

## **Prayer Corner**

### **Prayer of the Month:**

#### **"Dignity | For Worth"**

#### **Cole Arthur Riley -Black Liturgies**

*God in us, We know the miracle inherent in our existence. We are here, our beauty stretching out and dwelling within us. But it is hard to believe in one's dignity when the systems and societies to which we belong are content to destroy us. We have heard lies of our worthlessness in the explicit and implicit ways the world interacts with our bodies, stories, and homes. It is incessant— this lie of own inadequacy, this charade of our inferiority. Remind us that our dignity does not wane or bud in relation to anyone's belief in it, including our own. Let us rest with the knowledge that we have nothing to prove; our dignity, perpetual is divine. We will not shrink. We expand. Remind us of our making. For we too contain the divine. Amen.*

### **Prayer Requests**

- Unhoused Neighbors
- Black Church Summit
- Tyler Anderson (son of Brenda Anderson, nephew of Chaplain Irene Weaver)
- Deborah Dennis (friend of Maxine Carter and family)
- Juanita Robertson
- Rachel Thadathil

### **Covering in Prayer**

- Johnny Barker
- Brenda Bolar-Ford
- Rakesha Eaton (daughter of Theresa Phillips)
- Margaret LeFleur
- Gary Martin
- Sharon Martin
- Karen Morgan
- Willie P. McCoy, Jr.



*Loving God. Loving People.*

### **Homebound & In-Care Facilities**

- Verlene Booker
- Glenice Booker-Butler
- Margaret Carter
- James Cummings
- Ginnie Dennis
- Doris Douglas
- Johnette Houston
- Pat Jemie
- Joyce Neal Long



585 Fuller Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55103  
[www.camphorconnects.org](http://www.camphorconnects.org)

**October 5, 2025 | 10 am**  
**Heritage Sunday | World Communion Sunday**



**Rev. Cynthia Williams | Lead Pastor**

**Welcome to Camphor Memorial UMC!**

We are an open, welcoming, and affirming congregation, intentional and inclusive of all God's people. Camphor worship services are filmed, recorded and broadcast on line. Whoever you are – you are safe here.

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- ↑ All stand
  - \* Please be Seated
- Where indicated, speak or sing the words in **bold**

**Centering Moment: Our Daily Bread**  
Check out today's passage from  
"Our Daily Bread" to get centered for Worship.



**Prelude**  
**† Bringing in the Light**

**Processional** *Siyahamba* AA/HH 164

Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos  
(phonic: See-yah-hahmb eh-koo-kah-nyen kwen-kose)

We are marching in the light of God  
We are dancing in the light of God  
We are singing in the light of God  
We are praying in the light of God

**Welcome** Pastor Cynthia Williams

**† CALL TO WORSHIP** Catalia Farmer

One: Christ prayed that we would be one – not just in spirit, but in action.

**Many: We come with one faith, one hope, and one calling – to love beyond borders and honor those who came before us.**

One: At this table, we are no longer strangers, no matter our background or story. The bread and the cup make us family in Christ.

**Many: From every nation and every people – from generations past to generations rising – we are one in Christ.**

One: So bring your whole story, your whole praise, your whole self.

**Many: We are many, but we are one – baptized in love, rooted in legacy, and rising in power. Glory to God – Amen and Hallelujah!**

*(Adapted from Church Assistant: Liturgy, Bible Study, Prayer)*

**Camphor Bulletin Board**

**S.E.R.V.E. @ Camphor Memorial UMC**  
Sharing **Every Resource, Voice, & Experience** | *"Because ministry takes all of us."*



Are you looking for a way to use your gifts and make a meaningful impact in the life of our church? S.E.R.V.E. @ Camphor is your invitation to share your God-given resources, voice, & experiences in service to our community. This is more than filling a spot—it's about living your faith out loud & strengthening the body of Christ through love in action. Join one of the ministry areas below & let your presence be a blessing.

Usher Ministry: Help create a welcoming environment for worshippers.  
Contact: Saran Cryer – sarancryer@gmail.com

Communion Stewards: Assist in preparing and serving Holy Communion.  
Contact: Harold Golden – harold.golden@comcast.net

Digital Ministry: Support worship and outreach through technology.  
Contact: Dr. Darlene Fry – darlene-fry1637@comcast.net

Christian Education: Help lead and grow our spiritual formation programs.  
Contact: De Anna Conover – deanna.conover@state.mn.us

**Stay Connected with the Camphor Community!**



We invite you to stay informed and inspired by subscribing to our weekly newsletter and church communications. Scan the QR code below to visit our website. Once you're there, simply scroll down to the "Subscribe" section and enter your email address.

