

Contemporary Order of Worship
 June 4, 2023
 Message: A Defining Moment

Gathering *Holy is the Lord* Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Moment

Pastor: Perhaps this is our defining moment! Do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God? Perhaps we have come for such a time as this! Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.

*Centering Song *Lord, I Need You* Praise Band

*Prayer Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: Faithful God,
 You have called us to be a light shining in the world.
 Make us reflect the light of Christ,
 so that people see Your love and goodness
 in our words and actions.
 We ask this through Your Son, our Lord,
 who lives and reigns
 with You and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever. AMEN.**

Graduate Recognition Sarah Chambers

Children's Moment Linda Biscardo

Prayers of People Sarah Chambers

Offering Song *This Little Light* Praise Band

Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Old Testament Reading Esther 4:10-14; Micah 6:8 Sam Patricola

Gospel Reading	Matthew 5:14-16	Sam Patricola
Message	<i>A Defining Moment</i>	Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Invitation to Communion		Sarah Chambers

**Holy and Loving God,
 You call us to be Your people in this time and place.
 We are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You.
 Yet, we have not spoken truth with our hearts.
 We have said and done hurtful things to others.
 Our inaction and silence have perpetuated injustice.
 We have forgotten our true identity,
 wandering into ways that are not Yours.
 We have forgotten what true discipleship is.
 Forgive us and help us live into becoming
 the people You have created and called us to be.
 May we embrace our true identity
 and shine Your light and love into the world. AMEN.**

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: God's love embraces us
 even when we fall short of what God desires
 for our lives and actions.
 Know that the God of blessing
 loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness.
 And in so knowing,
 may our lives and souls be transformed.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Alleluia! AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving	UMH 13	Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
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The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .
 And so, we Your people on earth
 and with all the company of heaven
 praise Your name and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are You . . . And so, in remembrance
 of these Your might acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ's offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

**Prayer Following Communion
 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 to others
in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

*Closing Song

I Will Follow

*Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

I Will Follow (Reprise)