

## Welcome to worship!

We are glad to have you worship with us today.

We practice safer worship together, following COVID-19 protocols for in-person gatherings, which may be adjusted as the situation in our area changes.

**COVID-19:** Currently the wearing of face masks in our worship is optional, welcomed and encouraged, particularly for those who are at higher risk for complications. Please make compassionate and informed decisions for your own personal health and for the health and welfare of those around you.

**Childcare:** All children are welcome in our service. Parents please keep your children with you. Our nursery(2nd floor) is open for ages 0-4 years of age.

**Communion:** Our communion is open to all who seek to follow in the way of Jesus. Our communion cups are filled with grape juice.

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

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## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

### PROPER 8

## LIFE OF THE CHURCH

June 26	10:30 AM	Nursery opens for ages 0-4 years. Installation Service for Officers & Deacons
June 27	6:30 PM	Executive Board Meeting (Zoom)
	7:00 PM	Full Board Meeting (Zoom)
June 28	7:00 PM	Women of the Bible study (Zoom)
June 30	7:00 PM	Vespers Service (Zoom)

## OUR PRAYERS

### World Council of Churches ecumenical prayer calendar:

Kenya, Tanzania

### For those who desire our prayers:

**Layne Neeper**, Family and Friends of Leroy Caudill, Dianna Pettit, Carmen Swim, Jack Evans, Beverly Plummer & Family, Beverly Jones, Betty Miller, Lynn Moore, David Embry, Ronni Gilpin, Amanda Baldwin, Family and Friends of Ben Webb, Cate Cook, Maggie Miles, Ned Breschel, Hedy Caldwell, Eva Johnston

Prayer concerns and joys may be shared with the office.

**Concerns will be posted  
for two weeks only unless otherwise requested.**

## WE ARE DISCIPLES

We are Disciples.....  
 We prepare God's table for all,  
 as it was prepared for us.  
 We embrace the old,  
 the heartsick, the outcast,  
 the different.  
 We believe Love wins....

Minister ..... Rev. Nancy Gowler  
 Music Director/Organist ..... Genny Jenkins  
 Keyboardist ..... Jiyeon McGillicuddy  
 Liturgist ..... Mary Claire Williams  
 Greeter ..... Mary Claire Williams  
 Audio/Visual Team ..... Ethan Jenkins, Wiley Tanner  
 Nursery Attendant ..... Katrina Allman



### Acknowledgement of Land

*For thousands of years, First People have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Shawnee, Cherokee, and Osage people, past, present, and emerging, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.*

June 26, 2022

Proper 8

*\*indicates the congregation stands in body and/or spirit*

### CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Welcome Mary Claire Williams

Bell of Mindfulness Mary Claire Williams

Prelude *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* Bell Choir

Call to Worship Mary Claire Williams  
Leave the world behind, come and follow Jesus.  
**We will leave all to follow Jesus.**  
Until the binds that stop you from following.  
**We will untie all that binds us.**  
Walk towards freedom and worship God.  
**We will walk forward together,**  
**offering this time of worship to our Creator.**

Opening Prayer Mary Claire Williams

\*Gathering Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* #595

Prayer of Confession and Assurance Rev. Nancy Gowler  
For the right road we avoided traveling,  
and the kindly words we refused to share;  
for the false gods who received our worship  
and the true selves we have starved of love.  
God, by your grace, **forgive us.**  
For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly,  
and the promises which we never kept;  
for the careless use of our time and money  
and the lame excuses we should never have made,  
God, by your grace, **forgive us.**  
For all we should be and all we can amend,  
God, in your love, **renew us.**  
For all you have in store for us and all you may demand of us,  
God, in your love, **prepare us.**  
For the life of the world and the love of its people,  
God, in your love, **commit us.**  
Glory to the Creator who gives us life,  
**Glory to Jesus whose love remakes us,**  
Glory to the Spirit, companion on our journey.  
**Glory be to God. Amen.**

### SACRED STORIES

Scripture Reading Luke 9:51-62 Mary Claire Williams  
Listen now for Word and Wisdom  
as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.  
**Our hearts and minds are open.**

Scripture Galatians 4:1, 13-25 Rev. Nancy Gowler  
Heavenly words for earthly people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Re-imagining Freedom* Rev. Nancy Gowler

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

\*Song of Response *I Come With Joy* #420

Prayers of the People Mary Claire Williams

Lord's Prayer  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**  
**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in**  
**heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our**  
**trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And**  
**lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine**  
**is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Communion Rev. Nancy Gowler  
Peace be with you!  
**And also with you.**  
...All are welcome at Christ's table.  
**Everyone is welcome at Christ's table.**

Meditation *When I Survey The Wondrous Cross* Bell Choir

Installation Service of Officers & Deacons Rev. Nancy Gowler

### GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*Benediction Rev. Nancy Gowler

\*Sung Response *Shalom to You Now* #436

\*Postlude Jiyeon McGillicuddy



**READ:** Paul's letter to the church in Galatia is an important one in the Bible. As he draws his letter to a close he writes words of encouragement to his friends. He reminds them of an old commandment which is in the Jewish scriptures in Leviticus (19:18), "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus had thought it such an important rule that when he was asked "Of all the commandments, of all the ten best ways to live, which is the most important?" Jesus responded, "Love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." And then he added, "The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these. (Mark 12:28-34)

Paul agrees with Jesus. And he builds on that commandment to love others as we love ourselves by describing what living according to the ways of God's Spirit looks like. He imagines that a life freely lived in God's Spirit is one filled with "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." He calls these "fruits of the Spirit," outward expressions of how the Spirit leads us to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. (Galatians 5:1, 13-25)

**WONDER:** I wonder how the people in the church of Galatia feel when they read Paul's words to love their neighbors as themselves?

I wonder how it feels when people love God with all their hearts, souls, minds, and strength?

I wonder if it's hard to love some people?

I wonder what your favorite gift of the Spirit is: kindness? joy? love? patience?

I wonder how the Spirit helps us?

**SAY:** In this part of Paul's letter to the church in Galatia, we see how the teachings of Jesus were passed on to others. Paul shares the most important commandment from God for us--loving our neighbors as ourselves.

**PRAY:** Let's pray. Dear God, thank you for people who help us learn more about you and how you want us to live. Thank you for the Spirit who gives us the fruits of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Amen.

### EXTEND

- Look at the list of the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Choose one and, using your favorite art materials, create a depiction of your fruit. As you create, talk about ways in which that fruit can be seen in your life or in the lives of people you know.
- Read [Zen Ties](#) by Jon J. Muth. Koo, a young panda who speaks in haiku, is visiting his uncle Stillwater for the summer. Stillwater is a wise panda, who gently guides Koo, along with his young friends Karl, Addy and Michael, as they learn to make choices which are acts of kindness and compassion. How is Stillwater similar to the Holy Spirit? What fruits of the Spirit do you see in the story?