

## WORSHIP SERVICE PLAN

(Traditional & Online Service)

June 1, 2025 • Communion • Walk Humbly, Part One

Graduate Recognition • Sixth Sunday in Easter

**Luke 12:13-21; Genesis 2:4b-7; 3:19**

*"Remember That You Are Dust"*

We were made with the best, but we were *made*.

### (online only) Preparation for Worship

Gather these items for worship. If you don't have a particular item, fret not:

- a piece of white cloth
- an end table or stand
- a plate with bread
- a cup with juice
- a glass or bowl of water
- a lighter/match
- a flower pot and soil
- a computer or internet-accessible device
- a thank you card to God for something this week



For each item you have, thank God for the provision. For each piece you do not have, thank God you don't need it. Place the table/stand in the area you plan to worship. If more than one person will be present, place the table in the middle of where you will be seated. Drape the cloth over it. Arrange the cup, plate, glass of water, and other items on the table. Keep the Bible in front of you. Have enough elements for each person in your household.

### Questions for the announcement loop

*In preparing for Worship, consider the following:*

- What makes you distinct from anyone else?
  - What really makes you human?
  - What does it mean to you that you were made?
  - Why do you think God made you in particular?
- What was the world missing until you got here?

### (10am only) Introit

*"We've Gathered Here Today"* by Noah Melton

### (10am only) Prelude:

*"Sweet Hour of Prayer"* arr. Mark Hayes

### Opening Sentence

**Genesis 3:19 (CEB)**

[God said,]

"...By the sweat of your face  
you will eat bread—  
until you return to the fertile land,  
since from it you were taken;  
you are soil,  
to the soil you will return."

**Welcome to this service of Worship, We are glad you are with us! We have a few Community Notes for you to consider as we worship throughout the week...**

### Welcome Visitors!

We are glad you are here! Our nursery is in the Education Building and our restrooms are in the buildings other than the Sanctuary.

### Better Than

Generally, we are living contradictions, paradoxes. On the one hand, we are pointedly unique. Never in the history of the cosmos has there ever been someone like you. Your particular collection of gifts and quirks and strengths. Never. On the other hand, there is nothing particularly unique about the chemistry and biology that form the building blocks of your life. You have DNA. You breathe air. Water makes up a significant portion of your body. You have hair, eyes, hands. You're recognizably human. God built this tension into our lives on purpose. As you move through the week, consider the ways you keep this tension in front of you, especially as you make judgments about others (and yourself).



See one of us after worship to make your investment!

Help us make it to our faith destination by buying Youth Stock!

When you purchase youth stock, you are investing in our faith and the future of our Church. You can purchase Youth Stock for only \$10 a share. And there is no limit to how many shares you can buy!! The dividend you will receive for your investment included a note written by youth attending the conferences and a delicious dinner at the end of the summer where we will tell you all about our experiences at the conferences.

### Walk Humbly

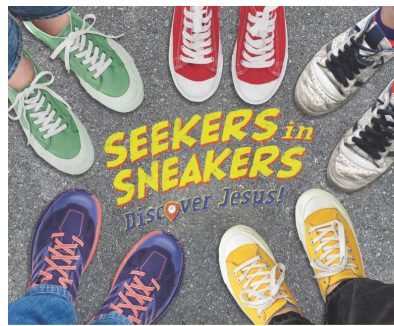
In a world that values, admires, even holds as virtuous bombast and unapologetic swagger, the idea of humility can seem quaint, if not naive. And yet the key to pleasing God, to living our best life, centers around the ways in which we choose humility: in our responses, in our reflections, in ourselves before a God who humbles before us. How can this *possibly* be? We will enter the summer digging into Scripture's take on this and the ways in which we are called to *Walk Humbly*. Be looking for the study materials on our website and Facebook page.

### Congregational Meeting Notice

On Sunday, June 8th, the Session is calling for a Congregational Meeting immediately following the morning worship service in the Sanctuary. There are two purposes for the meeting. One is to hear and act on the proposal from the Childcare Center for the purchase of land from the church. The second is to choose two folks from the congregation to serve with one of the active Elders on Session as our Nominating Committee for the Class of 2027 Elders. Information about the proposal is forthcoming. As for the Nominating Committee, folks to serve must be members of the congregation and prayerfully considered.

