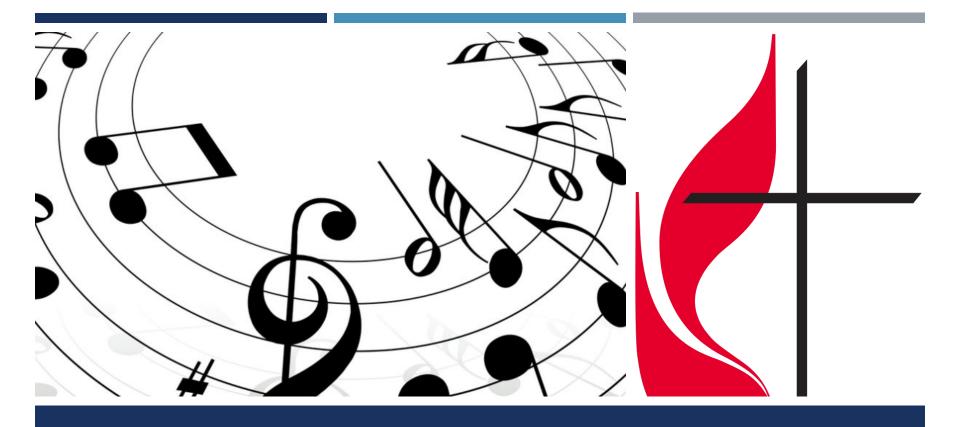


WELCOME!

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS

AUGUST 24, 2025



CENTERING SONG

"SURELY THE PRESENCE" UMH 328



WORDS: Lanny Wolfe, 1977

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace.





"LORD OF THE DANCE"

Lord of the Dance

WORDS: Syndey Carter, 1963

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,

and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance and they would not follow me;

I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on. Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

3. I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame, the holy people said it was a shame;

they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they left me there on a cross to die.

Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

4. I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;

they buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance, and I still go on. Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life, that'll never, never die;

I'll live in you if you live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.



PRELUDE



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Birthday/Anniversary



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is our rock and our refuge.

People: God is our fortress in times of trouble.

Leader: The Holy One saves us from the hand of the wicked.

People: God delivers us from our foes.



Leader: Christ heals us from our infirmities.

People: The Spirit frees us from the chains that bind us.

All: Rest in the Source of our refuge and our strength.

