



# First Light Worship

Sundays 8:30 AM

**OPENING PRAYER**

**WELCOME VIDEO**

**SONGS OF PRAISE** "Forever" Worship Team  
"Be Thou My Vision (Open Eyes)"  
"Allelujah"

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 50

**CHILDREN'S TIME** George Dickenson

**SONG OF PRAISE** "Jesus You Are" Worship Team

**VIDEO**

**WESLEY COVENANT SERVICE**

**SONG OF PRAISE** "Give Me Jesus" Worship Team

**CLOSING & BENEDICTION**

## Love God With Us

### Weekday Devotions Reading Schedule

Mon, Jan 1—*Another Year Begins* Psalm 139:7-18

Tues, Jan 2—*Jesus Wept* John 11:32-37

Wed, Jan 3—*1,630 Kilometers of Prayer* 2 Corinthians 7:2-7

Thurs, Jan 4—*Resisting Temptation* James 4:2-10

Fri, Jan 5—*Never Alone* Psalm 23:1-6

### Prayer Focus for Week

Pray and ask Jesus Christ to guide you through each day of the New Year.

Look on our website (rcumc.org) or in our newsletter to see prayer requests & continue to pray with us!



### New Opportunities to Strengthen Our Faith

**5:30 PM Wednesdays beginning Jan 10**

Financial Peace, If You Want to Walk on Water, Grief Share

Email [rcumc@rcumc.org](mailto:rcumc@rcumc.org) for more info or to sign up!

**CHECK OUT  
OUR NEWLY UPDATED  
WEBSITE!**



[WWW.RCUMC.ORG](http://WWW.RCUMC.ORG)

### PASTORS & STAFF

Rev. Seungsoo Jun  
Pastor

Rev. Roy Miller  
Pastor of Visitation

Debra LeBrun  
Dir. Of Music & Worship

Terri Urquhart  
Dir. Of Admin & Small Group

Tim Seigh  
Dir. Of Next Gen Ministries

Emily Nester  
Dir. Of Children's Ministries

Mark Moyer  
First Light Worship Leader

[rcumc.org/staff](http://rcumc.org/staff)

### CHURCH EVENT CALENDAR



GO TO

[RCUMC.ORG/CALENDAR](http://RCUMC.ORG/CALENDAR)

### INFORMATION

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[www.rcumc.org](http://www.rcumc.org)

December 31, 2017

Welcome



**RALEIGH COURT**

UNITED METHODIST

# TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sunday, December 31

11:00 AM

## GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** "Carol for the New Year" Alfred Fedak

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Danny Gee, Liturgist

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**  
"Angels From the Realms of Glory" UMH 220

**CHILDREN'S TIME** George Dickenson

## PRESENTATION OF SCARVES

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 50 OT, p. 519

**PASTORAL PRAYER** Rev. Seungsoo Jun

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** UMH 895

**SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Peter 1 NT, p. 232

## OFFERTORY

**\*DOXOLOGY** UMH 94

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER** Danny Gee, Liturgist

**SCRIPTURE READING** 2 Kings 23:1-3 OT, p. 356  
John 15:1-8 NT, p. 109

**WESLEY COVENANT SERVICE** (see insert)

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT**  
"God of the Ages" UMH 698

**\*BENEDICTION** Rev. Seungsoo Jun

**POSTLUDE** Postlude on "Adeste Fideles" Marko Hakanpää  
Zach Bowyer

**Bold:** Congregational reading

**\***: Stand, as you are able.

**TFWS:** The Faith We Sing  
(small black hymnal)

**UMH:** United Methodist  
Hymnal (red)

**Wireless Listening Aids & large print bulletins & hymnals** are available; ask an usher for assistance. There are **rocking chairs** in the back of the sanctuary & in the balcony for parents & children to use during worship.

# SERMON NOTES

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

During 2018 Bishop Lewis challenges us to *read the Bible* chronologically. Follow along using the bookmark available in the gathering area.

We have a joyous & bustling **nursery** on Sunday mornings & we need your help! If you love little-people snuggles & have some love to give, join us in the nursery. With enough volunteers, you would only be asked to serve a few times a year. Talk to Emily Nester today! emily@rcumc.org

The new church **cookbooks** have arrived! Get yours today in the Gathering Area. \$20 each

We will host **Family Promise** January 7-14. You can help by providing or hosting a meal, spending time with the children, or spending a night at the church. Please sign up in the Gathering Area, on-line or talk to Kathi Hufnagel or Steve Gross for more information.

**Mosaic** resumes on Wednesday, January 10, 2018. Adult options are "Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace", John Ortberg's study "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat", "Grief Sharing", and we continue to study "The Story".

On **Sundays**, adult faith builders include "3:16 The Numbers of Hope". "Lifestyles of Faithfulness", "Soul Keeping", "When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box" and "A Living Faith in God".

