



## We Gather to Worship God

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Following the guidelines set by the city of Austin and Travis County, we are now asking all people, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, to wear masks during Sunday worship and in the church office.
- ❖ We now have a box in the sanctuary lobby (narthex) for donations to our various ministries. This will remain in the narthex and is available for you to drop by clothes, foodstuffs, and other missions' items on any Sunday morning.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. JJ Wicke

Leader: Sometimes we wonder how we have gotten through some difficult situations.

**People: God has been with us, lifting and comforting our spirits.**

Leader: We struggle and worry.

**People: God's loving presence sustains and strengthens us.**

Leader: Listen for God's call to you.

**People: Lord, we are listening and seeking your guidance. Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN

"For the Fruits of This Creation"

UMH #97

### THE PEACE

[If you are worshiping alongside someone else, take a moment to tell them "peace be with you" in the name of our Lord. As you do, we invite you to extend your cupped hands toward others who may be with or near you as a sign of offering the peace that Christ gives us. If you are alone, place your cupped hands over your heart, as a sign that you accept the peace God offers you and your willingness to be a bearer of peace in the world.]

**ANTHEM**

**"My Song Is Love Unknown"**

**Cody Parrott and Seth Zamora**

## **We Seek to Hear from God**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Esther 7: 1-10

**SERMON SERIES:** A Good Life

**SERMON**

A Good Cause

**Rev. JJ Wicke**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. 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.

**GLORIA PATRI**

**UMH #70**

## **We Respond to God**

**TIME OF PRAYER**

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

**INVITATION TO GIVE**

## We Leave to Serve God in the World

### CLOSING HYMN

### "Christ Loves the Church"

UMH #590

1 Christ loves the church,  
with grace beyond all measure.  
We bear his name, for all the world to see.  
He will not let us go or let us be,  
but chooses earthen vessels for his treasure.

2 Christ bears the church, corrupted or conforming,  
obsessed with trifles, blessing greed and war.  
His love outwits us, spinning gold from straw,  
through saints and prophets,  
praying and reforming.

3 Christ feeds the church, and fills us with a vision,  
through praise and preaching,  
wine and broken bread,  
of sharing people, doing what they've said,  
who win the world's respect, or opposition.

4 Christ needs the church, to live and tell his story,  
to praise his love and marvel at his trust,  
till, bathed in light, awakened from the dust,  
we walk with God, alive in grace and glory.

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

## **Northwest Hills UMC Weekly Announcements:**

### **Upcoming Events & Opportunities**

#### **Rise Against Hunger:**

We need you on Sunday, October 3 to once again help package freeze-dried meals to feed hungry children around the world! Our goal this year is to package 25,000 meals, which means raising \$8,500.00. Use the link register to volunteer or make a donation. <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/nwhills2021>

#### **Prayer Partners**

We would love to have each child prayed for during this crazy time. We are asking for each prayer partner to select 3 children from a list of My Friend's House and pray for those little ones. If you'd like, you can give them a small gift (i.e. book) at their birthday or Christmas. This is not required and please do not feel pressured to give a gift. Your prayers are gift enough. If you are interested, please email [terriksloan@gmail.com](mailto:terriksloan@gmail.com).

#### **Hands of Housing: October 23**

Help a neighbor stay in their home by helping to maintain it. We will do exterior painting with a team from Bethany UMC. The rain date is Oct 30. To sign up contact Dee Susong at [lolabeetle@gmail.com](mailto:lolabeetle@gmail.com).

#### **Join the Choir or Handbells**

The Choirs would like to welcome new members or interested guests of ALL AGES to join us! The Handbell Choir practices on Tuesdays from 6:30pm - 7:30pm and the Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Please contact our new Director of Traditional Music, Cody Parrott, at [cody@nwhillsumc.org](mailto:cody@nwhillsumc.org) for more information.

#### **Drive A Senior**

Drive A Senior ATX has partnered with Austin Public Health to provide hundreds of senior access to vaccine registration and appointments. To volunteer or for more information, contact Marjeanne Rutt at 512-636-7131.

#### **Puerto Rice Mission Trip Interest Meeting:**

Save the Date: November 1 on Zoom

#### **Habitat for Humanity:**

Sign up to help build a home at 7101 Zachary Dr, Austin as part of the 2021 Methodist Build on November 6 from 8 am - 4 pm. Youth ages 16-17 can participate with a parent. Sign up at <https://austinhabitat.volunteerhub.com/lp/nwhillsumc/>. You will be requested to create an account, sign a liability waiver and complete online safety training.

#### **Family Fall Festival:**

Save the Date: Sunday, November 7 following worship  
We will have an outdoor family festival with spiced cider, a food truck, games, and photo ops!

#### **Communion Servers**

Our church is in need of volunteers to prepare and serve the communion elements each Sunday at the 9:00 service. Below is the link to a Sign Up Genius page for the remainder of Sept. and Oct. If you prefer not to use the sign up page, but would like to help, or if you would like to volunteer long term for preparing the communion elements every week, please email or call Kim Hoffman at [kadhoffman@yahoo.com](mailto:kadhoffman@yahoo.com) or 512-576-3296.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BA5AF22A75-communion>

## Reminders

We've updated our giving platforms so you can give your tithe or gift more securely and easier than ever:  
Give Online, PayPal Giving Fund, Via Text, Via the Church Center App, Via Mail, or In-person.

