



January 29, 2023 – 8:15 & 10:35 – Worship Guide

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ron Harris and Rev. Karla Sheffy

Acolytes: (10:35) Layla Harter & Leah Chanley

Worship Accompanist: 8:15 am & 10:35 am - Sue Woods

Ministry of Music: Gaile Stephens



Gathering Music

Welcoming

Prelude and Lighting the Candles

Threshold Moment--Rev. Ron Harris:

Blessings abound! Have you noticed? Often we acknowledge blessings and what we call God's favor when everything is going as we had hoped it would turn out. Jesus, who often turns our perspective upside down, shared with a crowd blessings that may make us scratch our heads. They don't match up with how we may understand blessings. As we worship, may we be open to who Jesus describes as blessed and why they are blessed.

*Opening Songs

(8:15)

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

UMH 57 vs. 1-5

(10:35)

"Here I Am to Worship"

W&S 3177

"You Are My All in All"

W&S 3040

Children's Moment (10:35 only) – Rev. Ron Harris

Silent Prayers...Pastoral Prayer...Lord's Prayer #895 UMH Rev. Ron Harris

Hymn (8:15)

"Jesus is All the World to Me"

UMH 469

Scripture Reading - My name is _____. Let us hear these words from the Apostle Paul from **1 Corinthians 1:18-25** *Worldwide English (New Testament) (Red words added for inclusivity)*

18 When people who are turning away from God hear about the cross, they say, 'That is foolish!' But for us who are being saved, the cross is the power God uses to save us.

19 God says in the holy writings, 'I will fool the wise people. I will bring to nothing the understanding of the clever people.'

20 Where are your wise people, *those* who know books, *those* who like to talk about the things of this world? God has shown that the clever things of this world are nothing.

21 God is wise. But the people of the world were not wise enough to know God. So he chose to save people who believe the good news that we tell them, even though the good news may seem to be foolish.

22 The Jews say, 'We must see a sign.' Those who are not Jews say, 'We want something we can understand.'

23 But we tell people about Christ who died on a cross. The leaders of the Jews do not like this, and those who are not Jews laugh at it.

24 But some have been called by God. They are chosen, both Jews and other people. Christ is God's power to save them. This shows how wise he is.

25 When God seems foolish, he is more wise than *people*. When God seems weak, he is stronger than *humans*.

Special Music

Gaile Stephens

Scripture Reading -

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Karla Sheffy

5 Jesus saw the crowds. So he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to teach them. He said,

3 "Blessed are those who are spiritually needy. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

4 Blessed are those who are sad. They will be comforted.

5 Blessed are those who are humble. They will be given the earth.

6 Blessed are those who are hungry and thirsty for what is right. They will be filled.

7 Blessed are those who show mercy. They will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are those whose hearts are pure. They will see God.

9 Blessed are those who make peace. They will be called children of God.

10 Blessed are those who suffer for doing what is right. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

11 "Blessed are you when people make fun of you and hurt you because of me. You are also blessed when they tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me. 12 Be joyful and glad. Your reward in heaven is great. In the same way, people hurt the prophets who lived long ago.

Sermon

"Blessings With a Promise"

Rev. Karla Sheffy

Responding in Gratitude for God's Gifts with our Offerings – Rev. Ron Harris

Invitation

* **The Doxology - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow" #94 UMH**

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Song

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"

UMH 399

Sharing Opportunities for Ministry

Rev. Ron Harris

*Benediction

Rev. Karla Sheffy

Postlude