### Pentecost Is Coming!

Next weekend, particularly on Sunday, June 8th, we celebrate the birthday of the Church! The Day of Pentecost is the fulfilled promise of God to pour God's Spirit on God's people and to send us out. As a part of the festivities we are asking everyone to wear red. Whether it's a tie, a scarf, a hat, a suit, shirt or dress, come dressed for the occasion!



**9AM to 11AM  
MONDAYS**  
**June 16, 23, 30  
& July 7**  
**Vacation  
Bible School**

This year we will be hosting some of the children from the Hawfields Child Care Center for VBS! For four Monday mornings, we will be holding VBS at the church for the children of rooms 10 and 11. Children and grandchildren of the church, ages 4 and up (and their friends) are also invited to take part!

If you would like to be part of the VBS team of leaders, please complete the form inside or contact Mandy Ealy at [mandy@hawfieldschurch.org](mailto:mandy@hawfieldschurch.org) or Caroline Massey. Watch for how to register your children or grandchildren.

**MISSION:  
POSSIBLE!**  
**Kids Edition**

**Saturday,  
June 28th  
9AM to 1PM**

Join us for a day of mission project fun as we learn about what it means to serve our neighbors! We will begin the day with singing and a Bible story then break into groups to create toys for the animal shelter; run, hop, and skip to gather items for hygiene kits; get a little dirty helping in the church gardens; and enjoy a snack and story. This experience is for children ages 3 and up. Families are welcome to stay for the fun!

If you would like to help with this event, please complete the form inside or contact Mandy Ealy at [mandy@hawfieldschurch.org](mailto:mandy@hawfieldschurch.org).

### We celebrate our June birthdays!

**(10am only) Greet one another in Christ!**

**(10am only) "Somebody's Knocking at Your Door" GTG #728**

**Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**O sinner, why don't you answer?**

**Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**Knocks like Jesus.**

**Somebody's knocking at your door. (x2)**

**O Sinner, why don't you answer?**

**Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**God expects us to co-create.**

In this moment, let us remain standing, take a deep breath, silence our devices, and continue in worship. Let us be called to worship together...

**(10am only) Call to Worship**

*Remember we are but dust*

**And to dust we shall return**

*Remember we all bear the breath of life*

**The Spirit of God empowers us to live**

*Remember we are as God has made us*

**In all of our uniqueness and similarities**

*We belong to God*

**We belong to God**

**Sing:**

*"Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" GTG #415*

**Prayer of Confession/Preparation**

*We sometimes get ahead of ourselves and forget that we were, all of us, made, not self made. We belong to God. It's not good that we forget that. It's important to talk about our shortcomings so that we're ready to hear what God has to say. Let us begin with silent prayer...*

*(Please pray silently...)*

**Pray: Creator God, everything we admire, everything we hope for, everything that we hold as ours, all their start with you. For all the ways we want people, situations, life itself to answer to us, help us never forget that we answer to you, always. Help us take better care of ourselves. Help us take better care each other. Help us take better care WITH each other, remembering that we were, all of us, given the gift of life by none other than you, O God. May we come to reflect your generosity as enthusiastically as we receive it. Thank you for listening, God. Amen.**

**(10am only) Assurance of Pardon**

*God's love can change everything, even the power of our sins over us. And it is God's will that we have this power:*

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*The Peace of Christ be with you*

**And also with you.**

**(10am only) Gloria Patri (Glory to God)**

**Glory be to the Father**

**And to the Son**

**And to the Holy Ghost**

**As it was in the beginning**

**It is now and ever shall be**

**World without end: Amen, amen.**

**Reading of Scripture**

*Say: The Word of God doesn't just inform: it reveals. The Word of God doesn't just tell us the truth, it empowers us to live our true path. The Word of God, by God's own Spirit, teaches us to live. Let us be open to this gift of God and ask for help to understand. Let us pray...(everyone sings)*

**Pray/Sing:** *"Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken" GTG #455 (GTG #232)*

**Listen to the word that God has spoken;**

**Listen to the One who is close at hand;**

**Listen to the voice that began creation;**

**Listen even if you don't understand. (2X)**

*Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and our ongoing place in God's story...*

**Read: Genesis 2:4b-7 (CEB)**

*God forms the human.*

<sup>4b</sup> On the day the LORD God made earth and sky—<sup>5</sup> before any wild plants appeared on the earth, and before any field crops grew, because the LORD God hadn't yet sent rain on the earth and there was still no human being to farm the fertile land, <sup>6</sup> though a stream rose from the earth and watered all of the fertile land—<sup>7</sup> the LORD God formed the human from the topsoil of the fertile land and blew life's breath into his nostrils. The human came to life.

