



MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026

(* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

PRELUDE: *"All Things Bright and Beautiful"* 17th Century English Melody

WORDS OF WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Life can sometimes be very difficult.

We look around and wonder where God is.

In the midst of our trials and tribulations, God is with us.

God surrounds us with love and courage.

Come, let us praise God for God's abiding presence.

Lord, thank you for always being with us, even when we don't recognize your loving presence. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

We thank you, O Lord, that we are not alone. You watch over us, guide us, and lead us in your righteous pathways. When we stumble and fall, you lift us up and gently place us on that pathway again. When we doubt, you surround us with your mercy and peace, reassuring us of your presence through the love of others and of our savior Jesus Christ. Keep our hearts and minds open and ready to serve you, for we pray these things in Jesus' name.

AMEN.

***HYMN: 117** *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"* vs 1-4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

There are far too many times, O Lord, when we have neglected or ignored the needs of others because it just wasn't convenient for us to help. We backed away with excuses on our lips and indifference in our hearts. Forgive us and set us on the right path of service and compassion in the name of Jesus who modeled

faithful living for us. Remind us that we are residents of a global community. Help us to hear the plight of those who have been voiceless. With the gifts that we have and the love of Christ, direct our lives in compassionate service to others. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Through the abundance of God's mercy and forgiving love, you are empowered to be disciples, to reach out to others, to offer the words and deeds of hope in a struggling world. God's blessings are poured over you for this service.

Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 51:1-6 (NIV)

"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness
and who seek the Lord:
Look to the rock from which you were cut
and to the quarry from which you were hewn;
look to Abraham, your father,
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.
When I called him he was only one man,
and I blessed him and made him many.
The Lord will surely comfort Zion
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;
he will make her deserts like Eden,
her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.
Joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

"Listen to me, my people;
hear me, my nation:
Instruction will go out from me;
my justice will become a light to the nations.
My righteousness draws near speedily,
my salvation is on the way,
and my arm will bring justice to the nations.
The islands will look to me
and wait in hope for my arm.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
look at the earth beneath;
the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment
and its inhabitants die like flies.
But my salvation will last forever,
my righteousness will never fail.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 124 (NIV)

If the Lord had not been on our side—let Israel say—

**if the Lord had not been on our side when people attacked us, they would have
swallowed us alive when their anger flared against us;**

the flood would have engulfed us, the torrent would have swept over us,

the raging waters would have swept us away.

Praise be to the Lord, who has not let us be torn by their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the fowler's snare;

the snare has been broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

EPISTLE: Romans 12:1-8 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)

The gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON GOD’S WORD

Pastor Rob Odum

HYMN: 175

“Jesus the Very Thought of Thee”

vs 1-4

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Pastor: We come now to the means of means of Grace found in Holy Baptism. In these waters, God claims us, marks us as Christ’s own forever, and welcomes us into the church universal.

(The family of Vera comes forward.)

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Since the earliest times, the vows of Christian baptism have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. Parents and sponsors reaffirm these vows for themselves while taking the responsibilities of sponsorship.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture Myla
in Christ's holy Church,
that by your teaching and example she may be guided

to accept God's grace for herself,
to profess her faith openly,
and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

The pastor addresses the sponsors:

Will you who sponsor Myla
support and encourage her in her Christian life?

I will.

The pastor addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,
reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life
and include Myla before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround Myla
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that she may grow in her trust of God,
and be found faithful in her service to others.**

**We will pray for her,
that she may be a true disciple
who walks in the way that leads to life.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
Eternal Father:
When nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters
and brought forth light.
In the days of Noah
you saved those on the ark through water.
After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.
When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.
Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

****Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,
nurtured in the water of a womb.
He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.
He called his disciples
to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

****Declare Christ's works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin
and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,
that, dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in his final victory.

****All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Myla, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you,
that being born through water and the Spirit,
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Now it is our joy to welcome
our new sister in Christ.

Response from congregation:

**Through baptism
you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit
into God's new creation
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.
We are all one in Christ Jesus.
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you
as members of the family of Christ.**

LIGHTING OF THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE

Pastor: Receive this light, a sign of the light of Christ which has been kindled in your heart. Let your light
so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **People:**
With God's help, we will guide Myla, that she may carry the light of Christ always.

OFFERING PRAYER

In gratitude for all that you have done for us and given to us, we return a portion of these gifts that they may be used in service to others. Let us receive our morning offering.

Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

By James Manley

*DOXOLOGY: 94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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

*CLOSING HYMN: 2151

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

vs 1-3

*BENEDICTION

The world awaits the love and gifts you have to offer. Go forth in joy and peace to be God's witnesses this day and all your days.

Amen.

*POSTLUDE:

"Praise Him! Praise Him!"

By Chester G. Allen

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †



August	Liturgists	Ushers
23rd	Connie Ziegler	Don Reid, Tom Rowe & Richard Gosetti
30th	Lina Brumm	Don Reid, Tom Rowe & Richard Gosetti



Please consider signing up to be an usher. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Volunteers are still needed for September-December.

Thank you!

Pastor Rob would like to have the coffee hours again in the Chapel Lounge after church service. This would include having coffee and light refreshments available.

Please consider assisting in this project.

The following is the only date that has been filled in by volunteers:

***Sunday, August 23rd**

(sponsored by Cyndi Eickstaedt & Philip Gruntzel)

***Sunday, August 30th**

(sponsored by Pat & Curt Rode – 75th Anniversary!)

Please sign up on the form on the pedestal in the chapel lounge for a Sunday in August or September.

Thank you~~Mary Schultz



MONTHLY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Sunday, 9:15am

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday, 10:30am

CERAMICS: Mondays, 1-9pm

AIKIDO: Mondays from 6:45-8:45pm &
Thursdays from 6:45-8:45pm

NAMI: 1st Wednesday of the month 6:30pm

CHANCEL CHOIR: Resumes Aug. 26th from 6:30-7:15pm

JOYFUL BELLS: Resumes Aug. 26th from 7:30-8:30pm

KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP:

Wednesday, August 12th &

Wednesday, August 26th from 1-3pm

SASSY SOWERS: (new time!)

1st Tuesday & 3rd Thursday, 9:30am-Noon

DINING OUT GROUP: The next group meeting will be announced soon. Please watch your bulletin and newsletter for updates.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST: The 3rd Tuesday (Aug. 18th),
9am at Zebb's Restaurant,
2701 W Morgan Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53221

MEN'S BREAKFAST: 3rd Thursday (Aug 20th),
8:30am at Meyers, 4260 S 76th St, Greenfield

SCRIPT CARD PROGRAM:

Orders for Script Cards (gift cards) are due on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

SOUP BOWL SUNDAY WITH CAFÉ: Sunday,
September 20th (sponsored by Ceramic Class)

OKTOBERFEST PORK DINNER:

Saturday, October 24th (fundraiser for MUMC)

YARN EXTRAVAGANZA 2:

Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 15th

QUILT BLESSING: Sunday, November 22nd

BLOOD DRIVE: Tuesday, December 8th from 1-6pm



MEMORIAL UMC

General Information & Staff

3450 South 52nd St,
Greenfield, WI 53219

Church Phone: 414-545-2440

Church Email:

mumcgreenfield@gmail.com

Church Website:

<https://www.memorialchurchumc.org/>

Pastor: Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

Pastor's Email: robdodum@gmail.com

Director of Music: Sarah Brumm

Hymn Leaders: Sarah Brumm,
Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

Pianist & Organist: Karen Fetzer

Live Stream Production Team:

Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,
John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlie

Office Administrator: Peggy Leonhardt

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