For information on any of our **adult small groups** contact Terri Urquhart at terriu@rcumc.org or Larry Dickenson at lbdickenson@gmail.com.

Our youth will have a **Lock-In** January 5-6 from 8:00 PM to 7:30 AM. Join in for fun, games, and snacks. See Tim Seigh for more information.

The United Methodist Men will have a **fellowship breakfast** meeting on January 20 at 8:00 AM at the church. Josh Burton, principal of Wasena Elementary School will be the guest speaker.

It's time to get ready for the **Souper Bowl!** We'll collect soup, crackers, tuna, and canned fruit now through February 4 to help support our local senior citizens through the Local Office on Aging. We'll celebrate with a Souper Bowl challenge after Traditional Worship on February 4. Get your team together now to decide on your soup or chili entry!

## Winter Vacation Bible School



# seven

exploring the seven days of creation

January 19 5:30-8:00 PM

January 20 9:00-1:30 PM

Ages 3-5th Grade

Bible Stories - Music - Crafts - Science - Games

Petting zoo on Saturday!

# A Prayer of Submission

By John Wesley

“To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, my Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, I give up myself entirely. May I no longer serve myself, but you, all the days of my life. I give you my understanding. May it be my only care to know you, your perfections, your works, and your will. Let all things else be as dross unto me, for the excellency of this knowledge, and let me silence all reasonings against whatsoever you teach me, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. I give you my will. May I have no will of my own. Whatsoever you will, may I will and that only. May I will your glory in all things, as you do, and make that my end in every thing. May I ever say with the Psalmist, “Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.” May I delight to do your will, O God, and rejoice to accept it. Whatever threatens me, let me say, “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.” And whatever befalls me, let me give thanks, since it is your will concerning me. I give you my affections. Dispose of them all. Be my love, my fear, my joy; and may nothing have any share in them, but with respect to you and for your sake. What you love, may I love; what you hate, may I hate; and that in such measures as you are pleased to prescribe for me. I give you my body. May I glorify you with it, and preserve it holy, fit for you, O God, to dwell in. May I neither indulge it, nor use too much rigor toward it; but keep it as far as in me lies, healthy, vigorous, and active, and fit to do you all manner of service that you shall call for. I give you all my worldly goods. May I prize them and use them only for you. May I faithfully restore to you, in the poor, all you have entrusted me with, above the necessaries of life; and be content to part with them too, whenever you, my Lord, shall require them at my hands. I give you my credit and reputation. May I never value it, but only in respect of you; nor endeavor to maintain it, but as it may do the service and advance your honor in the world. I give you myself and my all. Let me look upon myself to be nothing, and to have nothing, apart from

you. Be the sole disposer and governor of myself and all; be my portion and my all. O my God and my all, when hereafter I shall be tempted to break this solemn engagement, when I shall be pressed to conform to the world and to the company and customs that surround me, may my answer be: “I am not my own. I am not for myself, not for the world, but for my God. I will give unto God the things that are God’s. God, be merciful to me a sinner.”

## Wesley Covenant Renewal Service

### The Introduction

### The Proclamation

Leader: Dearly loved brothers and sisters, the Christian life is a life found in Christ, redeemed from sin, and consecrated to God. We are those who have entered into this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of Jesus Christ. He is the Mediator of this covenant. He sealed it with His own blood so it would last forever. On one side of this covenant stands God, who promises to give us new life in Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith. Every day God proves His goodness and grace to us, showing us that His promise still stands firm. On the other side, we stand as those who promise to no longer live life for ourselves but instead to only live for Jesus Christ because He has loved us and given His life for us. There are times in our lives when it is important for us to remember and reaffirm our promises and vows. In this same way, we come today to renew our covenant with God. Many generations have done this before us. Today we make the covenant our own, renewing with both joy and sincerity the covenant that binds us all to God.

### The Confession

Leader: We are those who seek to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ, but sometimes we fall short. Let us now examine ourselves before God, humbly confessing our sins and submitting our hearts so that we do not deceive ourselves and cut ourselves away from God.

Let us pray:

**People: Father God, You have set forth the way of life through Your Son Jesus Christ, whom You love**

**dearly. We shamefully confess that we have been slow to learn of Him and have been reluctant to follow Him. You have spoken and called to us but we have not listened. You have revealed Your beauty to us, but we have been blind. You have stretched out Your hands to us through our friends, but we have passed by them. We have accepted Your gifts and offered little thanks. We are unworthy of Your unchanging love.**

Leader: We now confess to you our sins.

Please forgive us for the poverty of our worship...  
for the selfishness of our prayers...  
for our inconsistency and unbelief...  
for the ways we neglect fellowship and Your grace...

for our hesitation to tell others about Christ...  
for the ways we deceive others...

