

Opening Hymn – Gather Us In, FWSH #2236, vs. 2 & 4

2-We are the young- our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

4- Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in- all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and bone.

Scripture Text –

Psalm 36:5-10

Your love is faithful, LORD,
and even the clouds in the sky
can depend on you. . . .

Our LORD, keep showing love
to everyone who knows you,
and use your power to save
all whose thoughts please you.

Isaiah 6:8 After this, I heard the LORD ask, “Is there anyone I can send? Will someone go for us?”
“I’ll go,” I answered. “Send me!”

John 13:1-17 It was before Passover, and Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and to return to the Father. He had always loved his followers in this world, and he loved them to the very end. . . .
14 And if your Lord and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. 15 I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you. 16 I tell you for certain that servants are not greater than their master, and messengers are not greater than the one who sent them. 17 You know these things, and God will bless you, if you do them.

Closing Hymn - Here I Am, Lord, UMH #593, all verses

1-I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I, lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2-I, The Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I, lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

3-I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I, lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Resources: Led By Love, Lavon Bayler, The United Methodist Hymnal, The Faith We Sing Hymnal, Contemporary English Bible, and www.thetextthisweek.com

**Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church
Order of Worship for September 20, 2020**

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Song* – Gather Us In, FWSH #2236, vs. 2 & 4

Opening Prayer

Scriptures – Psalm 36:5-10, Isaiah 6:8, & John 13:1-17

**Message – We are in the Together: A Servant's Heart
Dr. Patty Amborn**

A Prayer for One Voice

The Lord's Prayer*

Our Faith in Action, Announcements, and Offering Prayer

Closing Song* - Here I Am, Lord, UMH #593, all verses

Sending Out

No matter where you are on your journey, ALL are welcome here.

Phone: (414) 762-4600 / Email: office@occumc.org or pastor@occumc.org

Website: <http://www.occumc.org> / Newsletter Editor: office@occumc.org

**Find us on Facebook! [facebook.com/occumc](https://www.facebook.com/occumc)
8675 South 13th Street, Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154**

New Faith Witness Space – What is prayer?

Do you ever fear that you are not good enough for God's love? Have you done things, had thoughts, purposely left deeds undone, unconsciously or consciously not cared for a person? The question being asked is, "Have you sinned?" I am sure that you have responded YES to all of these questions. We are humans and we are not perfect.

Thank goodness God doesn't expect us to be perfect, but why do we feel so bad/guilty when we do not live up to the expectation of flawlessness? The good news is that God will not reject us ever! We are the ones to usually reject God and then blame God for our feelings of distance from God's grace, mercy, forgiveness, connectedness, and love. God is always present to us, this is the story of Christmas and Emmanuel God-with-us. Sometimes we are not present to God.

It makes sense that, if we do not feel connected to God and come to God in prayer, that we may feel God is not listening to our prayers or answering our prayers. I want you to know that God Emmanuel is always present to each of us. We may feel God's presence like a light bulb on and bright in a dark room or prayer may feel like just the dark room without any light. Either way, God is present for each of us. God will not reject us. Have courage and continue to pray fervently for your connection with God. Your efforts will be a blessing to the faith that God is already reaching out to you!

Blessings, Pastor Wendee

Resource: *How to Pray After You've Kicked the Dog*, by Terry Teykl

**This space is designed to help us express our thoughts and understandings of what prayer is and what it does for us and our families and communities. If you would like to share your comments and/or experiences with prayer, please contact Pastor Wendee.*

Prayer Requests

You are invited to pray for the following emailed prayer requests:

•For our shut-ins: Janice B, Gaye D, Kim D, Jeanne and Dave H, Art and Jean J, Diane P, Eileen S – who is in the hospital following a fall with no broken bones, Dorothy S, Pat and Rod S, Gwen S, and Rick Z

•For Lena D who is now in a hospice care facility and for God's comfort and love for her husband, **Joseph**.

•For Barbara B as she will have a medical procedure on September 23. Prayers for healing.

•New Garden Prayer Area Open! Since we are unable to pray in our Sanctuary, the Blooming Garden Team worked with the Dolores Esch Memorial monies and created a place for us to sit with God outside to the west of the north front door. Please come and pray.

•For our Community Prayer Initiative in September everyone is asked to pray for our education systems and the people who service our communities by helping others learn including: administrative staff, teachers, students, families, support staff (bus drivers, crossing guards, tutors, extra curricular activities leaders, etc.), colleges, and school board members. There are so many questions, hopes, and concerns about the upcoming school year. May we know that everyone is doing their best to keep everyone safe and learning.

•For our Break Through Prayer Initiative (BTPI) efforts. We pray that you are praying the following prayer everyday at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.: *Creator God, we humbly ask what your plan is for us at Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church. Please, direct our path to your vision for us in our community. Amen.*

•For race relations in our nation so that we build a society where all people are loved and valued and the vision of equitable policies and systems address our nation's past harms to People of Color.

•For the people affected by the wildfires out west, the disruption of lives, the destruction of property, and the loss of life. Please pray for rain and the safety of the firefighters.

•For those who were affected Hurricane Sally. Please consider sharing a gift with UMCOR.

•For our nation as we move toward the upcoming **presidential election**. May we find ways to name our common ground and our differences and work together to build a better society that affirms all people's rights. Register, request your mail-in ballot, and return your ballot as soon as possible.

