

PRELUDE, GATHERING, *Jesus Loves Me! This I Know* **191**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS -

*We are invited to walk in newness of life!
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
As far as the East is from the West,
so far has God removed our transgressions from us.*

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen**

CHOIR *I Need Thee Every Hour* **397**

SERMON

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN *Jesus, United by Thy Grace* **561**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *FotW*

Your Word is our wisdom;
it gives us insight, strength, and courage.
Open our hearts and our minds on this day,
that we might receive what you want to give.
Speak, Lord! Your people listen! Amen.

SCRIPTURE James 3:13-4:8a
Psalm 1 (Hymnal # 738)
Mark 9:30-37

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

*Bobby Hulme-Lippert
Merciful God, we confess that ...*

we have often acted out of selfish ambition and vain conceit.
We have allowed envy and self-interest to guide our actions,
rather than the wisdom that comes from above.
Forgive us for the times we have caused conflicts
and quarrels among ourselves and others.
Help us to submit ourselves to you, resist the devil,
and draw near to your grace.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
{silent prayers}

HYMN *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* **430**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE -

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*With joy and gratitude for all we have been given,
in token of our lives, we offer our tithes and gifts to God.*

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

Bobby Hulme-Lippert

Gracious God, we offer these gifts to you
as an expression of our gratitude and love.
May they be used to nurture wisdom, to foster peace,
and to serve those in need.

As we dedicate these offerings,
help us to embody the spirit of humility and service
that Christ has embodied among us.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN

Close to Thee

407

SENDING

Bobby Hulme-Lippert

Go forth into the world in peace.
Be of good courage.
Hold fast to what is good.
Render to no one evil for evil.
Honor all people.

Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted.

Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
nourish you, animate you and lead you
— this day and forever more.

Amen

POSTLUDE

As the Deer

2025

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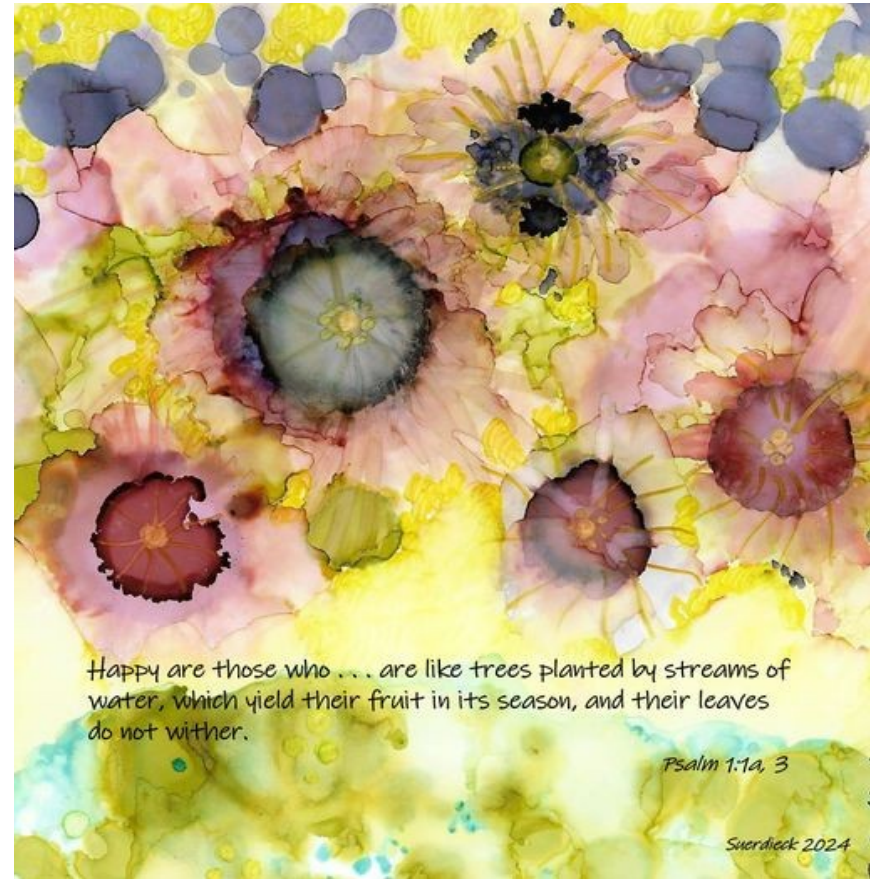
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>

or from Feasting on the Word (eg **FotW** – see also insert)

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September 22, 2024

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Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year B – September 22, 2024

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Scriptures

Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1
*or Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22 and Psalm 54
or Jeremiah 11:18-20*
James 3:13-4:8a, and Mark 9:30-37

Questions for Reflection:

What can you do to discern between good advice
and advice that will lead you on the wrong path?

Give yourself some moments each day in the coming
week to sit quietly with your eyes closed.
Visualize Jesus kneeling down, opening his arms,
and bringing you close to his heart.
Let yourself be a little child who is welcomed.
What do you notice?

Morning Prayers:

As we rise, we have so much to do!
We work without realizing
that all we do can be a song of love to you and
to the ones with whom you have surrounded us.
Lead me, O God,
so that everything that I do in my life
can be done in praise to you. Amen.

Gracious God, you give life
and, in your Word, it is beautiful.
Thank you for this new day.
In each coming hour, help me to see beneath
the ever-present difficulties and superficial joys
into the mysteries that you have set out
for your people.
Guide me toward those I meet today
in a way that welcomes them and, in turn,
grants me a welcome, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

As this day ends,
I hope I have done my work
with a gentleness born out of your wisdom.
Thank you, triune God,
for the rest that you will provide
and for the strength for a new morning. Amen.

This day is nearly over, Merciful God, and I am tired.
I have been unable to do all that I had hoped;
I have done some things I would take back if I could.
Forgive me for my failures.
Bring me into the warmth and security
of your embrace now,
and fill me with new vision
so that I may rest
and rise to meet tomorrow with vigor,
in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.