Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026
10:30 a.m.

OUR LORD'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There's a Place for You Here

*As you view and participate in this worship please note that **bolded text** invites ALL to voice.*

Gathering Music "How Great Thou Art" by Carl Boberg

GATHERING TOGETHER

Think on This for Today

The psalm invites us to imagine unity that goes beyond borders, crossing boundaries and divisions. It invites us to see praise as a unifying force, something that brings us together. It's not a way of saying our God is better than your God, but that living in creation is a gift worthy of praise. Gratitude and acknowledgement of the source of our living can be an act of hospitality and blessing for ALL.

Prelude "Abide With Me" by William Monk

Graceful Engagement

Welcoming Affirmation
ALL are welcome today to this celebration of God's love!
We open our hearts and lives to receive God's blessings.
Come, stand as you are comfortably able, and let us worship God who is always with ALL of us.
We are here to feel the loving power of God flow through us!*

*Opening Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other" *vs. 1, 2* UMH 560

*Call to Worship
Each one of us here is different.
We are unique individuals.
We come from various backgrounds.
We come with differing needs and dreams.
Yet the Lord calls us to worship in unity.
Praise be to God who blesses our diversity and our unity.

*Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other" *vs. 3, 4* UMH 560

*Unison Prayer

Maker of Our Days, You created each of us unique beings with differing strengths and weaknesses. Help us not only to use our strengths to assist others but also to allow others to use their strengths to meet our weaknesses.

Restorer of Our Souls, You have seen the parched places we have made in our lives, along with the devastation thrust upon us by the action or inaction of others. Meet us in the places of our deepest pain so that our facades of self-sufficiency might fall away, and we might be drawn into right relationship with You and one another.

Breath of Our Lives, without You, we are but a mound of clay. Fill us with Your presence, invigorate our worship, alight our spirits so that others might be drawn into Your light and nurtured by the warmth of Your loving care. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children's Message And Jesus said... **Let the children come!**

Celebration of Holy Baptism for Logan Patrick Zelesky

Parents: Jess and Patrick Zelesky; Big Sister: Parker; Sponsors: David and Grace Heinen
Lay Leader: Wendi Haubert

Congregational Profession and Pledge

We do! As members together with you in the body of Christ and as a congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ that Logan Patrick will be surrounded by steadfast love; encouraged to grow in his faith; confirmed and strengthened on his own journey in relationship with the God that loves Logan, always.

Congregational Commendation

We promise to give Jess and Patrick our support as they guide Logan in the pathways of Christ. With God's help, we will surround this family with a community of love, joy and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Song of Blessing "God Claims You" *vs. R, 1, R* FWS 2249

Logan, Logan, God claims you. God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.
We this day do ALL agree, a child of God you'll always be.
Logan, Logan, God claims you. God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Handbell Anthem "Bryn Calfaria" by William Owen; arr. for bells by Becky Perreault

Scripture Reading Psalm 133 CEB

Response
This ends the reading and the hearing of today's lesson.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon "The Power of Unity"

RESPONDING TOGETHER

(please text prayers to 414-378-4012 and Pastor Kelly will receive them)

Response Litany
Though we come from different circumstances
The Lord will make us one in worship.
Though we have traveled different paths of struggles and successes
The Lord will make us one in healing.
Though each one of us has struggles and strife, as well as joy
The Lord will make us one in hope.

Response Song "Make Us One" *2x* FWS 2224

Caring for Community
Be sure to write prayer requests, joys and concerns on the prayer board.

The Lord's Prayer ALL Together
Pray in the language and version of the prayer that most speaks to your heart.

Invitation to Giving
The peace of Christ be with you. **And, also with you!**

*Doxology TUNE: LOBE DEN HERREN, 14.14.478 (ref. UMH 139)

Praise to the One who has destined us ALL to salvation.
Praise to Christ Jesus who sends us in love to ALL nations.
Worship afresh One who is poured on ALL flesh,
Spirit of love and vocation!

*Blessing Prayer .
Gracious God, You pour Your blessing upon Your people like dew upon the earth and oil upon the head, flowing beyond all boundaries we would draw. We thank You for the gift of unity - good and pleasant, beautiful and life-giving - meant not only for us, but for the healing of the world. Receive these offerings as signs of our desire to live together in Your love, to practice radical welcome, and to share Your abundance with ALL your children. Let what we give today flow outward in compassion and service, that our life together may reflect Your kin-dom of peace, justice, and joy. Let it be so.

*Responsive Sending Forth

Family of God, it has been good to be together here.
How good and pleasant it is when we live, when we praise, when we weep, and when we find peace in unity together.
May God bless you with the wisdom and grace to recognize and cooperate with the Spirit who binds us together in love.
Let us go forth that we may grow in unity of praise now and forever.

*Final Blessing

Respond "Yes!" after each blessing phrase and join in ALL together for the final phrase: "This day and in every day to come!"

*Closing Hymn "Bind Us Together" FWS 2226

*Postlude "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by William Runyan

Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available. Visit our tech room and someone will help you.

Lectionary readings: Exodus 1:8-2:10 *"Pharaoh's daughter takes Moses in";* Psalm 124 *"We have escaped like a bird";* Romans 12:1-8 *"One body in Christ, with gifts that differ";* Matthew 16:13-20 *"The profession of Peter's faith"*

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Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Rebecca Landgraf, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Bianca Enriquez, Sue Schulkers, Karen Haubert, Don Mains, and the OLUMC handbell choir: Terry & Keith Chipman, Lois McGarry, Karen Haubert, Pat Garrigues, Debbie Huyck, Sue Schulkers, Pat Mehring, Emily Fazio, Becky Perreault

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org
Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org
Pastor: Kelly Liebenstein/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/
*Visit us on our website at www.ourlordsumc.org

Worship resource: **Ministry Matters, https://www.ministrymatters.com/, Discipleship Ministries, https:// www.umcdiscipleship.org/, Doxology from "Praising God" by Ruth C. Duck/Patricia Wilson-Kastner**
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Our Lord's United Methodist Church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people's.

"love boldly, serve joyfully, lead courageously"