



8:30AM | September 3, 2023

*You are invited to join the pastor, on the right side of the altar,
for a time of prayer before we begin worship this morning.*

PRELUDE

O Happy Day

Judi Wilkinson, piano

Rimbault/Hawkins, arr. John Eby

WELCOME

Let us know that you worshipped with us today: www.westernhillsep.org/attendance/
See our full list of announcements here: www.westernhillsep.org/happening-now/

***OPENING PRAYER**

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN**

Break Thou the Bread of Life

UMH #599

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law,

**we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

***HYMN** **Thy Word Is a Lamp** UMH #601

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Psalm 119:103-106**
Luke 8:4-7, 11-15
The Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

*DOXOLOGY

MESSAGE **I Believe: Scripture** Rev. Kim Kinsey

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT AND OFFERING

Tithes & offerings can be mailed to the church office. (524 Thunderbird Dr.)
You may also give electronically on our website at www.westernhillsep.org/donate

HYMN **I Come With Joy** (vs. 1-2) UMH #617

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN **Let Us Break Bread Together** (vs. 1-2) UMH #618

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMN **I Come With Joy** (vs. 5) UMH #617

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Dr. Esequiel Meza, organ

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (St. Denio)

Walter C. Smith

You are invited to sit and listen to the postlude.

LAY READER: Sara Smith