

People: There are times, O God, when our greatest sin is not what we do but what we fail to do. For those times when we have not spoken up; for those times when we have not acted; for those times when we have not responded; forgive us. Give us courage to name what is wrong when we see it. Give us confidence to do what is hard. Give us grace to reach out when that is frightening or uncomfortable. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION:

Pastor: New every morning is God's love for us, and so we are bold to proclaim the Good News:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***CLOSING SONG:**

Together We Serve

TFWS 2175

***BLESSING:**

Pastor: Love God and serve the people.

People: Love the people and serve God.

***BENEDICTION**

GOING FORTH

Praise Band

Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments

VAN METER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

vmumc.org

P.O. Box 149 100 Hazel St

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Ministers:

All the Church Members

Organist/Choir Director:

Mike Cooper

Pianist:

Heidi Freidhof

Usher/Greeters:

Christy Jungman

Acolyte:

Crawford Kids

Liturgist:

Margo Suckow

Visual Tech:

Kim Frankhauser

Fellowship:

Connie Cooper

Nursery:

Brandy Halsten

Janitorial:

Hoppes Family

Administrative Assistant:

Danene Rebelsky

Kids Care Director:

Jess Jaspers

Director of Youth and

Children's Ministries:

Miss Courtney

Pastor:

Pastor Cathy Nutting

(515) 975-7609 (cell)

cathy.nutting@iaumc.net

District Superintendent:

Lilian Seagren

Bishop:

Kennetha Bigham-Tsai



Van Meter UMC

*Nurturing children, supporting families,
creating community as we share our faith.*



Adult Discussion Group 9:30 AM



Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

Worship 10:45 AM

WELCOME TO CASUAL WORSHIP

September 20, 2026  Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Assistive listening devices are available from ushers.

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND CANDLE LIGHTING:
My Life Is In You, Lord TFWS 2032

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER:
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us greet one another with signs of peace and love.

(Please be seated.)
CHILDREN’S TIME

MORNING PRAYER:
Almighty, all-merciful God, through Christ Jesus, you have taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies. As we gather for worship and as we are sent from this place, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. Help us to encounter each person in light of the love and grace you have shown us in Christ. Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*SONGS OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP: (please remain standing)
Cry of My Heart TFWS 2165

(please be seated)
As the Deer on screen

OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER
(on screen)

OUR TIME OF GIVING
Make Me A Servant TFWS 2176

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal 95

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:
Gracious God of Love, you have taught us what love looks like, and you have commanded us to live it. In a world that rewards fear and self-interest, you call us to give boldly, to serve generously, and to risk loving with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. Receive these offerings as signs of our obedience and as seeds of a kingdom where welcome is wide, grace is abundant, and love never holds back. We give, not from obligation, but from the joy of being shaped by your love. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Leviticus 19:9-18 NRSVUE
*GOSPEL READING: Mark 12:28-34 NRSVUE

L: The Living Word of God for the people of God.
P: Thanks be to God!

THE WORD SHARED: “Loving Boldly” Pastor Heidi Myers

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
Pastor: With hope for God’s mercy and trust in God’s love, let us admit the truth or our lives, first in silent prayer.
(silent prayer)

*Indicates stand, as you are able. **Bold** indicates all join in. FWS indicates *The Faith We Sing* book.