sand. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Be still and know that I am God.

—Psalm 46: 10



John 15:19

Jesus said: “If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own...

You do not belong to the world,
but I have chosen you out of the world...”



...Indeed I have loved you with
an eternal love, therefore I
have drawn you with
lovingkindness.

Jer. 31:3





“God is here now, in all things at all times, even when we aren’t paying attention. There is no place you can go where God is not, no time of the day when God is off the clock.”

Responsive Reading: Psalm 139: 1-6, 8-10

O LORD, you have searched me, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, 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 attain.

**If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my
bed in the depths, you are there.**

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the
sea,

**even there your hand will guide me, your right hand
will hold me fast.**

Mindfulness



Secular Practices



Pray Continually



Prayerfulness in worship... awareness at work





St. Francis of Assisi

Be Still, My Soul – UMH 534

Be still my soul the Lord is on your side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still my soul; your best, your heavenly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still my soul your God will undertake
To guide the future as in ages past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still my soul; the waves and winds still know
the Christ who ruled them while He dwelt below.



Photo by James Gardner



Be still my soul ; the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
Sorrow forget, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past;
all safe and blessed we shall me at last.

Community Prayer

Father God, we stand before You firmly supported by Your promises, constantly made aware of Your love and grace. We want to stay rooted in our faith in You by seeking daily to stay in a close relationship with You.

Help us to be deliberate in setting aside time to talk to You and then to listen intently to what You want us to hear from You. The next step is always to do what You want us to do promptly—hearing is not enough. We want to be “doers” of Your Word as well. ***Amen***

Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Holy Communion



My sisters and brothers, Christ invites us all to His table. He asks that we love him, confess our sins, and grow close to him in faith.

In this holy space, let us prepare our hearts and minds to receive his holy sacrament.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Our heavenly Father, You know how often we stumble. We don't come to this table trusting in ourselves; but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, which proves His love and grace. We are a forgiven people. ***Amen***

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

Congregation: and also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you.
Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love
remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.



Leader: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

Leader: God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Leader: Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Leader: Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes
Blessed is the one who comes

Leader: in the name of the Lord.
in the name of the Lord.

Leader: Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.



On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”



When the supper was over, he took the cup, he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said, *“Drink from this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you 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.





Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.



All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.



Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. 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 the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. ***Amen***

Breaking of the Bread



Lifting of the Cup



Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.
Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share
is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements



Communion Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. ***Amen***



Benediction

Art by Sue Carroll