## Resources/Support

Stephen Ministry: We have trained Stephen Ministry male and female volunteers standing ready to give you confidential, non-judgmental, empathetic listening and care. If you would like to learn more or request a Stephan Minister, contact Pastor JJ Wicke, at 512-345-1743, Stephen leaders Diane Coleman at 512-560-1828 or Jim Beck at 512-925-7611.

To submit a prayer request or receive ongoing prayer, contact Connie Ellis at [drclellis@gmail.com](mailto:drclellis@gmail.com).

## Member Birthdays

Dee Susong	Sept. 03	Mike Shepherd	Sept. 13	Britt Cain	Sept. 22
Ken Moyer, Jr.	Sept. 03	Claudia Biel	Sept. 14	Noah Perkins	Sept. 22
Ethan Anderson	Sept. 05	Hadra Brown	Sept. 14	Brandi Gitcho	Sept. 23
Phyllis Smith	Sept. 05	Heather Taylor	Sept. 16	Nathan Hammond	Sept. 24
Lee Easter	Sept. 06	Clara Hutchison	Sept. 17	Jackie Gardner	Sept. 25
Mike Wray	Sept. 06	Jeanne Acton-Shanks	Sept. 17	Lynne Cline	Sept. 25
Terri Sloan	Sept. 07	Sonia Merubia	Sept. 18	Joey Shanks	Sept. 27
Willy Maletta	Sept. 08	Hannah Cummings	Sept. 19	Brooks Taylor	Sept. 28
Angie Smucker	Sept. 10	Catherine Bixler	Sept. 20	Chip Pinckard	Sept. 30
Bob Zane	Sept. 10	Andy Mueller	Sept. 21	Gary Gunter	Sept. 30
Lauren Moffatt	Sept. 11	Brad Hoffman	Sept. 21		
Grant Means	Sept. 13	John Oliver	Sept. 21		

## Small Groups Meeting via Social Media

Class/Group	Meeting Via	When
<b>United Methodist Women</b> Facilitator: Reverend Sue Abold	ZOOM 512-921-4750 or <a href="mailto:sueiabold@aol.com">sueiabold@aol.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday's at 10:00 am
<b>Children's Sunday School</b> Facilitator: Tyler Steele	ZOOM For more information, contact <a href="mailto:tsteele@nwhillsumc.org">tsteele@nwhillsumc.org</a>	Tuesday's at 6:30 pm
<b>Women's Thursday Bible Study</b> Current study: " <i>The Epic of Eden</i> " by Sandra Richter Facilitators: Paulette Payne and Autie Doerr For more information, contact Paulette Payne at <a href="mailto:paulettep21@yahoo.com">paulettep21@yahoo.com</a> or 512-627-9072.	ZOOM	Thursday's at 10:00 am
<b>United Methodist Men</b> Facilitators: UMM Ministry	ZOOM For more information, contact: Mike Wray at <a href="mailto:m.c.wray@gmail.com">m.c.wray@gmail.com</a>	Wednesdays at 8:00 am
<b>Awaken Class</b> The Awaken Class will not meet during the summer.		
<b>2X2 Class</b> Current Study: <i>Incarnation Study for Advent</i> by Adam Hamilton Shared Leadership: Hoffmans, Carmagnolas, Gunters, Taylors... For information, contact: <a href="mailto:pkcarm@gmail.com">pkcarm@gmail.com</a>	ZOOM	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>Living Water</b> Current Study: <b>Hope for the Thinking Christian</b> by Stephen Reese Zoom link: <a href="#">Click here</a> .   Shared Leadership: Bruce Cardwell, John Coffman, Marjeanne Rutt.	ZOOM	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>Discovery Class</b> Current Study: <i>Romans</i> Facilitators: Sonia Merubia & Alison Norman ZOOM Link: <a href="https://silabs.zoom.us/j/5126597439">https://silabs.zoom.us/j/5126597439</a>   Class page: <a href="http://nwhillsumc.org/discovery">nwhillsumc.org/discovery</a>	ZOOM	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>Discussion Class</b> Current Study: <i>A Christian Look at Current News Topics</i> Facilitators: Gordon Hamilton & Edis Oliver. For more information contact: <a href="mailto:ghamtx@gmail.com">ghamtx@gmail.com</a>	ZOOM	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>Seekers</b> Current Study: <b>Words of Life</b> by Adam Hamilton also using his sermon series on the 10 commandments! Shared Leadership: The Hammonds and Shepherds	Google Meet	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>20's and 30's</b> Current Study: <i>Upper Room Devotions</i>   Facilitator: Justin Bauer	ZOOM	Sunday's at 10:00 am
<b>Impressions</b> - New members welcome! Current Study: <i>The Promised One: Finding Jesus in Genesis</i> by Nancy Guthrie Facilitator: Ken Moyer. For more information, contact <a href="mailto:kenmoyer1@att.net">kenmoyer1@att.net</a> or (512) 294-8833	ZOOM	Sunday's at 11:00 am