**Read: Luke 12:13-21 (CEB)**

*Warning against greed.*

<sup>13</sup> Someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

<sup>14</sup> Jesus said to him, "Man, who appointed me as judge or referee between you and your brother?"

<sup>15</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Guard yourself against all kinds of greed. After all, one's life isn't determined by one's possessions, even when someone is very wealthy." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "A certain rich man's land produced a bountiful crop. <sup>17</sup> He said to himself, What will I do? I have no place to store my harvest! <sup>18</sup> Then he thought, Here's what I'll do. I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. That's where I'll store all my grain and goods. <sup>19</sup> I'll say to myself, You have stored up plenty of goods, enough for several years. Take it easy! Eat, drink, and enjoy yourself. <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'Fool, tonight you will die. Now who will get the things you have prepared for yourself?' <sup>21</sup> This is the way it will be for those who hoard things for themselves and aren't rich toward God."

*One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Children's Sermon**

*Adults, you'll need:*

- a plate of food (a picture will suffice)
- Don't forget to wait for answers  
*"You Are What You Eat!"*
- (showing the plate or picture) So do you know what this is?...It is a plate of food! (take time to describe what's on it and the benefits we get from each item)...
- So when you look at each other, you see eggs, broccoli, corn, green beans, hamburgers, fries, water, sugar, chicken, cereal, cookies, maybe even dirt...we eat a lot of stuff. And our bodies use everything we eat to build us, fix us, to help us.
- The same is true for our faith. What do you think happens if we only eat bad words?...What do you think happens if we only eat being mean or angry or hateful? But what happens when we eat

love and help and kindness? Just like it matters what we put into our bodies, it matters what we put into our faith.

- So when you're around the people who care about you, ask them what kinds of things they use to feed their faith.
- Don't forget to pray!

**(10am only) Anthem:**

*"Find Your Wings" by Mark Harris and Tony Wood; Soloist: Lora Melton*

**Sermon: "Remember That You Are Dust"**

Without a doubt, some of the most heartbreaking things I've experienced in walking with families through the loss of loved ones are **when they fight over what's left**. From the fist fight at a graveside service to bickering at the reading of the will to practically inhuman behavior after the fact, it is clear that far too often the possessions take ownership of us and our senses rather than the other way around.

**But how do we govern our lives if not by our self-interest?** How else are we to determine what's right? All we really have is our own perspective, right? I can listen to you and your point of view, but even that is through the lens of my own point of view. At some point, as a practical matter, it really is "all about me."

**I think about the wedding ceremony.** There are so many competing interests. The interests of the venue, friends and family members, society, the government, even spectators. Somewhere in there we're supposed to be navigating what the couple wants. How do draw all of those interests into balance?

**In an argument with someone,** the competitor in us wants to win the argument. We want to get our point across. We want our view to be understood. But how do we reach common or even mutual understanding? How can there be commonality when there must be losers and winners?

**And so, back in the day,** all the way to now, we want the powers that be to align with our interests. We want our schools, our churches, our governments, our nation, our money, our culture,



our heroes, our justice systems, our Bible, our God, to confirm that our way of thinking is right and good and universal.

So it should come as no surprise that someone in the crowd is appealing to the Messiah—the one to summarize authority and power in themselves—to confirm their view of what they think they're owed.

**Read: Luke 12:13-14 (CEB)**  
**Question from the crowd.**

Jesus' answer had to be as baffling to that guy as it may be to us now: "Who appointed me as judge or referee?"