By subscribing, you'll receive regular updates about worship services, upcoming events, ministry opportunities, and more –right in your inbox. Don't miss a moment of what God is doing at Camphor!



One: Hear the good news: In Christ there is no condemnation; we are forgiven and made one.

All: Thanks be to God – we are free, forgiven, and united in Christ! Amen.

World Communion Sunday Liturgy

(adapted from World Communion Sunday 2025 Worship Resources, WCSC)

Invitation

One: Like a sower, God scatters, and God will give growth.

Many: God scatters life across the earth.

One: God scatters people in every land and nation.

Many: God scatters disciples far and wide.

One: Like a shepherd, God gathers.

Many: God gathers people into families of faith.

One: God gathers people into communities of love.

Many: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

Communion Prayer

Sharing of the Meal *Please come forward as the ushers direct to receive by intinction: taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup.*

(Communion Hymns: AA/HH 686 | UMH 618 – Let Us Break Bread Together AA/HH 267– I Know it was the Blood)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (In Unison)

We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of this table and the living presence of Christ among us. We thank you for the gift of growth and grace in this life-renewing feast. We thank you for the company of your great cloud of witnesses, here in this place, in every land, and throughout the generations. Take your gathered people and scatter us again into the world–renewed, invigorated, and committed–that, so nourished, we may take root and bear life-giving fruit to feed, heal, clothe, and comfort, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

† Benediction with Blessings

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Let the Church say Amen, Let the Church say Amen  
God has spoken, Let the Church say Amen

(Worshippers may depart. Go in Peace)

[Verse 1]

We praise thee, O God,  
For the Son of thy love,  
For Jesus who died  
And is now gone above.

[Refrain]

Hallelujah, thine the glory!  
Hallelujah, Amen!  
Hallelujah, thine the glory!  
Revive us again.

[Verse 2]\*

All glory and praise  
To the God of all grace,  
Who has bought us; and sought us,  
And guided our ways. [Refrain]

[Verse 3]

Revive us again;  
Fill each heart with Thy love;  
May each soul be rekindled  
With fire from above. [Refrain]

(Worshippers May Enter)

Centering Prayer (In Unison)

Amy Hedstrand

Holy and eternal God, We thank You for the gift of being one – one body, one Spirit, one hope. Today we gather around the table with the global Church, and we remember those who paved the way before us. We give thanks for ancestors who prayed, praised, and persevered – even when the world tried to silence them. Bind us together in Your love, across borders and generations. Make our worship a reflection of heaven – many voices, one song. Let the legacy we’ve inherited become the unity we live. And may the world come to know Your healing power through the love we share. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

(Adapted from Church Assistant: Liturgy, Bible Study, Prayer)

Passing of the Peace

Amy Hedstrand

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation, peace, and love. Saying, to our neighbors, **“the peace of Christ be with you,”** the response is, **“And also with you!”**

(Worshippers May Enter)

Joys and Concerns | Intercessory Prayer

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Lord’s Prayer | De Anna Conover (German) | Pedro Ramos (Spanish) | Unison

**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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Gathering our Community/Announcements

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Ministry of Giving/Offering

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Scan the QR Code to give online via Square or PayPal!



† The 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. Amen

Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

† Scripture Lesson

John 17:20-26 (The Living Bible)

Allan Ige

20 “I am not praying for these alone but also for the future believers who will come to me because of the testimony of these. 21 My prayer for all of them is that they will be of one heart and mind, just as you and I are, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me. 22 “I have given them the glory you gave me—the glorious unity of being one, as we are— 23 I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one—so that the world will know you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love me.

† Scripture Lesson

John 17:20-26 (The Living Bible)-Cont’d

Allan Ige

24 Father, I want them with me—these you’ve given me—so that they can see my glory. You gave me the glory because you loved me before the world began! 25 “O righteous Father, the world doesn’t know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. 26 And I have revealed you to them and will keep on revealing you so that the mighty love you have for me may be in them, and I in them.”

