

Kingston Springs United Methodist Church

July 25, 2021

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Prelude

Ashokan Farewell

Stephan Dudash,
David Wood

Introit

Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Choir

***Call to Worship**

Susan Greer

Holy One,

we bow our hearts before you this day.

Strengthen us in our innermost being

and dwell in our hearts through faith.

May we be rooted and grounded in Christ,

whose love is beyond all knowledge.

Help us comprehend even the smallest part
of the beautiful mystery of your grace.

**Grant that we may experience the fullness
of your presence with us. Amen.**

***Hymn**

O Spirit of the Living God

UMH 539

O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more,
and make it truly thine.

Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,
and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.

Teach us to utter living words
of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand
when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime
shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family
by whom thy will is done.

So shall we know the power of Christ
who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life
which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness,
which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach
creation's glorious goal!

Anthem

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Choir

Reception of New Members

Prayers of the People: Joys and Concerns

Leader: Lord, in your mercy, People: **Hear our prayers.**

Children's Message

Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

Susan Greer

Sermon

God's Powerful Love

Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Offertory Prayer

Susan Greer

Offertory

Whispered Prayers/Down to the River to Pray

Jeff Jeffrey, Rheatta Petty, David Wood, Stephan Dudash

***Doxology**

UMH 95

Prayer of Confession

Forgive the poverty of our accomplishing.
Even after all our efforts we still so often feel that we have not done enough.
We confess our trying to you, and ask for your power to be at work within us.

Forgive the poverty of our asking
We come to prayer too rarely, and we ask of you too sparingly.
We confess our praying to you, and ask for your Spirit to pray within us
make us bold as we claim your love in and for the world.
Give us courage to pray.

Forgive the poverty of our imagining
The world as it is has invaded our souls.
Our lives are cluttered and mundane.

We confess our dreaming to you, and ask for your dreams of how the world could be;
release creativity in us, free our imaginations.

Forgive the poverty of our praise.
All glory be to you, incredible God!
Glory from the church, glory from generation upon generation,
through all time till beyond time,
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news! We are forgiven by our God, whose love and mercy are far more than we can ask or imagine.
Thanks be to God!

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 15

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...
...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...

...as we proclaim the mystery of death:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. Amen

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

Prayer after Receiving

Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Commission and Blessing

*Benedictory Response

Day by day, day by day,
O dear Lord, three things I pray:

To see Thee more clearly,

Love Thee more dearly,

Follow Thee more nearly,

Day by day (repeat)

(End) Day by day—day by day by day by day by day.

Call to Worship is from ministrymatters.com.
Prayer of Confession is written by Silvia Purdie from
www.conversations.net.nz

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation,

and through the reaffirmation of our faith,

we renew the covenant declared at our baptism,

acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our

commitment to Christ's holy Church.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,

reject the evil powers of this world,

and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you

to resist evil, injustice, and oppression

in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,

put your whole trust in his grace,

and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened

to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you,

will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church

and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I will.

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,

reaffirm both your rejection of sin

and your commitment to Christ?

Congregation: **We do.**

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to

Christ through The United Methodist Church,

and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

As members of this congregation,

will you faithfully participate in its ministries

by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service

and your witness?

I will.

Members of the household of God,

I commend these person to your love and care.

Do all in your power to increase their faith,

confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

Congregation:

We give thanks for all that God has already given you

and we welcome you in Christian love.

As members together with you

in the body of Christ

and in this congregation

of The United Methodist Church,

we renew our covenant

faithfully to participate

in the ministries of the Church

by our prayers, our presence,

our gifts, our service, and our witness,

that in everything God may be glorified

through Jesus Christ.