



**Central United Methodist Church  
of Colorado Springs**

*"A Place to Begin...Belong...Become"*

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH  
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**  
Rev. Deb Wacker

Sunday, September 03, 2023, 10:00 am



**Worship Bulletin**

(Please settle into a posture of worship)

\*Stand as you wish

**Prelude** "Fantasia on St. Gertrude" arr. E. Broughton Kim Crom

**Welcome** Rev. Deb Wacker

**Opening Hymn** "We Gather Together" UMH #131 vs. 1 & 2

**Called Together to Worship:** Rev. Judy

Leader: We know that there is a place for us at this table.

**People: Our hearts are filled with gratitude!**

Leader: We notice that there is a place for those not like us.

**People: We come ready to open our hearts beyond their current size.**

Leader: We humbly take our seat.

**People: We look into each face and know the presence of Jesus!**

**Hymn Of Praise:** "We Gather Together" UMH #131 vs. 3

**Children's Message** Rev. Judy

**Opportunities** Rev. Judy

**Hymn** "As We Gather at Your Table" TFWS #2268 vs. 1

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story 'til we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make Love's victory known.

**Scripture:** Romans 12: 9-21 and Matthew 16: 24-25

**Dramatic Reading By: Bob Edwards, Cynthia Pechacek, and Karen Hobson**

*The Word of God for the people of God*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "Come To The Table of Hospitality" Rev. Deb

**Prayers of the People** Rev. Deb

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

**Offertory** "My Lord, What A Morning!" Spiritual Kim Crom

**Doxology** Kim Crom

**Holy Communion** See Insert

**Invitation to Great Thanksgiving:** Rev. Judy

**Great Thanksgiving** "Come to the Table" TFWS #2264

*Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.*  
*All who are hungry and thirsty, Come and your souls will be fed.*  
*Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.*  
*Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.*

**Sharing of the Meal** Rev. Deb

**Prayer after Communion** Rev. Deb

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Freely, Freely" UMH #389

**\*Benediction of The People** Rev. Deb

**Postlude** "To Worship, Work, and Witness" arr. D. Dicie Kim Crom  
(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

**Holy Communion Reading**

**Invitation to Great Thanksgiving:** Rev. Judy

**Great Thanksgiving** **Come to the Table** **TFWS #2264**

*Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.*  
*All who are hungry and thirsty, Come and your souls will be fed.*  
*Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.*  
*Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.*

**Rev. Deb:** Friends, God is ever present with you!

**People:** "And also with you!"

**Rev. Deb:** Turn to the people...tell them this news: "The peace of Christ is always with you!"

**People:** "The peace of Christ is always with you!"

**Hymn:** **Take Our Bread** **UMH #640 (excerpt)**

**Take our bread, we ask you; take our hearts, we love you.**  
**Take our lives, O Father, we are yours, we are yours.**

**Rev. Judy:** Listen! The body breathes in together...So we lift up our hearts.

**People:** "We lift them up to God!"

**Rev. Deb:** Let us give thanks...when God is with us.

**Rev. Judy:** I invite you to open both palms upward in the sign language for "give."

**Rev. Deb:** ... We thank you, Creator God...the desire for relationship.

**Rev. Judy:** Now place your hands together in the sign meaning "to be with."

**Rev. Deb:** ...We thank you, Sustainer God...be with one and for one another.

**Rev. Judy:** Bring your hands close to your face Become aware of your breath on your hands.

**Rev. Deb:**... We thank you, God...offering the breath of life wherever we can.

**Rev. Judy:** And so, we open our eyes...have ever done so and ever will do so,

**People:** **Holy, Holy, Holy God! Everywhere we see your Glory! Hosanna in the highest!**  
**... and the widest... and the deepest... place in our hearts.**

**Rev. Deb:** Blessed is the one ...announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

**Rev. Judy:** Listen people! "The Lord is present with *everyone*."

**People:** "The Lord is present with *everyone*."

**Hymn:** **Take Our Bread UMH #640 (excerpt)**  
**Take our bread, we ask you; take our hears, we love you.**  
**Take our lives, O Father, we are yours, we are yours.**

**Rev. Deb:** On the night in which he gave himself ...in remembrance of me."

**Hymn:** **Take Our Bread UMH #640 (excerpt)**  
**Take our bread, we ask you; take our hears, we love you.**  
**Take our lives, O Father, we are yours, we are yours.**