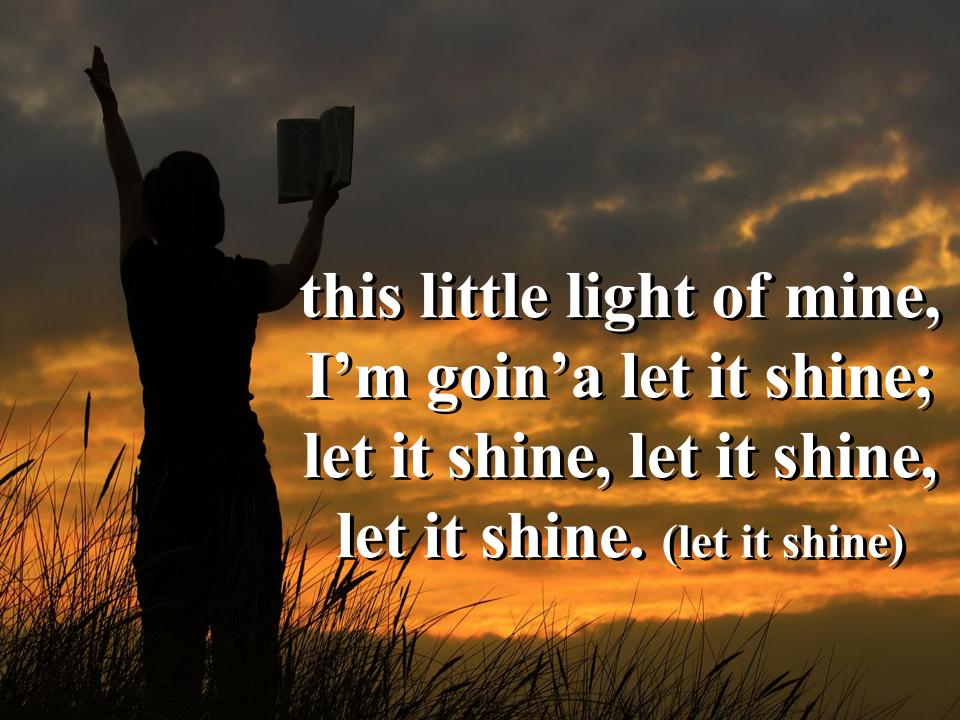


OPENING SONG

"THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE"

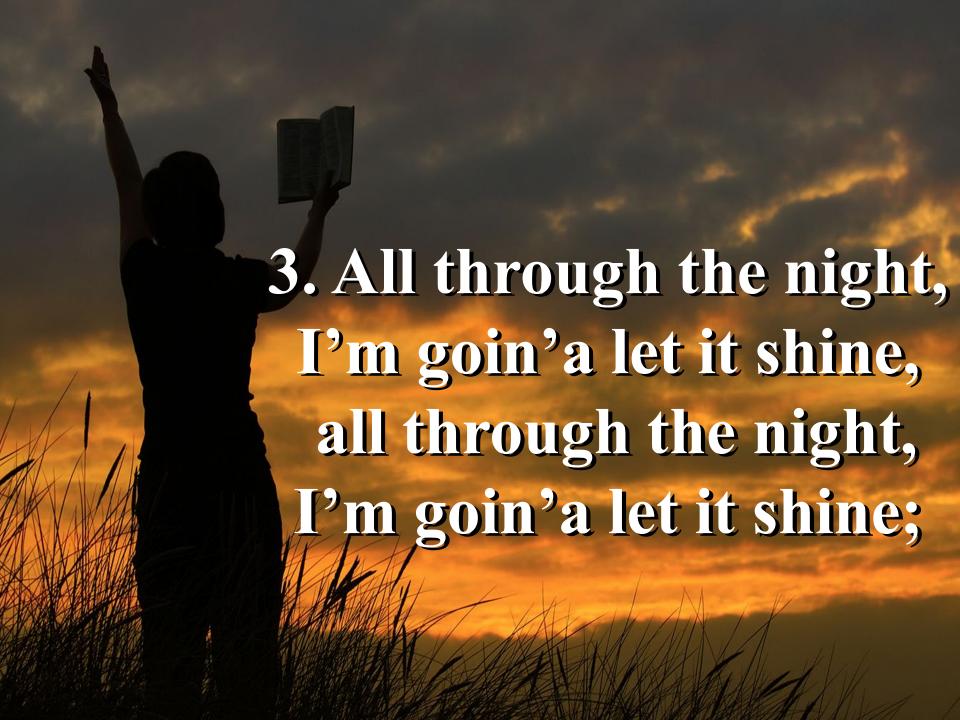
WORDS: African American spiritual (Mt. 5:14-16)

1. This little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
this little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine;