•For refugees and immigrants searching for a better, safer, and life-giving country to live in.

•For the places in our world where there is violence, war, and oppression. May God's intervening grace help us bring peace and wholeness.

<u>Our Staff:</u>		<u>Calendar:</u>	
Preschool Director	Kara P.	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>September 20, 2020</u>
Altar Choir Director	Shelly S.	9:00 am	Worship – Facebook Live!
Choir Accompanist	Laurie S.		Guest Preacher – Dr. Patty A.
Organist	Todd A.	<u>Monday</u>	<u>September 21, 2020</u>
Administrative Assist.	Aryn A.	9:00 am	Preschool
Custodian	Amy P.	6:30 pm	Finance Team Meeting
Pastor	Rev. Wendee N.	7:00 pm	AA in South Parking Lot
<u>Assisting In Worship:</u>		<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>September 22, 2020</u>
Video Taping	Megan F.	9:00 am	Preschool
Liturgist	Pastor Wendee N.	6:30 pm	Break Through Prayer Gathering Via Zoom
Soloist	Shelly S.	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>September 23, 2020</u>
Counters	Bonnie C. & Lynn W.	9:00 am	Preschool
		<u>Thursday</u>	<u>September 24, 2020</u>
		9:00 am	Preschool
		<u>Friday</u>	<u>September 25, 2020</u>
		<u>Saturday</u>	<u>September 26, 2020</u>
		<u>Sunday</u>	<u>September 27, 2020</u>
		9:00 am	Worship – Facebook Worship Service Guest Preacher – Dr. Patty A.

Our Faith in Action, Announcements, and Opportunities to Service and Share God's Love:

• **In response to God's love, if you would like to support the ministries and mission here at OCCUMC and beyond there are three ways you can give:**

- 1-**Electronic Funds Transfer**, contact Bonnie C at finance@occumc.org
- 2-**Mail** your offering to OCCUMC 8675 South 13th Street, Oak Creek, WI 53154.
- 3-**Online** using the Donate button on our church website at www.occumc.org

•**Technology Needs:** By now you have heard that in-person worship will be suspended for the rest of the year. We are following the recommendation of the Bishop to keep everyone safe. We would like to make our online service better and give Larry & Edith some help. If you would like to be on the team looking into how to do that, please contact Wendee.

•**Pastor Wendee will be on vacation September 21 through September 27.** Please contact Pastor Rob Odum, from Blessed Hope UMC and Memorial UMC, at 414-238-8367 if you have a pastoral care need.

•**Douglas Clement's Ordination is coming up soon!** We have the opportunity to celebrate Douglas' accomplishment by taking a special offering to offset the cost of the stoles that Judie Peterson is making for him and to collect a monetary gift for him to choose books and/or items to help him with his on-going ministry. If you would like to contribute a gift, please write a check out to OCCUMC with a note in the memo line. We will also offer a special blessing for Douglas at our Sunday, October 11, Facebook Live! worship service.

•**Annual Conference Ingathering:** The Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response Team and Mission Motivation Committee are currently working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center to set up locations throughout Wisconsin for Picking up supplies that have been collected for Ingathering. The plan is to provide several locations within Wisconsin Conference -- at least one in each district -- where the supplies can be collected. Please watch Wisconsin Conference ENews and the [Registration Website](#) for announcements as to specific locations and dates. Review the [April 2020 brochure](#) from [MMDC](#) to be certain that the kits you are donating are complete and include the requested items. Check out their website at <https://www.wisconsinumc.org/annual-conference>

•**Eras Senior Network online auction/fundraiser-**

Eras Senior Network is a non-profit agency which provides rides to medical appointments for Milwaukee and Waukesha County residents 60+. Other services include grocery shopping, wellness calls and seasonal yard cleanups. The agency is having an online auction and fundraiser to help support its services and programs for older adults. The auction portion of the event begins at **noon on Monday, September 21st** and closes at **6:00 pm on Thursday, September 24th**. The live portion of the fundraiser will take place during a video stream on **Thursday, September 24th**. The virtual event will be accessible through a smart phone, tablet, or computer. This intergenerational event will provide you with an opportunity to: Bid on a wide array of products, services, and experiences, both before and during the silent auction. Listen to live music. Participate in a wine pull. And Be part of entertaining breakout activities. For more information and to register for the auction, visit www.eras.org and join the bidding fun at no charge.

•**Cathedral Center Meal -** Our church signed up to share a meal at Cathedral Center, in Milwaukee, on 29. The Cathedral Center dinner ministry is still active and vital for those in need. However, due to the Covid-19 health crisis we are not able to go and serve a meal. Therefore, instead of asking for help with food donations we ask our members to provide money so the Cathedral Center can purchase the meal for that evening. If you are interested in providing funds for a dinner meal, please write a check out directly to Cathedral Center Inc. Put "Member OCCUMC" in the MEMO line and mail it to Cathedral Center Inc., Attention: Ana Treptow 845 Van Buren Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

•**Blood Drive on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 – 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm –**

Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church has generously offered space for a blood drive and invites YOU to save local lives. Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin is the sole provider of blood to every hospital in southeastern Wisconsin. Appointments are highly recommended to provide for a streamlined experience and proper social distancing. Sign up online at <https://bit.ly/occumcservants0622> or call 877-232-4376