**Rev. Judy:** Let us be a community of messengers, proclaiming and reminding each other and creation that:

**People:** "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again."

**Rev. Deb:** Pour out your Holy Spirit...welcoming all to the family.

**Rev. Judy:** I invite you...whatever is most comfortable for you.

**Rev. Deb:** By your spirit ...It is with great thanks that all God's people say, "Amen!"

**Hymn:** **Take Our Bread UMH #640 (excerpt)**  
**Take our bread, we ask you; take our hears, we love you.**  
**Take our lives, O Father, we are yours, we are yours.**

**Sharing of the Meal**

**Prayer after Communion**

Rev. Deb

**WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR**

**PRAYERS:**

- Julian Heynes had his tonsils taken out last week. He is back in school.
- Wanda Heynes with health issues.
- Lillian Bauserman's niece's daughter, Lori Friday, she has diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer. She is 52 and has two boys. No available treatment.
- Mark James is home recovering after a successful surgery on his shoulder to remove old metal.
- Elyse Brunnermer COVID, it seems to be going around. Please keep yourselves protected.
- Sara Simons' friend, Richard Von Lührte (pronounced lure-tee) is home recovering from a blood infection.
- Judy Day hip injection was this past week.
- Jazz Dudgeon as she prepares to move into a new program and home.
- Mike Wheat's Celebration of life will be Monday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. with a light lunch, then Military Honors at Pikes Peak Memorial Park. Those attending the gravesite should be in line at the Park by 12:30 p.m.
- Edna Mae Ulmer's Celebration of Life will be Tuesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. with a lunch after.
- Max Bennett is in Bear Creek Memory Care. I encourage those who know him to visit.
- Our "waves", our country and its leaders.

**Serving in mission:** Kutela Katembo: Missionary in Angola, Africa

**Our World:** Turkey, Syria, Ukraine, and Russia

<b>PRESENCE:</b>	Sanctuary 58,	Nursery 4,	Fellowship 3,	Online 8	<b>Total: 73</b>
<b>GIFTS:</b>	August 27 <sup>th</sup>	August 20 <sup>th</sup>	August 13 <sup>th</sup>	August 6 <sup>th</sup>	July 30 <sup>th</sup> \$3707.00
		\$1285.00	\$3871.00	\$7645.00	\$2591.00

**SERVICE:** Thank You to Tori Dudgeon for a job well done.

We wish her the best in her schooling.

## **CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES**

### **A New and Exciting Outlook for “Family Promise”**

#### *September Mission Focus*

Our church has been a vital part of Family Promise since it began in Colorado Springs in 1996. We were one of the 13 founding churches of the Interfaith Hospitality Network that now is one of several programs of Family Promise.

Through those 27 years, there have been many changes and some ups and downs. Now, the future is very bright. Family Promise’s mission is assisting families with children to transition from a place of defeat and housing insecurity to a promising future living in independent affordable housing. The staff of professionals and a vast network of volunteers work with the families, providing them hospitality, along with training and support to assure they will *never* face homelessness again.

*Please help as you are able with a gift for Family Promise.*

### **Questions Jesus Asked**

#### *New study on Tuesday mornings*

Jesus challenged his disciples and his audiences by asking questions, such as “Why are you anxious? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am?” Magrey DeVega, Senior Minister of Hyde Park UMC in Tampa, FL, poses six questions, each one based on a passage in one of the Gospels. YOU are invited to join the lively discussion, beginning on Tuesday, September 5, at 9:30, at the church or on Zoom. Books titled “Questions Jesus Asked” (\$13) are available in the office or in class. No Bible knowledge needed ... come and enjoy wrestling with the questions in this friendly group led by Rev. Judy.

### **Fresh and Clean for School and Work!**

The pantry at Mercy’s Gate is requesting donations of **toiletries**, such as shampoo, deodorant, shaving foam, razors, tooth paste and tooth brushes, soaps and feminine hygiene products.

*These are items not covered by food stamps.*

**Please bring donations to the cart** at south entrance or any weekday or Sunday.

### **Rally Day is September 17th!**

Come for worship at 10:00 outside on the lawn, and stay for a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share if you're able. EVERYONE is invited!

**COMPANY'S COMING!** Our church will be 'home' for 4 struggling families during two weeks, September 17th to October 1, as part of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Family Promise. It takes many volunteers to host: dinner providers, evening hosts, overnight hosts and the set-up crew! Stop by the sign-up table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays and talk with Pat Dudgeon.