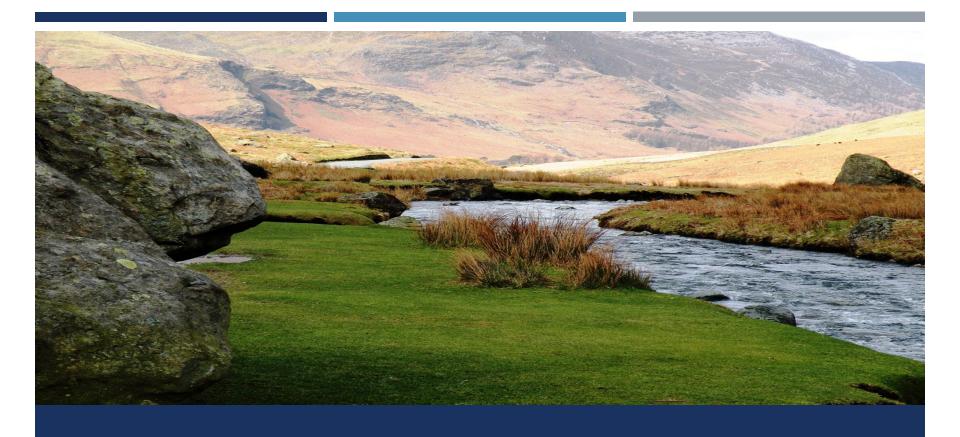






OPENING PRAYER

Great Healer, we are beaten down by life's suffering. Make us whole, O God, and help us share your healing with the world. Free us from the demons that shackle our spirits and set us free from the chains that binds us, that we may help break the chains of others. Amen



"HERE I AM, LORD"

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8)

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

© 1981, 1983, 1989 Daniel L. Schutte and NALR

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you
calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold
your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you
calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold
your people in my heart.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold
your people in my heart.



OFFERING: Praising God with Our Gifts
Open Doors with Loving Hearts



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.



"CHILDREN'S MESSAGE"



"PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION"

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

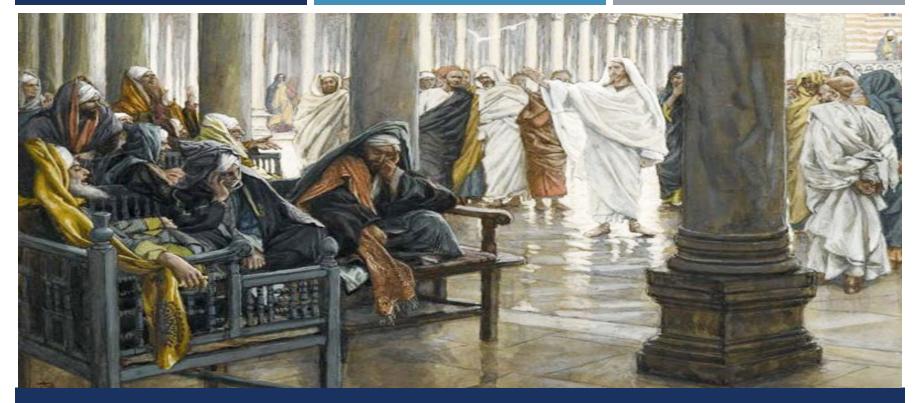


SCRIPTURE

LUKE 13:10-17

10 On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, 11 and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." 13 Then he put his hands on her,

and immediately she straightened up and praised God. 14 Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath." 15 The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? 16 Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?" 17 When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.



SERMON

"YOU HYPOCRITES...WHO...ME?"



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you knew us before we were conceived. You called us as your own while we were still in our mothers' wombs. Keep watch over us, we pray, for we long to return to your ways. Restore our confidence in times of doubt, for



we yearn to be the people you would have us be. Grant us the confidence to go forth un-afraid, that we might bless the world through your presence in our lives. Amen.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Touch our mouths to speak your truths. Touch our lives to make your ways known to the world. In this we are free. In this we are made whole. In this we shine as your beloved children, strengthened for the journey.



PRAYERS

OF THE

PEOPLE

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.



CLOSING SONG

"JUST AS I AM"

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

WORDS: Charlotte Elliott, 1835

1. Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,

and that thou bidst me come to thee,

Refrain

O Lamb of God,
I come, I come.

2. Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,

to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,

Refrain

O Lamb of God, I come, I come. 3. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,

fightings and fears within, without,

Refrain
O Lamb of God,
I come, I come.

4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,

yea, all I need in thee to find,

Refrain

O Lamb of God,
I come, I come.

5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

because thy promise I believe,

Refrain

O Lamb of God, I come, I come. 6. Just as I am, thy love unknown hath broken every barrier down; now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,

Refrain

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



BENEDICTION



God has set us free. Christ has brought us peace. The Spirit has made us whole. Go with God Amen

564 Threefold Amen

Walter Henry Hall (1862-1935)





CARRY OUT THE LIGHT