Well, not to put too fine a point on it, but didn't GOD appoint Jesus? We affirm (rightly) that Jesus Christ is the true Head of our church. We have bumperstickers that claim "Jesus is my co-pilot." What about the wristbands, posters, yard signs, that all say WWJD: What would Jesus do? **Even Scripture gets in on the fervor:**

*Therefore, God highly honored him  
 and gave him a name above all names,  
 so that at the name of Jesus everyone  
 in heaven, on earth,  
 and under the earth might bow  
 and every tongue confess  
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
 to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)*

So, to answer Jesus' question, it kind of seems like GOD made you judge and referee.

**But to really understand Jesus' answer, we have to dig into what's really being asked here.**

There's no context for what the guy is asking. For all we know, he tried swindling his family and it didn't work. Or maybe he just wasn't satisfied with what he DID get. Maybe he just plain thought he was owed or worth more. Maybe he really was wrongly denied. We just don't know. What we DO know is that he was asking about the possessions. What he should have asked is for Jesus to be the judge and referee of his own heart and mind. What he should have been asking is God's will to be made clear to him. His mind should have been on treasures that don't decay or rot or are subject to theft.

**Read: Luke 12:15-21 (CEB)**  
**Warning against greed.**

When we think about economics, I would wager that **most of the time we're thinking about how to get more.** No matter what system or philosophy: whether it's capitalism, communism, a benevolent dictatorship, whatever it is, the goal is to have more for people to benefit from. More money, more time, more labor, more interest, more warning, more advantage. In one sense, there's just really nothing wrong with the rich man's approach. We might even call it being responsible or reasonable with his windfall. He got more than expected or needed. Shore it up. Store it. Save it for a rainy day.

But this approach ignores something very important. It's the mistake that the Pharaohs of old forgot. It's the error that every person, country, nation and tribe have made at one time or another.

**We all die and we can't take it with us.**

And God didn't set us up this way because God is trying to trick us. God WANTS us to have nice things. God wants us to have peace and comfort and satisfaction. Really. **Ecclesiastes 2:24-26 says,**

*There's nothing better for human beings than to eat, drink, and experience pleasure in their hard work. I also saw that this is from God's hand— Who can eat and find enjoyment otherwise?— because God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please God. But to those who are offensive, God gives the task of hoarding and accumulating, but only so as to give it all to those who do please God. This too is pointless and a chasing after wind.*

At some point, anything we have, anything we get, everything coming our way, STILL belongs to God. And if everything we have is going to be in God's hands anyway, why not cut to the chase? Why not pursue God's will with our possessions to start with?

Because for all of our possessions we might point to, **what is more important than ourselves, that is, our lives?** Our bodies, our minds, our feelings, our dreams. It's not just what we look like. It's not

just what we sound like. It's even beyond how we think. The single most important feature of our human existence is that we are made.

I didn't tell my ancestors from Scotland and the Cherokee Nation and the Ivory Coast to collude and ensure that I would be born. I had nothing to do with that. I wasn't in charge of my parents meeting or choosing to be parents, even in the midst of the Vietnam War. The continents, the oceans, the skies, that formed the context for family tree branches we'll never know about were all set in motion by God. God formed us from the topsoil. God breathed us to life. Our bodies return to the soil. Our breath still belongs to God. Everything in between belongs to God. When Jesus says, "Who appointed me...?" he isn't denying being the Messiah and the Word through which all was made (see John chapter 1). He's acknowledging a simple truth: it's never *not* been God's world. The question always should be "What does God want us to do with it all?".

**As we close this season of Easter,** we've spent a lot of time thinking about Creation. We've thought about the wonder of the resurrection and our role in all of it. At the end of the day, what it really boils down to is two straightforward truths: We were made with the best, but we were made. That means we are not our own and nothing we possess is our own. It all belongs to God. How trustworthy are we with God's stuff? What can God expect from us as people empowered to be blessings? Should God expects us to hoard or share? Can God count on us to enjoy or enjoin, to revive or restrict, to open or opine? Will we live and love or withdraw and wither?

**Christ is risen!**

**The Lord is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

### **Song of Reflection**

*"God of the Sparrow"* GTG #22

### **Graduate Recognition**

Today we honor our graduates. Not just their achievements, but the futures they each and collectively represent.

### **]Offering**

God chooses to love us, abundantly. We should respond by choosing to be loving, abundantly. This is why we should give and share what we have and who we are. Let us reflect together on what has been given...