**People: Forgive us for when we waste time and when we misuse the gifts you have given us. Forgive us for when we have made excuses for the wrong things we have done and when we have purposefully avoided responsibility.**

Leader: Forgive us that we have been unwilling to overcome evil with good and that we have not been ready to carry our cross. Forgive us that we have not allowed Your love to work through us to help others and that we have not made their suffering our own. Forgive us for those times when instead of working for unity we made it hard for others to live with us because of our lack of forgiveness, inconsiderate judgment, and quick criticism.

**People: Forgive us for when we have not tried to reconcile with others and when we have been slow to seek redemption.**

Leader: Forgive us also for these sins that we silently confess to you now.

### Words of Assurance and Pardon

Leader: God, the Father of all mercies, is faithful to cleanse us from our sins and restore us to Christ’s image. Praise and glory be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

## The Invitation

Leader: Let us gathered here before the Lord now in covenant commit ourselves to Christ as his servants. Let us give ourselves to Him so that we may fully belong to Him. Jesus Christ has left us with many services to be done. Some of these services are easy and honorable, but some are difficult and disgraceful. Some line up with our desires and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we please both Christ and ourselves, but then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Jesus Christ, we offer You this prayer:

**People: Let me be Your servant. Let me follow your commands. I will no longer follow my own desires. I give myself completely to your will.**

Leader: The power and strength to live as true servants is given to us in Christ. We accept the place and work that He gives us, acknowledging that He alone will be our reward.

**People: I am not my own. I am Yours alone. Make me into what You will. Rank me with those You will. Put me to use for You. Put me to suffering for You. Let me be employed for You. Let me be laid aside for You. Let me be lifted high for You. Let me be brought low for You. Let me be full or let me be empty. Let me have all things or let me have nothing. With a willing heart, I freely give everything to Your pleasure and disposal.**

Leader: Christ is Savior to those who are His true servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. To be His servant is to consent fully to His will. Christ accepts nothing less. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing. Now confirm this truth in holy covenant. Make it a reality in your life in these ways:

*First*, set apart time in your day, more than once, to be spent alone with the Lord. Seek to perceive God's special care for you and gracious acceptance of you. Carefully think through the words of this covenant and its conditions. Examine your heart, even if you have freely given your life to Christ. Name the sins in your life. Reflect on whether you

are willing to choose Christ's holy laws and strict commands. Be sure you are clear in all of these so you do not lie to God!

*Second*, uphold a serious spirit of holy awe and reverence.

*Third*, claim God's covenant. Do not trust in your own strength and power but rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength. In this way, He will empower you to keep your promise.

*Fourth*, be determined to be faithful. You have given your heart and life to God. You have opened your mouth to dedicate yourself to the Lord. With God's power, never go back to your former way of living.

*And last*, be prepared to renew your covenant with God. Fall on your knees. Lift your hands. Open your hearts.

## The Covenant Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together:

**People: My righteous God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, see me now as I fall down before You. Forgive my unfaithfulness when I have not done your will. You promise mercy if I turn to You with my whole heart.**

Leader: God requires that you rid yourself of every idol in your life.

**People: From the bottom of my heart, I here and now renounce every idol in my life, covenanting with You that I will not commit any known sin. By turning against Your will I have turned my love toward the world. In Your power I will watch for any temptation that will lead me away from You.**

Leader: Through Jesus Christ, God offers to be your God again, if you allow Him to be.

**People: Before all heaven and earth, I here and now acknowledge You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as my Lord and God. I vow to give all of myself, body and soul, to be Your servant and to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is the only way and means to God. God has given us Jesus as the way and means to salvation.

**People: Jesus, I here and now accept You and the only new and living Way. I join myself in covenant with You. I come to You hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of Your servants. With all my power, I accept You as my Lord**

**and Head. I renounce my own unworthiness, and vow that You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take Your will as my law.**

Leader: Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**People: Jesus, I here and now make this covenant with You and accept whatever comes in life.**

**Through Your grace I promise that neither life nor death will separate me from You.**

Leader: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**People: I here and now willingly take on Your yoke and burden. All Your laws are holy, just, and good. I accept them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising I will strive to order my whole life around your direction. I will not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

Leader: The Almighty God searches and knows you, even the thoughts of your heart.

**People: O God, You know that we have made this covenant today in sincerity, without deceit or reluctance. If You find anything false in us, guide us and help us to set it right. And now, glory be to You, God the Father. From this day forward, I shall look upon You as my God and Father. Glory be to You, God the Son. You have loved me and washed me from my sins in Your own blood. From this day forward, I shall look upon You as my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to You, O God the Holy Spirit. By Your almighty power, You have turned my heart from sin to God. From this day forward I shall look upon You as my Comforter and Guide. O mighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through Your infinite grace, have become Your covenant servant. You are mine and I am Yours. So be it. May this covenant that I have made here on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.**