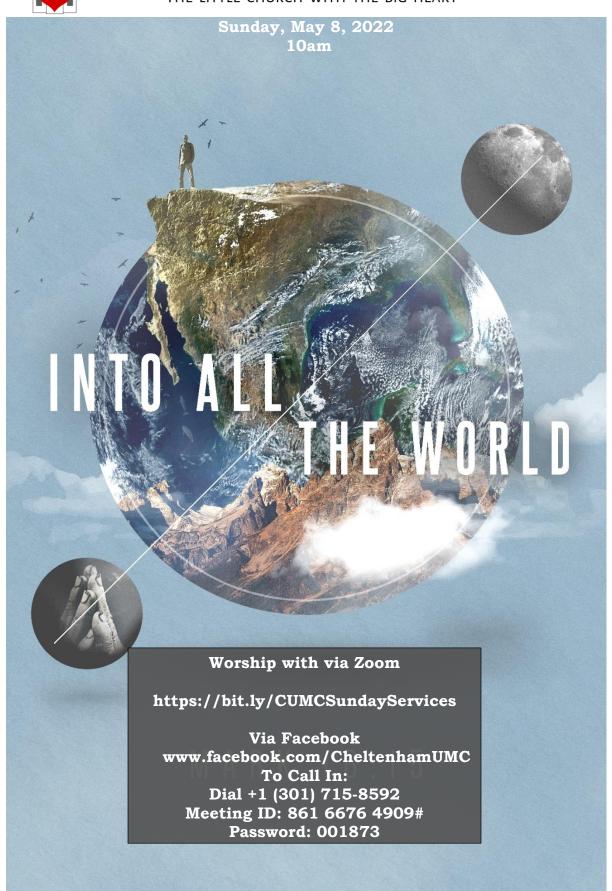
# Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART



# Sunday, May 8, 2022

#### **GATHERING**

#### **WELCOME**

#### CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

#### GREETING

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God,

let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

#### **PRAYER**

Book of Worship 399

O God, our shepherd, our gate, our lamb: In the resurrection of your Son you have brought us into your pasture. Guide us to your clear streams, and tame the wolf at our gate; through Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.

+HYMN "He Lives" UMH 310

Words: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933 Music: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933

Tune: ACKLEY

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I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.

#### Refrain

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives?
He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair. I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last.

# Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind.

# Refrain

#### +PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE 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.

Mother's Day Poem

"Mother, A Cradle to Hold Me"

By Maya Angelou

It is true
I was created in you.
It is also true
That you were created for me.
I owned your voice.
It was shaped and tuned to soothe me.
Your arms were molded
Into a cradle to hold me, to rock me.
The scent of your body was the air
Perfumed for me to breathe.

Mother,

During those early, dearest days I did not dream that you had A large life which included me, For I had a life Which was only you.

Time passed steadily and drew us apart. I was unwilling.
I feared if I let you go
You would leave me eternally.
You smiled at my fears, saying
I could not stay in your lap forever.

That one day you would have to stand And where would I be? You smiled again. I did not. Without warning you left me,

But you returned immediately.
You left again and returned,
I admit, quickly,
But relief did not rest with me easily.
You left again, but again returned.
You left again, but again returned.
Each time you reentered my world
You brought assurance.
Slowly I gained confidence.

You thought you know me,
But I did know you,
You thought you were watching me,
But I did hold you securely in my sight,
Recording every moment,
Memorizing your smiles, tracing your frowns.
In your absence
I rehearsed you,
The way you had of singing
On a breeze,
While a sob lay
At the root of your song.

The way you posed your head So that the light could caress your face When you put your fingers on my hand And your hand on my arm, I was blessed with a sense of health, Of strength and very good fortune.

You were always the heart of happiness to me, Bringing nougats of glee, Sweets of open laughter.

During the years when you knew nothing And I knew everything, I loved you still. Condescendingly of course, From my high perch Of teenage wisdom. I grew older and Was stunned to find How much knowledge you had gleaned. And so quickly.

Mother, I have learned enough now
To know I have learned nearly nothing.
On this day
When mothers are being honored,
Let me thank you
That my selfishness, ignorance, and mockery

Did not bring you to
Discard me like a broken doll
Which had lost its favor.
I thank you that
You still find something in me
To cherish, to admire and to love.

I thank you, Mother. I love you.

Source: <a href="https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/mother-a-cradle-to-hold-me-by-maya-angelou">https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/mother-a-cradle-to-hold-me-by-maya-angelou</a>

+HYMN "Stand By Me" UMH 512

Words: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906 (Mt. 8:23-27; Mk. 4:35-41; Lk. 8:22-25) Music: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906; arr. William Farley Smith, 1989

Tune: STAND BY ME

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When the storms of life are raging, stand by me; when the storms of life are raging, stand by me. When the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea, thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me.

In the midst of tribulation, stand by me; in the midst of tribulation, stand by me.
When the hosts of hell assail, and my strength begins to fail, thou who never lost a battle, stand by me.

In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me; in the midst of faults and failures stand by me. When I've done the best I can, and my friends misunderstand, thou who knowest all about me, stand by me.

In the midst of persecution, stand by me; in the midst of persecution, stand by me.
When my foes in war array undertake to stop my way, thou who saved Paul and Silas stand by me.

When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me; when I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me.
When my life becomes a burden, and I'm nearing chilly Jordan, O though Lily of the Valley, stand by me.

#### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Revelation 7:9-17

SERMON "Who are they?" Rev. Rachel B. Livingston

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

+OFFERTORY "In the Garden" UMH 314

+DOXOLOGY UMH 95

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

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

#### **GOING FORTH**

+HYMN "Be Thou My Vision" UMH 451

Words: Donald Hughes, 1964, 1969 alt.

Music: Jeremiah Clark, 1707 Tune: UFFINGHAM LM

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Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

+BENEDICTION

# **Upcoming Events**

Monday, May 9, 2022

Monday Methodists 9am Knitting Circle 10am

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Prayer 12noon

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Pastor's Office Hours 10am-12noon

\*If you need to connect with the pastor for a meeting you can send an email to <a href="mailto:cumcpastorlivingston@gmail.com">cumcpastorlivingston@gmail.com</a> or give her a call at 302-230-6141

## June 4

Church Yard Sale 8a-12noon

June 6

Church Council Meeting 7pm

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Revelation 7:9-17 NRSV • 9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. 16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."