



**August 3, 2025, 9:30 am**

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

**Guest Leader: Rev. Kurt Cooper**

**Worship Reader: Sasha Joy, ESU Student**

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

***Musical Offering: Elisha Sheffy-Harris***

**8th Sunday after Pentecost**

## **Gathering**

### **Welcome**

To our KVOE listeners and to those watching online.

My name is **Sasha Joy**, and I am your worship reader this morning.

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***

One: Children of God, we gather as people who have received new life in Jesus Christ.

**Many: We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

One: The world tries to distract us with anxious rumors, worrisome lies, and misleading half-truths.

**Many: We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

One: In this place, we gather to remind, remember, and renew our commitment to dwell in the love of Christ.

**Many: We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

One: Children of God, come! Let us worship God, who clothes us in new life and renews us in grace.

**Many: Come, let us worship as we set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2025.

## **Opening Prayer**

**Sasha Joy**

God, our guide and our protector,  
as we gather today in your holy house,  
open our minds and souls and hearts,  
that we may be inclined to hear the gentle direction  
of your Spirit in our lives.  
Help us follow you as you lead us  
to the land you have created for us,  
where we may dwell with you and in you. Amen.

*Written by Robert Blezard on the Worship Elements page of the Ministry Matters website. Re-posted on the re: Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/10/opening-prayer-psalm-107.html>.*

## **Passing the Peace**

### **Opening Hymn**

*“Now Thank We All Our God” - UMH #102*

### **Proclamation**

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

*“Jesus Loves Me”*

### **Children’s Time**

**Cindy Kienholz**

### **Scripture Reading**

Colossians 3:1-11

**Sasha Joy**

3:1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 3:2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, 3:3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 3:4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. 3:5 Put to

death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). 3:6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. 3:7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. 3:8 But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. 3:9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices 3:10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. 3:11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

## **The Word in Music**

Elisha Sheffy-Harris

### **Sermon**

*Rev. Kurt Cooper*

#### ***“To Be Rich Toward God”***

Luke 12:13-21 (the Gospel lesson will be part of the sermon).

12:13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." 12:14 But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" 12:15 And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." 12:16 Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. 12:17 And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' 12:18 Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 12:19 And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' 12:20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 12:21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

### **Response**

#### **Prayer Song- “Magic Penny”**

Love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.

It's just like a magic penny,  
Hold it tight and you won't have any.

Lend it, spend it, and you'll have so many  
They'll roll all over the floor.

For love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.

Money's dandy and we like to use it,  
But love is better if you don't refuse it.  
It's a treasure and you'll never lose it  
Unless you lock up your door.

For love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.

So let's go dancing till the break of day,  
And if there's a piper, we can pay.  
For love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.

For love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

*Rev. Kurt Cooper*

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Offering**

**Offering Music:**

## **Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #95*

## **Prayer of Dedication**

Holy and ever-present God, you call us to set our minds on things above, to let go of all that weighs us down, and to embrace the new life found in Christ. As we bring these gifts, shape our hearts in generosity, our hands in service, and our minds in faithfulness. May these offerings be used to transform lives, to build up your kingdom, and to reflect your love in this world. Keep us ever mindful that we give because you have first given so abundantly to us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen. (*Colossians 3:1-11*)

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**  
**A Service of Word and Table II (UMH 13-14)**

*(Piano While Serving Communion UMH #620 - "One Bread, One Body")*

**Announcements**

- \* Backpack Blessing and Celebrating Teachers during worship on August 17  
(Kathy, what announcements need to be made this Sunday?)

**Benediction**

*Children of God, receive this blessing: may the renewing grace of the Triune God surround you; may the steadfast love of the Triune God uphold you, and may the goodness of the Triune God entice you to set your mind on Christ that you may live as God's image-bearers and gospel-bringers wherever you go. Amen.*

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2025.*

**Sending Forth Song**

*"Trees of the Field"*  
*TFWS 2279*

**Postlude** - Sue Woods