

# Suggested Order of Worship for Sunday, June 18

You are encouraged to use as much or as little of the pieces in this sample as are appropriate for your worship setting.

## **Prelude**

*“Wade in the Water” (The Faith We Sing #2107) or “Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters” (UMH #605)*

## **\*Opening Prayer**

L: The Lord be with you

### **P: And also with you**

L: Let us pray: Gracious God, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you called him your beloved child and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into the family of Jesus may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly follow him as Leader, rely on him as Savior, and know him as Friend. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

## **\*Opening Hymn**

*“O, For a Thousand Tongues” (UMH #57) or “All Creatures of Our God and King (UMH #62)*

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

*Come, Divine Interpreter (UMH 594)*

### **The First Reading**

*Genesis 1:1-5*

### **The Psalter**

*Psalms 29 (UMH #761)*

### **The Second Reading**

*Acts 3:1-10*

### **\*The Gospel Acclamation**

## **\*The Gospel Reading**

*Mark 1:1-11*

### **Sermon**

## **RESPONSE**

### **The Prayers of the People**

L: Almighty God, we, the people of the North Carolina Conference, worship you as the one God, who is, and was, and who is to come.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: On this day of holy conferencing of our clergy and laity, we give you thanks for the connection of our faith and mission, and for the call you have placed on each of our lives at our baptisms.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We confess that often we are not faithful to our membership vows to uphold the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We confess that often we do not value the diversity of one another, and do not show love for all your children.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: Forgive us, loving and gracious God, and fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may live as faithful disciples.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: Today we pray for our laity who are commissioned as deaconesses and home missionaries; that you will empower them to share their faith in Jesus Christ with others through ministries of love, justice and service.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for local licensed pastors as they are assigned to lead churches, and for student pastors and certified candidates as they prepare for ordained ministry.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for your blessing on our commissioned and ordained deacons as they equip and lead the laity in ministries of compassion, justice and service in the world.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for the commissioned and ordained elders as they proclaim the word of God, administer the sacraments, and order the life of the church.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for all newly commissioned and newly ordained deacons and elders as they serve in the churches of our conference.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for all pastors who will transition to new appointments this year and for their families.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for the churches that will experience pastoral change this year, as they transition and welcome their newly appointed pastor.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for the District Superintendents and the Assistants to the District Superintendents of each of the districts in the North Carolina Conference.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: We pray for Bishop Ward and give thanks to you for her leadership and ministry among us.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: As we pray for our conference, we also pray for the Council of Bishops, give thanks for our connection with other United Methodists around the world, and pray that you will use us in ministry and witness with all people.

**P: We are your people, and we praise you with grateful hearts.**

L: O God, we pray for unity in Jesus Christ with all Christians around the world. Help us work together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ to meet the needs of the world, rather than be separated by our differences. Give guidance to the Commission on a Way Forward as they work together to discern our future of ministry with love and respect for each other. Lead us as clergy and laity to work together making disciples for the transformation of the world, that your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
**Amen.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*\*\*Please note, this is offered as an option for your order of worship. We have included a Great Thanksgiving at the end of this document. It is important to understand that communion should only be presided over by United Methodist clergy.*

## **Sending Forth**

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (UMH #384)*

**Postlude**

*Shall We Gather at the River? (UMH #723)*

## The Great Thanksgiving

\***Invitation** (UMH p. 12)

\***Confession / Words of Assurance / Peace** (UMH p. 12)

### Offering

**The Great Thanksgiving for New Year, Epiphany, Baptism of the Lord, or Covenant Reaffirmation** (*Book of Worship p. 58*)

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, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.

You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we 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 blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. In his baptism and in table fellowship he took his place with sinners. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave

birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Drink from this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 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.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body of Christ that we might be for the world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, both now and forever.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Sharing the Meal**

*Music suggestion: One Bread, One Body (UMH #594)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go out into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**