### **(10am only) Offertory**

*"I Will Arise"* arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

### **(10am only) Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;**

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

### **Blessing**

*(text online only)*

Let there be no doubt, Great God: you love us. And we are grateful. Let there be no doubt, Great God: we should be loving in turn. As we receive the gifts you provide, may the gifts we are meant to be emerge. In the great name of Jesus Christ, we pray this together. Amen.

### **Service of Communion**

- Say: Let us first show we belong to a faith larger than ourselves. Let us say what we believe:

**I believe in God's hopes—**

**That God created us for a reason,**

**That God chose people for a reason**

**That God fought for us for a reason**

**That God fought against us for a reason**

**That God called us out on our sins for a reason**

**That God made us partners with God for the building of the kingdom**

**That God created us for a purpose**

**That God has called us to be farmers:**

**prophets, priests, teachers, students,**

**companions, travelers, historians, parents,**

**grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and most**

**importantly children**

**all tilling the earth**

**Now by God's grace,**

**God's love really does**

**change everything**

**and makes us people of God  
because of Jesus Christ  
Who was, who is, and is to come.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

- Say: The Lord be with you...and also with you.  
God invites us to the Table as we are, given who we are! God invites us to the Table even though we may think we don't belong. Yet God invites us, does NOT force us, because God still loves us. So let us answer together as one Church across time, across our homes, across our various situations, and eat and drink of what the Lord offers. Let us pray...
- **"Kumbaya"** (GTG #472)  
**Hear us praying, Lord, kumbaya!**  
**Hear us praying, Lord, kumbaya!**  
**Hear us praying, Lord, kumbaya!**  
**O Lord, Hear us now. (1X)**
- Creator God, We were made with the best of the best. You fashioned everything we appreciate about ourselves and each other. We've been given the best of the best. We have more than we can need and use: more space, more air, more sustenance, more love, than we could consume in a lifetime. Now, O Lord, help us live the best of the best life. Simply, help us live the way you wish.
- And please help us remember how we started. Help us remember well what you did. Knowing that you used the best of the best to make us and gave us your own Spirit to empower us, it makes sense that you would be willing to die. But as we celebrate the resurrection, help us, please, embrace anew our responsibility as people saved. Help us live lives of utter gratitude for what has been given...which is everything.
- Thus, let us be Godly people. Let us make a harvest of the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Teach us to live lives weeding out apathy, selfishness, cravenness, callousness, and evil. We pray this not only for ourselves, but for so many that we can name... (take time to name your own prayers)
- Thank you for believing in us, Thank you for transforming us. Thank you for teaching us, even how to pray when words fail us, saying,
- **Pray: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

- (take the bread in your hands) On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took the bread and having blessed it he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said, "This is my Body given for you. As often as you eat of it, do this in remembrance of me." (break and eat some of the bread)
- (take the cup with juice in your hands) In the same manner he took the cup, and, having blessed it, he gave it to his disciples and said, "This cup represents the new covenant sealed by my blood for the forgiveness of many. All of you drink of it." (drink some of the juice)
- Say: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's saving death until He comes. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.
- The only proper response to the grace of God is gratitude. Let us pray together with the whole Church:
- **Pray: Thank you, God, for making us your kingdom. Help us live out that thanks by being a refuge to all you call us to. Thank you for including us at your Table. Help us do the same with ours. In the great name of Jesus Christ we pray this together. Amen.**

### Hymn of Sending

(10am) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness " GTG#39

### Sending & Benediction

*Let us say together our benediction...*

**Let us remember: We were made with the best, but we were made.**

(raise your hands and say) "Get up, take heart, Jesus is still calling you..."; Go, and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guide your hearts and minds this day and forever more. Amen!

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

**Sing: "Share the Joy!"** by Noah Melton  
**I'm gonna sing with the joy down in my heart.**

**I'm gonna love with the joy down in my soul.  
I'm gonna share my song, serve Him all day  
long!**

**I'm gonna live with the joy down in my heart!  
(2X)**

**Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's  
holy name. Alleluia!**

**Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's  
holy name. Alleluia!**

**(10am only) Postlude**

*"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"* arr. Carol  
Tornquist

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