

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
8th Sunday after Pentecost
August 3, 2025

† Please stand as you are able.



*QR Code for Nursery
Sign-In and Out Log*

Prelude

*Welcome and Announcements
Chiming the Trinity*

Responsive Reading—Psalm 40:1-5, 16-17 (the Message)

¹⁻³ I waited and waited and waited for God. At last he looked; finally he listened.

He lifted me out of the ditch, pulled me from deep mud.

He stood me up on a solid rock to make sure I wouldn't slip.

He taught me how to sing the latest God-song, a praise-song to our God.

More and more people are seeing this:

they are willing to enter the mystery, abandoning themselves to God.

⁴⁻⁵ Blessed are you who give yourselves over to God,

turn your backs on the world's "sure thing," ignore what the world worships;

The world's a huge stockpile of God-wonders and God-thoughts.

Nothing and no one compares to you, God of wonders!

I start talking about you, telling what I know, and quickly run out of words.

Neither numbers nor words account for you.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ **But all who are hunting for you—oh, let them sing and be happy.**

Let those who know what you're all about tell the world you're great and not quitting.

And me? I feel tired, wasted, and broken, like I'm nothing and have nothing:

make something of me. Lord, sometimes my prayer is, "I can't. You can. Please do."

You can do it; You've got what it takes—please God, don't put off your rescue.

† *Opening Hymn* "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" **UMH 420**

After this hymn, the children ages 0-6 may go with the nursery workers to the nursery

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, O God, when we have looked at the state of the world either through rose-colored glasses rather than as it really is, or we have allowed the realities of the brokenness of the world to bring us to despair and rob from us

Your resurrection life, hope, and purpose. Please forgive us of our sins. Breathe into us new life; rescue and revive us from the grips of despair and hopelessness; help us, as we do not turn a blind eye to the suffering around us, to practice hope, faith, love, and joy as disciplines that keep the forces of despair at bay. Keep us grounded in the truth that, no matter how bad things get, that You so loved the world and have overcome death and the world, so that we can live fully today. Amen.

Words of Assurance (Ezekiel 37, Romans 8)

The God we serve is the God of life, the God of hope, the God of new beginnings—even for dried-up bones and shattered dreams. That rattling of bones in Ezekiel's vision may be heard as the shackles that once held us down in fear, sin, prejudice, and guilt. God defies these deadly entanglements with the breath of new life. This we know, this we trust, and by this we live. Thanks *be to God!*

† *Hymn* "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" **UMH 57**

Old Testament Lesson Ezekiel 37:1-14 Herb Schwarze

New Testament Lesson Romans 8:28-39

Sermon Rev. Adam Benson

† *Offering and Hymn* "Now the Green Blade Riseth" v.1, 3-4 **UMH 311**



**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.**

QR Code for Giving

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

Joining earth and heaven's 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.

Proclaiming the mystery of faith Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

You may follow along on UMH 15-16 for the liturgy for Holy Communion.

The Receiving of Holy Communion

Prayer Following the Receiving of Holy Communion

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

† *Closing Hymn*

“You Never Let Go”

† *Benediction*

† *Chiming the Trinity*

† *Postlude*

Parkwood United Methodist Church



“You Shall Live” by Cranach, Lucas, 1472-1553

New Life in a Hopeless Place

August 3, 2025 * 8th Sunday after Pentecost