

Welcome to the Rectortown United Methodist Church

*No matter where you have been or where you have failed to be –
what you have said or what you have failed to say - what you have
done or what you have failed to do - whom you have loved or whom
you have failed to love - you are welcome here.*

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE - let us quiet our minds, hearts, and spirits as we begin to focus on the presence of God as we become aware of the *Light of Christ* in our midst.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021, p. 187)*

How lovely is the dwelling place of God!
May our hearts become a place where God's Spirit lives.
May our words become bold words of love and grace.
And may our worship be worthy of the Lord.

Welcome to this holy space where God's Spirit dwells among us!
We come longing to feel the presence of God.

Open your hearts, for this is a place of prayer and healing.
This is a place of joy and faith.

This is the place for you.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN Standing on the Promises UMH 374

OPENING PRAYER *(adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021, p. 187)*

Most loving and gracious God – you have called us to this place, a place where we find your Spirit. We have gathered here to pray

and to be forgiven, to love and be loved, and to hear the word boldly proclaimed as we apply it to our lives. Open our hearts to the mystery of your Word. Remind us that your Word is proclaimed in the life of Jesus, the Christ. Help us believe in you and in your love for us. All this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLES' MESSAGE

No turning back...

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(adapted from FOTW Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 2, p. 132)

Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. By your Holy Spirit, let your words pierce our darkness, strengthen our faith, and illumine our witness. This we pray in Jesus's name. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM RESPONSIVE READING

84

UMH 805

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:56-69

* Gloria Patri

UMH 70

MESSAGE *That bread is hard to swallow...*

HYMN Trust and Obey UMH 467

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH UMH 882

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

Offertory Prayer

THANKSGIVING

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

SENDING FORTH

HYMN How Great Thou Art

UMH 77

SENDING FORTH

On Eagle's Wings

UMH 143

*This worship service has ended, and now your service begins.
As you leave church today, you are entering the mission field.*

Questions for Reflection

(adapted from FOTW Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 2, p. 139)

Peter says to Jesus, "You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God" (John 6:68-69). Are 'believing' and 'knowing' the same action? How does knowing something intensify our believing something?

Rectortown United Methodist Church

Location: 3049 Rectortown Road, Rectortown, VA

Mailing Address: PO Box 301, Rectortown, VA 20140

Email: secretaryrumc@gmail.com Phone: (540) 364-1066

Rectortown United Methodist Church

August 22nd, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Proper 16



***Bishop:** Sharma D. Lewis*

***District Superintendent:** Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez*

***Pastor:** Rev. Steven W. Weedling*

4082 Rectortown Road, Marshall, VA 20115

Pastor's Cell Phone: (540) 340-2569

Pastor's E-mail: steveweedling@vaumc.org

***Music Director:** Karen Chase*

***Ministers:** every member of the congregation*