Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 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 "Blessed Assurance" arr. Mark Hayes

GATHERING TOGETHER

Think on This for Today

To lead like Christ is to lead with grace. It is to walk alongside those who are oppressed by debt and generational poverty, to find solidarity with those who have been marginalized because of race or country of origin, to build community based on shared respect and empowerment. Jesus' parable declares that we don't live in a zero-sum game where some have to lose for others to win.

Prelude "House of God" by Marienne Kreitlow

Graceful Engagement
Good morning, Church, I see you!
I am here!

*Call to Worship
Sing songs of hope and peace.
God's love and power have lifted us.
Sing songs of mercy and grace.
God's mercy and forgiveness frame our lives.
Thanks be to God for all God's love and mercy.
Praise be to God for the healing power God extends to each one of us.

*Greeting One Another
The peace of Christ be with you. **And, also with you!**

*Opening Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" *all verses*
UMH 121

*Unison Prayer
Liberating God, we worship You. We praise You for delivering Your people of old from bondage in Egypt by opening up a new and unexpected future before them. They experienced Your grace and mercy in awesome and life-sustaining ways, which must have been like an impossible dream coming true. Through these acts, You showed Your compassion for the weak and powerless of this world. We praise and adore You for opening up a new future for us when Your love and compassion, Your mercy and grace became enfleshed in Jesus Christ. He delivered us from the hold of evil and sin through his death on the cross. The impossible once more became reality when love defeated evil once and for ALL. We pray that this time of worship will be a true offering of our wonder and praise that You should care for us so deeply and so faithfully. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

*Scripture Reading Matthew 18:21-35 The Message

*Response
The word of God for ALL of us, God's people.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Mercy and Grace"

RESPONDING TOGETHER

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

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

Offertory "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"/"What Gift Can We Bring?"

*Doxology UMH 95, words adapted

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, the heavenly host;
Praise God, the Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Blessing Prayer

Merciful Deliverer, You part the waters when we feel trapped and forgive debts too great to repay. In the face of fear and brokenness, You lead us with compassion and grace. May the gifts we bring today reflect our deep gratitude for Your mercy. Let them support ministries of reconciliation and acts of healing, justice, and welcome. Teach us to lead not with judgment, but with generosity, recognizing that what we have, we hold by Your mercy. Bless these offerings and bless us as stewards of Your kin-dom, always seeking to build a world where grace is not rare but abundant. Let it be so.

*Responsive Sending Forth

Followers of Christ, go now in the blessing and assurance that you are a forgiven people.

We go empowered by grace to forgive and heal the divisions that keep us from truly loving God, self, neighbor, and ALL creation with the fullness of our beings.

*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 "Pues Si Vivimos" *vs. 1, 2* UMH 356

*Postlude "How Majestic Is Your Name" by Michael W. Smith

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

Lectionary readings: Exodus 16:2-15 *"Manna in the wilderness";* Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 *"Remembering the wilderness";* Philippians 1:21-30 *"Standing firm in the gospel";* Matthew 20:1-16 *"The parable of the vineyard workers"*

Thank you for worshipping with us at Our Lord's!

Scan this QR code to contribute a gift to support our church and its ministries. Explore more of our website by clicking the "Our Lord's" header at the top of the page. There you'll find past worship services, information regarding our various ministries, and much more!

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

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Rebecca Landgraf, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Sue Broker, Carol Pope, Karen Haubert, Don Mains

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"