



September 24, 2023 - 9:30 am – Worship Guide

United Women in Faith Sunday

Reshaped for Mission

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

Worship Accompanist: Sue Woods

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir



Gathering Video

Welcoming - **Rev. Ron Harris**

Welcome to Emporia First United Methodist Church. We are all beloved children of God. Together, we are a Christian community committed to accepting, valuing, and loving all. We seek to live, grow, and serve as Jesus taught us: loving one another, transforming lives, and making disciples. Let us now worship.

Prelude and Lighting the Candles - Acolytes: Madison Conley

Welcoming - **UW in Faith - Doris Christy**

We are glad you are joining us, whether in person or on KVOE or livestream, to celebrate United Women in Faith Sunday. We are a group committed to mission, serving both locally and abroad, and the financial backing is made possible by you. Many of you are involved with Garage Sales, which raise funds so we are able to support the missions listed on the back of the worship guides you received as you entered the doors. Those listening at home can access this information on our UWFaith website. And now, please take a moment to say Good Morning to those around you.

Greeting Time

Song

“Change is Good”

Sue Woods/Pam McGuire

(instrumental, during the greeting time)

Call to Worship - Clara Roberts

One: For United Women in Faith, a community of women diverse in age, race, occupation, economic condition, physical capabilities, and even in our understanding of the Gospel.

Many: We thank you, Lord.

One: For United Women in Faith, a community of women in our church whose purpose is to serve and reach out to women, children, and youth next door, down the street, across the country, and around the world.

Many: We thank you, Lord.

One: For United Women in Faith who stand ready to extend fellowship to women of other denominations and faiths within our community as they attempt to be loving neighbors, as Jesus commanded.

Many: We thank you, Lord.

Scripture - Aneta Bodkin

Matthew 25:34-40 (Common English Bible) translation

³⁴ “Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. ³⁵ I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

³⁷ “Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? ³⁸ When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

⁴⁰ “Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

Song **“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”** **UMH #584**
(vs. 1, 2, and 5)

Children’s Moment – Cindy Kienholz
Acolyte Dedication - Rev. Ron Harris

Silent Prayer/Pastoral Pray/Lord’s Prayer - Rev. Ron Harris

Musical Offering **“Be Still My Soul/You Raise Me Up”** **Sanctuary Choir**

Introduction of Special Mission Recognition and Dedicated Light Recipients - Carol Reneau

Introduction of Guest Speaker - Cathryn Harrison

Message: Grace Musuka, Regional Missionary

Responding in Gratitude for God’s Gifts with our Offerings

Invitation - **Rev. Ron Harris**

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

Prayer of Dedication - **Rev. Ron Harris**

*** Song** **“Go Forth for God”** **UMH #670**

*** Sharing Opportunities for Ministry**

***Benediction - Linda Hyde**
May the Grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father’s Boundless Love
With the Holy Spirit’s favor
Rest upon us from above.
Thus may we abide in union,
With each other and the Lord,
And possess in sweet Communion,
Peace, which earth cannot afford.

*** Closing Song** **“The Trees of the Field”** **TFWS#2279**

Postlude