(Leader: The Word of God for the People of God/ **All: Thanks be to God**)

Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

Sermon

The Gift of Being One

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Song of Response

“They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord (x2)  
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand (x2)  
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**All Praise to the Father, From whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son  
And all praise to the Spirit, Who makes us one  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

Call to Confession

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Christ prayed for unity, but we have often chosen division. Before we come to the table, let us come in truth – confessing where we’ve fallen short, and trusting in grace that restores.

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

**Loving God, You call us to be one body, but we have turned away from one another. We’ve let pride, fear, and silence divide us. We’ve chosen comfort over compassion and walls over welcome. We have forgotten the prayers and sacrifices of those who came before us. Forgive us for failing to love as You love. Make us one again – in purpose, in compassion, and in truth. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**



## Camphor Bulletin Board

### **Friday, October 10 - Faith in Blue Community Service Project**

As part of the national Faith in Blue weekend, our church will participate in a community service project. This is a chance to live out our faith in tangible ways by serving our neighbors and strengthening community relationships. More details will be shared soon.



### **Sunday, October 19 - Laity Sunday**



On Laity Sunday, we pause to recognize and celebrate the essential role of the laity in the life of the church. The ministry of the church is not carried out by clergy alone but is made alive through the faithful witness, leadership, and service of all God's people.

This special Sunday is a time to lift up the gifts of our members—those who teach, serve, sing, lead, and embody Christ's love in countless ways both within and beyond the church walls. Together we will give thanks for the diverse callings of the laity and be reminded that each of us has a role to play in building up the body of Christ.

### **Sunday, October 26 - Children's Sabbath Sunday**

Come join us for Children's Sabbath Sunday, a joyful celebration of our children and youth. Through music, prayer, and leadership in worship, we will give thanks for the ways they bless our congregation and remind us of God's call to nurture the next generation in faith.



## Camphor Bulletin Board

### **This Week @ Camphor Memorial UMC**

#### **Monday, October 6th**

6:30 pm- Trustee Meeting (Zoom)

#### **Wednesday, October 8th**

4 pm- Woman's Chorale Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

5 pm- Childbirth Education Class (Lower Level)

#### **Saturday, October 11th**

9 am- Praise Dance Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

9:15 am- Exercise w/ Connie (Lg Sunday School Rm)

10 am- UWF General Meeting (Fellowship/ Narthex Area)

10:30 am- UMM General Meeting (Conf. Rm)

1 pm- Woman's Chorale Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

#### **Sunday, October 12th**

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Conf. Rm)

10 am: Worship (Sanctuary and Live-Stream)

11:30 am: Listening Session Debrief (Fellowship/ Narthex Area)

1 pm- Usher Ministry Meeting (Conf. Rm)

### **What's Happening After Church**

Join us right after worship for a time of family meal and fellowship. All are invited to come, share food together, and enjoy one another's company as we continue building community beyond the sanctuary.

### **Listening Session Debrief | Sunday, October 12**

Please join us immediately after worship on Sunday, October 12, for a debrief of the September Listening Sessions. Together we will hear a summary of the themes, dreams, and hopes that were shared, along with Pastor Cynthia's leadership response



A Night to Remember: The Black Affair



Join Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church on Friday, October 24, 2025, at the Dakota Lodge in St. Paul for The Black Affair—an inspiring evening of music, community, and purpose. This fundraising event supports the mission and ministries of our church. Doors open at 6:00 PM.

Enjoy performances by **Emmy Award-winner T. Mychael Rambo**, nationally acclaimed vocalist and actress **Greta Oglesby**, and our Minister of Music, **Kevin Jackson**. Together, they'll deliver a night you won't forget.

Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased by scanning the QR code or visiting [camphorconnects.org](http://camphorconnects.org). Click the button in the "All Black Affair" section on the homepage. Celebrate with us as we honor our community and God's faithfulness.



A dark blue poster with large, bold, light blue text that reads "BLACK CHURCH SUMMIT". Below the title is a group photo of ten diverse Black church leaders. The text continues: "Saturday, October 11, 2025 — 2:00 PM - 5:00PM Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church Minneapolis, 3333 N 4th St, Minneapolis, MN 55412 Join Black Church congregants and electeds across the state as ISAIAH Black Church members launch their statewide public agenda." At the bottom left are logos for "ISAIAH" and "BARBERSHOP &amp; BLACK CONGREGATION COOPERATIVE". At the bottom right is a QR code with the text "SCAN CODE TO REGISTER" below it.