

Gathering

Centering

District Superintendent

Call to Worship

Lay Leader

Leader: In Jesus Christ, there is a new creation.

People: Everything old has passed away. Everything has become new.

Leader: This newness is from God, who has reconciled us through Jesus Christ.

People: Rejoice and be glad! Everything has become new.

Opening Prayer

Lay Leader

Video - Bishop Shelton

Old Testament Lesson

Pastor

Isaiah 42:1-9

Sermon

District Superintendent

Responding to Our Situation

1. What is something you celebrate from the former things you have experienced in the last year?
2. What is something you need to let go from the former things in your life and as a congregation?
3. Is there something new that God is already announcing in your life and congregation?

Our Response

Pastor

God of steadfast love and mercy, remind us again that in Jesus Christ everything has become new.

For far too often, things seem as they have always been: old habits die hard, difficult situations linger, failures from our past linger. We look for your promised newness but cannot see it.

Speak to us again of your new creation. Open our eyes to its presence in our lives. Call us forth to claim this newness, that we may be healed and made whole. Amen.

Thanksgiving

Prayer of Thanksgiving

District Superintendent

Sending Forth

Dedicating Ourselves to the Work of the Church

District Superintendent

- Leadership Report Vote
- Compensation Package Vote

(continued on back)

Closing Prayer (Unison)

Pastor

Let us covenant together as we pray “A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition” (UMH 607):

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
Exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure
and disposal.
And now, O Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Benediction

District Superintendent



North Carolina Conference
The United Methodist Church

Charge Conference 2023

*Graceful
Surrender*

**THE FIVE EMPHASES OF
THE NC CONFERENCE**

Effective Leaders

Healthy Congregations

Congregations for Children

Anti-Racism

Unity