

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!

P: Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above earth and heaven.

L: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

P: For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

† HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* UMH #92

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, through your only Son, you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, by the renewing of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 148

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! ³ Praise him, sun and moon;
 praise him, all you shining stars! ⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters
 above the heavens! ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and
 they were created. ⁶ He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds,
 which cannot be passed. ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all
 deeps, ⁸ fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! ⁹ Mountains
 and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! ¹⁰ Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things
 and flying birds! ¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the
 earth! ¹² Young men and women alike, old and young together! ¹³ Let them praise the
 name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and
 heaven. ¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the
 people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Celebrate Wonder

† HYMN *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* UMH #514

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 11:1-18

¹ Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

SERMON *"Looks Dirty to Me!"* Rev. David Magruder

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

† HYMN *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* Insert

† BLESSING

