



16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*The \*asterisk is an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME  
PREPARATION

Rev. Christopher Liberati

Prelude *Thy Word:* arr. J. Carter Rose Darling

**Opening Prayer–All Uniting** Liturgist: Margaret Odonkor  
**We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you. Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ’s name, we pray. AMEN.**

\*Gathering Hymn *Faith of Our Fathers* UM Hymnal 710

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

**P: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!**

L: Come and let us worship with great joy!

**P: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!**

L: God is about to do something new in our lives!

**P: Let God’s will become strong in our lives. AMEN.**

**INTO THE WORD**

Psalm 50: 1–6 Lay Reader: Jo-Ann Odonkor

\*Mark 14:1–9

Response to the Word *\*Gloria Patri* UM Hymnal 71

Message What are you focused on? Rev. Christopher Liberati

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Prayer Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* UM Hymnal 277

Morning Prayer

Lord’s Prayer-UM Hymnal 895

Invitation and Dedication for the Giving of Our Lives, Tithes, Gifts, and Offerings:  
*When we bring an offering to God, it is a form of worship. Worshipping God with giving of our money reveals our hearts desire. We give sacrificially, generously, and continuously as a way of ascribing value to who God is in our lives. As we do so, our love for God and others grows.*

\*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UM Hymnal 94

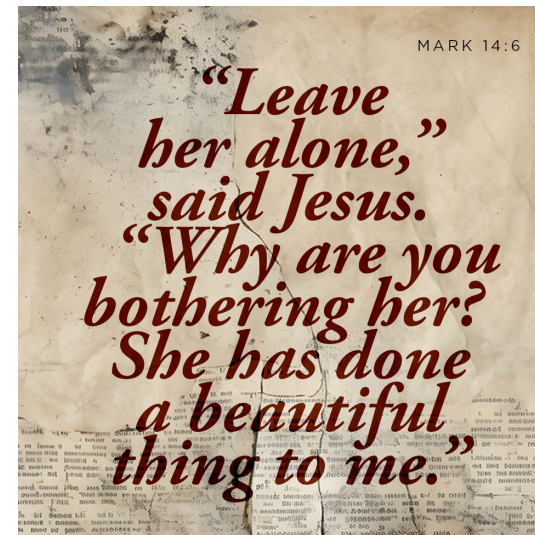
\*Prayer of Dedication

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Hymn of Parting *How Great Thou Art* UM Hymnal 77

\*Benediction

Postlude *Petite Suite:* H. Purcell Rose Darling



**Did you know?**

One of our goals for this upcoming year is to become more intentional in our prayer life. Have a prayer request? Please fill out the green prayer cards located in the pews, place them in the offering plate, and they will be prayed over and shared with the pastors and/or congregation and/or care & connect team based on your request.

Consider lighting a candle at the kneeler at the beginning of this service while offering your prayers to God.