

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Our Sunday service is live-streamed, and microphones pick up sound throughout the sanctuary.

Recording begins at least 15 minutes before the service to include announcements.

Livestream Notice: Our worship service is live-streamed and recorded. By attending, you consent to being included in the broadcast. Thank you for joining us!



Prelude

Pastor Eduardo
Carrillo

First Sunday of Advent

November 30th ,
2025

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WELCOME,
ANNOUNCEMENTS,
and
CELEBRATIONS

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CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: Come, people of God, even when
the world presses in.

People: **We come seeking sanctuary, a
place where God makes room.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: When choices feel few and the way seems uncertain, God is still near.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, our Hope.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: Today, we light the candle of Hope. In a world pressed by fear and uncertainty, we remember God makes room where none seems possible.

CALL to WORSHIP

All: **Christ comes as our hope, guiding
us through pressure into promise.**

OPENING PRAYER

**God of spacious love, you
meet us when pressure
closes in. You remind us
that sanctuary can be
found even in the most
challenging places. Teach
us to trust your presence,**



OPENING PRAYER

**to act with courage, and
to make room for others
as you have made room
for us. It is in the name of
the One who receives us
when we call on him.
Amen.**



“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” UMH 196

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1744 MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” UMH 196

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1744 MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Young Disciples' Message



Prayer For Illumination


**Spirit of the living God, fall
afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall
afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me,
use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall
afresh on me.**





Joshua 2: 1 – 11

NRSVUE

Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and spent the night there.

² The king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land."

³ Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, “Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out the whole land.”

⁴ But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, “True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from.”

⁵ And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them."

⁶ She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof.

⁷ So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

⁸ Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof

9 and said to the men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land and that dread of you has fallen on us and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you.

10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

11 As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted,
and there was no courage left in any of us
because of you. The LORD your God is indeed
God in heaven above and on earth below.



Matthew 1: 1 – 17

NRSVUE

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by
Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and
Hezron the father of Aram,

⁴ and Aram the father of Aminadab, and
Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and
Nahshon the father of Salmon,

⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab,
and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and
Obed the father of Jesse,

⁶ and Jesse the father of King David.
And David was the father of Solomon by the
wife of Uriah,

⁷ and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and
Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah
the father of Asaph,

⁸ and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram
the father of Uzziah,

9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham
the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of
Hezekiah,

10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and
Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the
father of Josiah,

11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,

13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and
Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the
father of Azor,

14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok
the father of Achim, and Achim the father of
Eliud,

15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar
the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father
of Jacob,

16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband
of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the
Messiah.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

The Word of God for
the people of God

Thanks be to God



Sermon

A man in a dark suit is shown from the chest up, sitting at a desk. He has his hands pressed against his face, with his fingers spread, suggesting a state of stress, exhaustion, or despair. His eyes are closed, and his expression is one of intense pressure. The background is heavily blurred, showing stacks of papers, pens, and out-of-focus lights, creating a sense of a busy, overwhelming office environment.

**“Room, When Pressure is
Closin in.”**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” UMH 206

WORDS and MUSIC: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” UMH 206

WORDS and MUSIC: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” UMH 206

WORDS and MUSIC: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

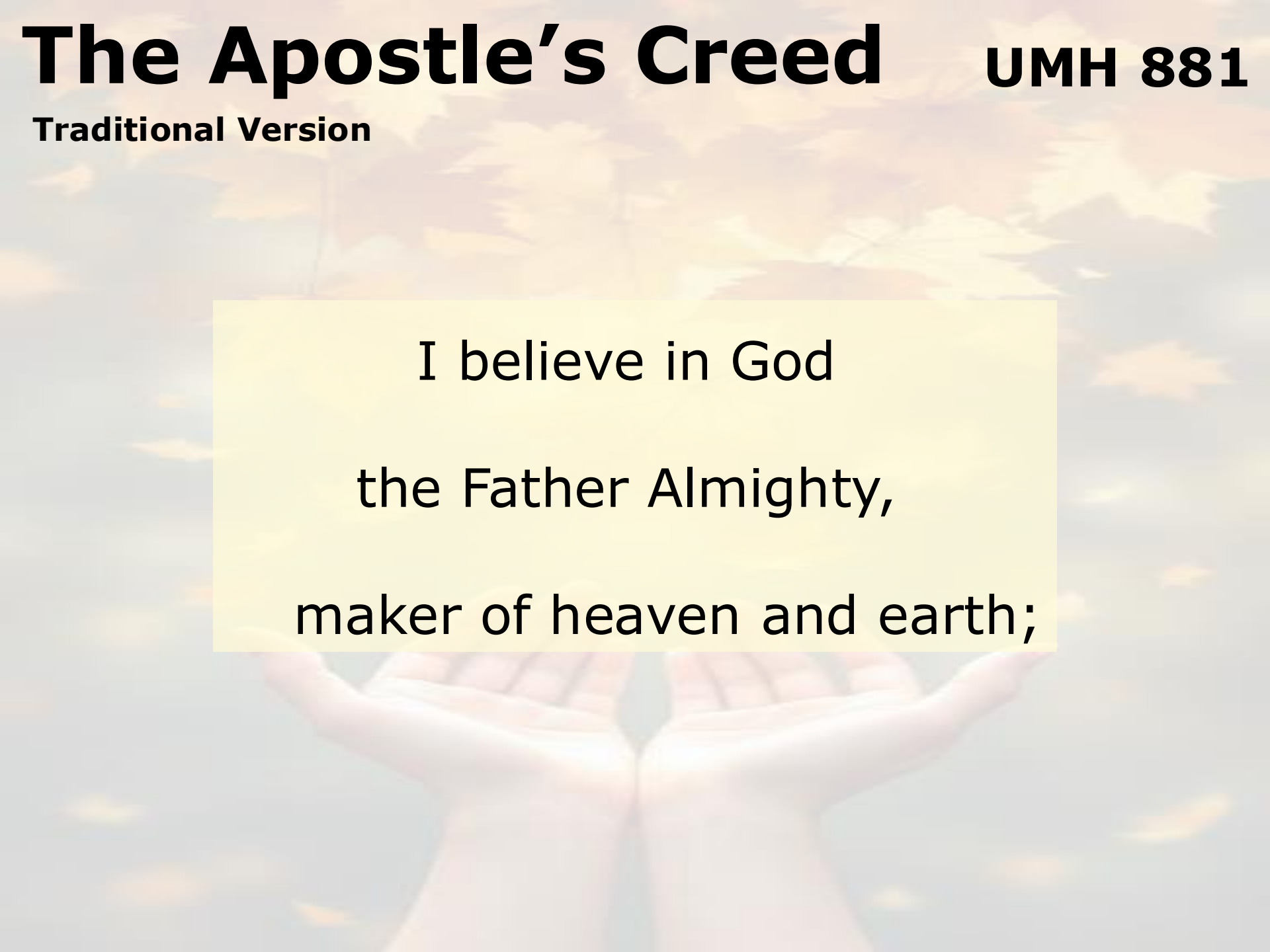
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

The Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

Traditional Version

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of two hands, palms up, holding a collection of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The hands are positioned at the bottom of the frame, with the leaves floating above them.

I believe in God
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

The Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

Traditional Version

And in Jesus Christ

his only Son our Lord:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

The Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

Traditional Version

the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the

Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead.

The Apostle's Creed

Traditional Version

UMH 881

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

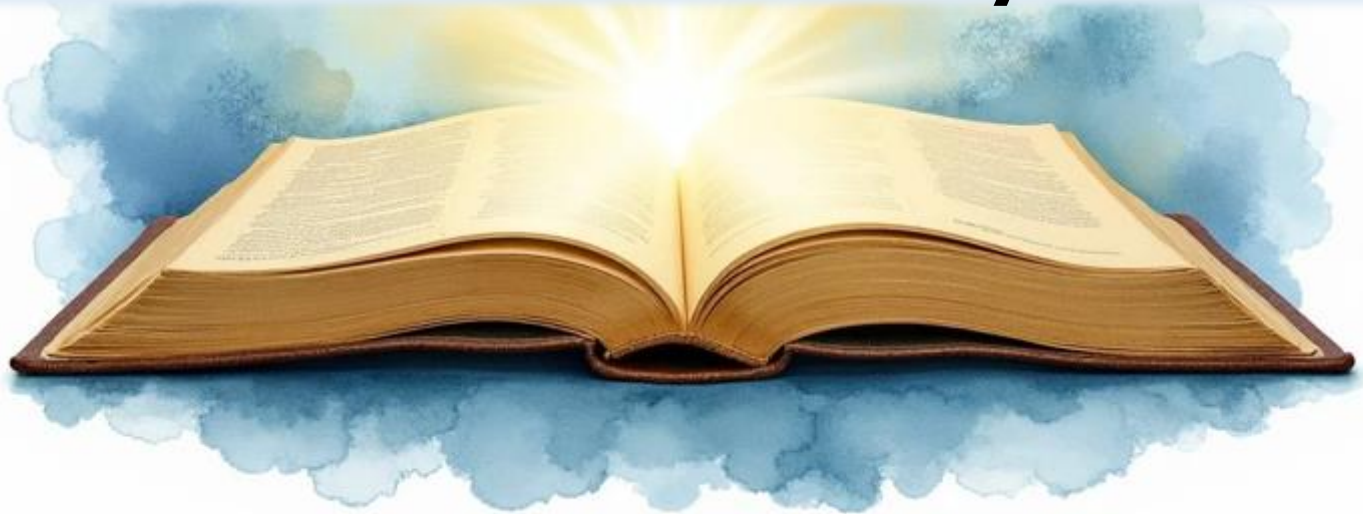


Prayers of the People

Lord,
hear our prayers
as we lift up to
you, our joys
and concerns.



Pastoral Prayer



The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895



Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be
done

on earth as it is in heaven.

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895



Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass
against us.

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895



And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory,

forever.

Amen

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and brown. In the lower half, two hands are visible, palms up, in a gesture of offering or prayer. A white rounded rectangle is centered over the image, containing the title and subtitle.

Tithes and Offerings

Worship through giving

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted by Gilbert H. Viera, 1978

MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The background of the image is a soft-focus photograph of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and brown. In the lower portion of the image, two hands are visible, palms up, in a gesture of prayer or offering. The hands are slightly out of focus, blending into the overall soft aesthetic of the scene.

Offertory Prayer

“People, Look East” UMH 202

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: traditional French carol, harmonized by Martin Shaw, 1928

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

“People, Look East” UMH 202

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: traditional French carol, harmonized by Martin Shaw, 1928

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

“People, Look East” UMH 202

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: traditional French carol, harmonized by Martin Shaw, 1928

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

“People, Look East” UMH 202

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: traditional French carol, harmonized by Martin Shaw, 1928

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

A small, dark-colored church with a white cross on its roof and a white door is nestled in a snowy landscape. The church is surrounded by tall, snow-covered evergreen trees. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, and the sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

Benediction

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION



Love. Grow. Serve.

This service has ended, and now
your service in the world begins!

Rectortown United Methodist Church

**serving God with
Prayer, Action, and Love
through Service.**