



**Central United Methodist Church
of Colorado Springs**

“A Place to Begin...Belong...Become”

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**

Rev. Debra Wacker

Sunday, May 7, 2023, 10:00 am

Like Living Stones



Prelude “In Christ Alone, My Hope Is Found” arr. Tornquist Jo Jackson

Welcome Rev. Judy Owsley

Church Opportunities Karen Hobson

***Hymn of Praise** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH #103

***Call to Worship** Karen Hobson

Leader: Come, people of God!
Come into the presence of our Lord: immortal, invisible and wise.
Take refuge in the Lord, who listens when we cry out,

People: **Who rescues us when we call,
And who leads and guides us according to his unfailing love.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord our God,
People: **He, who is our Rock and our Salvation. Praise God.**

Choral Opening Chancel Choir

Children’s Message Rev. Judy

Prayers of the People Rev. Judy

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

Choral Response Chancel Choir

Our Tithes and Gifts

An Offering of Music “Brother James’ Air” arr. Carter Jo Jackson

***Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH #95

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication** Rev. Judy

Scripture Psalm 3:1-5 & 1 Peter 2:2-10 (NIV) Karen Hobson

Psalm 3:1-5: “Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! Many are saying of me, “God will not deliver him.” But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain. I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.”

1 Peter 2:2-10: “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. “As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

Sermon “Like Living Stones” Rev. Judy

Hymn of Reflection “Spirit of the Living God” UMH #393

Holy Communion Rev. Judy and Karen Hobson

Liturgy

***Hymn of Preparation** “Fill My Cup, Lord” UMH #641

Sharing the Meal Communion Servers: Ernie and Rena Prescott

(As you are able, please come forward, two servers wearing gloves will place a piece of bread and a cup of juice into your hand.)

Prayer of Gratitude
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

***Closing Hymn** “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” UMH #664

***Benediction** Rev. Judy

Choral Closing Chancel Choir

Postlude “The Solid Rock” arr. Berry Jo Jackson

(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

*Stand as you wish

***Hymn of Praise** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH #103

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see ’tis only the splendor of light hidest thee.

Hymn of Reflection “Spirit of the Living God” UMH #393

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.

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***Hymn of Preparation** “Fill My Cup, Lord” UMH #641

Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord. Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

***Closing Hymn** “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” UMH #664

1. Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing, thy people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God’s kingdom and answer the call.

WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR

PRAYERS: IHN families & Our "WAVES," our country and its leaders.
Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa
Our World: Turkey, Syria, Russia

PRESENCE: Sanctuary 69, Fellowship Hall 5, Online 12, Nursery 3 **Total: 89**

GIFTS: April 30th April 23rd April 16th April 9th April 2nd
\$4,833.00 \$3,560.00 \$2,708.00 \$5, 015.25 \$5,115.00

SERVICE: Thank you to everyone who helped with Family Promise for a successful two weeks.

CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

Food Gifts in May Bring What They Need! And they need EVERYTHING!! Please bring soup, canned veggies and fruits, cereal, pasta and sauce, peanut butter, baby food, diapers, paper products, hygiene items ... you name it; **THEY NEED IT!** You may put non-perishable food items in the cart in the entry on any Sunday or weekday. Donations will be delivered to Mercy's Gate. **Thanks for sharing.**

VBS VOLUNTEERS We are looking for your help with VBS! VBS this year will be Monday, June 27th - Thursday, June 30th from 9 am until noon. Please talk with Adrienne Schipfer at 640-6397 or mschipfer@yahoo.com about how you would like to get involved with this fantastic and fun outreaching mission. You don't need previous experience or any special skills, we provide all the training and information you need, but be prepared to have fun as you help these children grow their faith! Monumental VBS Orientation will be held at CUMC on Wednesday, May 24th @ 6 pm.

Together we can make a difference in the life of a child in our neighborhood and community.

MAY MISSION FOCUS:

Mission Medical Center

In 1998, Marcella Ruch, a member of St. Paul's UMC, was inspired to find a way of providing free medical care for uninsured, low-income men and women in Colorado Springs. She started in one room with one doctor who volunteered his services.

Today, Marcella's dream has grown into the Mission Medical Center, a faith-based clinic that embraces the whole patient by serving all segments of the underserved population with compassion, respect, integrity and diversity. Their health care services include **basic primary care, dental, optometry, behavioral health, diabetes management, over the counter and prescription medication.**

Mission Medical Center is **staffed by volunteers.** Their funding comes only through churches, foundations, businesses and individuals. They receive no government funds or insurance reimbursement. If you're able to help this excellent ministry, please make checks payable to Central UMC, designated "MMC."

UPPER ROOM New May – June 2023 are available at the entryway on the literature rack.

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING! 30 volunteers helped to host our 4 IHN guest families for one week and to support First Presbyterian Church hosting in our building for a second week.

Thank you to Jon Ainsworth, Diane Black, John and Katherine Cox, Judy Day, Pat, Tori and Jazz Dudgeon, Sienna Stephens, Alex Taylor, Bob Edwards, Barb McCraw, Cindy Medina, Bob and Barbara Morris, Karen Hobson, Rev. Judy Owsley, Bob Rummel, Rod and Joyce Rockwell, Cerne Rieves, Chuck Spillar, Bob and Madellen Spaete, Rev. Deb Wacker. Plus 3 groups who each provided a meal: Deb Haar (Prince of Peace Lutheran), Donna and Al Ockstadt (Boy Scout Troop 220), Donna and Mike Bristow (Vista Grande Community Church, UCC).