

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

Prelude	<i>This is the Day</i>	June Shuffett
Welcome/Announcements		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
*Call to Worship		
Pastor: Perhaps this is our defining moment!		
People: What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?		
Pastor: Perhaps we have come for such a time as this!		
People: Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.		
*Hymn	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	UMH 451
*Opening Prayer		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Pastor: Let us pray.		
People: 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	<i>I Have Loved You</i>	Bob Shuffett

*Doxology

UMH 95

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow!
Praise Him all creatures here below!
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts!
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Reading Esther 4:10-14; Micah 6:8; Matthew 5:14-16 Bruce Bartolain

Message

A Defining Moment

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion

Sarah Chambers

Prayer of Confession

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

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 mighty 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.

*Hymn

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

UMH 664

*Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

I Love You, Lord

June Shuffett