

10:00am
Worship

May 21, 2023



HENNEPIN
AVENUE UMC
Graduation Sunday

Prelude

River Flows in You

Patrick

Introit

To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul

Sanctuary Choir

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
Show me your ways, O Lord.
Teach me your paths.

+ Call to Worship
(Honora Amos)

God said, "Let there be light."
And there was light.
Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."
And the light shone in the darkness.
Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."
And the light shall not be quenched.

+Opening Hymn

We Are Marching

**We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, we are marching Ooo,
We are marching in the light of God.**

**We are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, Ooo
We are singing in the light of God.**

**We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo,
We are marching in the light of God.**

+Welcome (Keesha)

Song

This Little Light of Mine

Jennifer Sippel

Kids sing first verse

*** Choir and congregation for 2nd and 3rd verse ***

Kids sing first verse again alone

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Time with Children

(Brenna Kaufman)

Celebrate Graduates (Keesha)

+Sharing the Peace of Christ

(Sam Kaufman)

The peace of Christ be with you;
And also with you!

Our Song Continues

We Are Marching Faith We Sing

**We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo,
We are marching in the light of God.**

Anthem*Draw the Circle Wide*

Sanctuary Choir

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.
Let this be our song: no one stands alone.
Standing side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Scripture (Evelyn Hanson)

“As you walk the good road with me, you are the salt of the earth, bringing cleansing and healing to all. Salt is a good thing, but if it loses its saltiness, how will it get its flavor back? That kind of salt has no worth and is thrown out. “As you walk the road with me, you are a light shining in this dark world. A village built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one hides a torch under a basket. Instead it is lifted up high on a pole, so all who are in the house can see it. In the same way, let your light shine by doing what is good and right. When

others see, they will give honor to your Creator—the One Above Us All.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon (Keesha)

Prayer for Grads (Lynne)

Lynne: We are gathered together to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

People: We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved and many more achievements yet to come.

Lynne: One part of your life's journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places. As you prepare for your next journey, we hope that you remember the ones you leave behind, who have loved and supported you throughout the years.

People: We give you blessings of good will and love

as you journey forth into the world. We thank you for the laughter and fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, you remember the times that we all have shared with you.

Lynne: Use those memories as a beacon to guide you on your path. Don't look back; continue only forward, while using those memories to create a new path.

People: We pray that God will give you strength and determination to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen and sustain your faith.

Lynne: Because we are made in the image of God we have been blessed with free will to make choices and decisions.

People: We pray that you make wise and rational decisions, always turning to God for help. God hears, God listens, God is always with you. Do not forget that. Always keep in mind that God is around and if you turn to him, he will guide you.

A reading from the Book of Matthew: 28:16-20

Lynne: Just as Jesus commissioned the disciples to go out and spread his word with the world, so do we commission you to do the same through the way you live your life. Always keep Christ in your heart.

People: We send you forth with all our love, all our reverence, all of our perseverance, and all of our support. Strive for only the best rewards that life has to offer you and may the love of Christ shine through you.

Lynne: Christ is the light of all people. Let him shine in you during tough times and always keep that light alive.

**People: Let Christ's light shine always.
Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to Give (Laura)

Offertory *The Plans I Have for You* Sanctuary Choir

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord.
Plans to prosper you and never harm you,
Plans to give you hope and a future.

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to Me.
And I will listen to you.
For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord.

+Doxology

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**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

+Prayer of Dedication

(Kate Kowalczyk)

Prayers for Our Community

(Ginny and Kira DeVries)

Jesus says: "You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world." We pray now for the world in which we are called to

let our light shine; for the people who will see our good deeds; and for the church in which the light of the gospel is proclaimed.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Our God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Announcements (Keesha)

+Hymn *Halle, Halle, Halleluja*

**Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!**

+Benediction & Sending (Keesha)

Postlude *Taste and See*