



**February 23, 2025 9:30 am**

**United Methodist Campus Ministry Sunday**

**Co-Pastors: Rev. Ross Baker and Rev. Amanda Baker**

**Campus Minister: Rev. Kurt Cooper**

**ESU Student Participants: Emma Alderman, Jenna Baldwin, Alexandria Sheffy-Harris, Sasha Joy, Emmanuel Duah Owusu, and Elisha Sheffy-Harris**

**Worship Musicians: Cheryl Doty, Abby Worley & Sue Woods**

**Ministry of Music: Elisha Sheffy Harris**

**Acolytes: Carter LaSota & Madison Conley**

**7th Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Gathering**

<https://animoto.com/play/sqiy5ljZ5ewzcEu6O1GY2A>

**Welcome**

Welcome to our **KVOE** listeners and to those watching online.

My name is **Sasha Joy** I am a (grade status) at Emporia State University studying (your field of study) from Topeka, KS. This morning I am your worship reader.

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**

**Call to Worship**

**Sasha Joy**

*L: Jesus teaches us, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." But who are the others?*

**P: Our enemies and friends, family and strangers.**

*L: Jesus teaches us, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful." But what is mercy?*

**P: To act with compassion, to help without expecting anything in return.**

*L: Jesus teaches us, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven." But how do we forgive?*

**P: By recognizing enemies, friends, family, strangers, and ourselves as people in need of compassion.**

*L: Let us worship God, who loves us and empowers us to love one another with mercy and compassion.*

**P: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.*

## **Passing of the Peace**

***Rev. Kurt Cooper will initiate the peace and announce the hymn.***

## **Opening Hymn**

[Praise the Source of Faith and Learning TFWS #2004](#)

## **Proclamation**

## **The Children Show Us the Way**

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

## **Children's Time**

***Rev. Kurt Cooper and ESU Students***

## **Scripture Reading**

***Emmanuel will read the scripture first in his first language.***

***Sasha will read the scripture second in English.***

My name is Emmanuel Owusu, I am a graduate student from Ghana. I will be reading from Luke 6:27-38 in Twi.

(Sasha Joy) I will be reading from Luke 6:27-38 in English. (After Emmanuel reads the scripture).

*Love your enemies*

6:27 "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; 6:28 bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. 6:29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. 6:30 Give to everyone who ask of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. 6:31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. 6:32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 6:33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 6:34 If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 6:35 Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the

ungrateful and the wicked. 6:36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. 6:37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; 6:38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

## **The Word in Music**

*"Beautiful One"*

*Elisha Sheffy Harris*

### **Sharing the Message of Campus Ministry**

Campus Ministry Vignettes (Rev. Kurt will lead into the student sharing).

*Alexandria Sheffy-Harris* (GP Annual Conference)

*Jenna Baldwin* (OK Justice Encounter)  
(On Video)

*Emma Alderman* (My UMCM Experience)

*Rev. Kurt Cooper* (Why Campus Ministry Matters)

### **Response**

#### **Prayers of the People**

*Rev. Amanda and/or Rev. Ross Baker*

For all the ways in which God blesses our lives, We give thanks and praise, and we offer our lives to you praying as Christ taught us to pray.

**Our Father... (The Lord's Prayer)**

#### **Offering**

*Rev. Amanda and/or Rev. Ross Baker*

As we have entered this church with thanksgiving on our hearts, let us remember that we have the opportunity to joyfully share from the bounty which God has provided. In the love and name of Christ, let us receive our morning offering.

#### **Offertory**

#### **Doxology**

[Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 95](#)

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

*Merciful God, who calls us to love beyond measure, we offer these gifts as a sign of our commitment to your teachings. Help us love our enemies, do good to*

*those who hate us, and bless those who curse us. May our offerings bring healing and hope, reflecting your boundless grace in our community. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

*UM Discipleship*

## **Announcements**

***Rev. Amanda and/or Rev. Ross Baker***

## **Closing Hymn/Song**

*"Help Us to Accept Each Other"*

*UMH 560*

## **Benediction**

***Emmanuel Owusu will share the benediction first in Twi.***

***Sasha Joy will share the benediction in English.***

Beloved, go from this place ready to *listen*. Listen for the opportunities to extend mercy. Notice the moments to forgive instead of condemn. Watch for the person who needs help without any strings attached. For the blessing of the Triune God goes with you, pouring out mercy and compassion on you so that you may share mercy and compassion with everyone you meet. Amen.

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.*

## **Sending Forth Song**

*"Trees of the Field"*

*TFWS 2279*

## **Postlude**