

# Welcome to Harwich United Methodist Church



**August 27, 2023**

## ~~Gathering and Welcome~~

**Sharing Joys and Concerns**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

One: Family of God, as we gather today, Jesus asks us, "Who do you say that I am?"

**Many: You are our Messiah, the Son of the living God!**

One: Family of God, as we gather today, the Holy Spirit asks us, "Who do you say that I am?"

**Many: You are our Comforter, Advocate, and Sustainer!**

One: Family of God, as we gather today, God the Father asks us, "Who do you say that I am?"

**Many: You are our Creator, Provider, and Healer!**

One: Family of God, as we gather today, the Triune God asks us, "Who do you say that I am?"

**Many: You are Love that creates, saves, and enfolds us into the family of God! May we be instruments of Love in all that we are and all that we do.**

**Amen.**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2023*

**\*Opening Hymn**

**"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

**#400**

### **Opening Prayer**

God, without you on our side, our troubles would swallow us up whole. Guide us, merciful God, as we navigate through the muck and mire in our lives. Help us to trust your guidance. God, without you on our side, disasters would overwhelm and sweep us away. Protect us, merciful God, and inspire us to give and receive help when we face times of calamity and destruction. God, without you on our side, the suffering of the world would overtake us, arresting us with the enormity of human need all around us. Help our hearts remain tender, merciful God that we would meet the suffering in ourselves, our families, and our neighbors with compassion and care. God, without you on our side, the conflicts and discord that surround us would leave us full of distrust and suspicion. Heal us, merciful God, that we may be agents of restoration, peace, and help everywhere we go. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Thanks be to God who guides, protects, heals, and helps us now and forevermore. Amen.

### **Prayer of Confession**

We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost, and wonder why we cannot find you. We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place. In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

### **Passing of the Peace**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 23**

**pg.754**

### **~~The Church Proclaims the Word~~**

**Scripture Readings**     **Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20**

**Reader:** The Word of God for the People of God

**Response:** Thanks be to God

**Anthem**

**"Be Still My Soul"**

**Mary Dulemba and Hugh Dykens**

Message                    Two People Living in the "Same" Town                    Hugh Dykens  
\*Hymn                    "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"                    TFWS #2223

~~Response to the Word~~

The Apostles' Creed                    #881

Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

\*Doxology                    #94

\*Prayer for the Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

God of love and enlightenment as we offer our gifts to you this morning, we remember how dependent we are on your love and mercy for every good and wonderful thing in our lives. We affirm in our generosity today, that we will stand for those who can't stand for themselves against injustice and help those who can't help themselves. We dedicate these gifts and our lives to you that we might not only find our own way... but lead others toward Jesus, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

~~The Church Goes Forth~~

\*Final Hymn                    "Spirit of the Living God"                    #393

\*Benediction

\*"God Be With You"                    from #673

Postlude

Ushers: June Andrejko and Pat Brothers

Coffee Hour: Mimi Groff

You are welcome here. No matter who you are. No matter what.  
God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it!

Scripture Readings for September 3, 2023

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-36, 45b; Jeremiah 15:15-21;

Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 18:15-20

## Calendar

1/2 Price Sale continues at Thrift Shop through September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesday, September 6: UMW meets at 2pm

Sunday, September 10: Choir resumes with 9am rehearsal.

Sunday, September 17: Ad Board meets after worship

4 pm Potluck (open to the public)

Monday, September 18: Thrift Shop Volunteers meet at 12:15pm

## Prayers

*Grieving: Families and friends of Don and Darlene Ryan  
and Chie Young's grandfather; the people of Maui*

*Hospice: David Thyng*

The effects of climate change world-wide

Brian Mielke and others seeking employment

Healing: Judy Thomas, Don Gould, Sr., Ruth Zeller, Joan Felahi, Gloria Brown, Linda

Todenhagen, Sloan Gambardella, Chris Shaper, Sheila Johnson,

Irene Van Norden

Continued Prayers: Dan Murphy, Don Howell, Al Thompson, Donald Turcotte, Kenny

Souza, Joan Stevens, Nancy McIntyre, Pauline Doliber, Michael Chatham, Greg

Legeyt and Karen Daffinee



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Marisha Dubiel, Music Director

