

# Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Service of Worship • Ascension Sunday

May 12, 2024 • 10:55 AM

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## TOWER BELLS

## GATHERING

### WELCOME

Rev. Heather Rodrigues, Katelyn MacDonald

### WELCOME STATEMENT

Eliza and Julia Grace Ferguson

As our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to love and accept every person, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church welcomes into our life together those of every age, race, ethnic background, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, family or socioeconomic status, educational background, and physical or mental ability. In our commitment to the reconciliation of all persons as beloved children of God, we celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all. We invite you to join us in our faith journey toward discipleship in Christ with mutual respect, understanding, and love.

### PRELUDE

Fantasy on *Holy Manna*

Minister of Music Cyril Jolly

arr. John Carter

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

How does a weary world rejoice?

**We sing songs of hope.**

We allow hope to change us, to strengthen us.

**We tell the stories of what could be.**

We listen for God's word.

**We resist the temptation to give up or give in.**

We remember Mary's song.

**We gather for worship.**

We hope.

**We hope.**

Against all odds, we hope. Friends, this is the day that the Lord is still making.

**Let us worship holy God.**

### \*OPENING HYMN (SEE INSERT)

God of Queer Transgressive Spaces

CONVERSE, Text by Edward Moran

\* Please rise as you are comfortable

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

**Holy God,  
More days than not, hope feels like the rain.  
We try to hold onto it with cupped hands,  
but eventually, it slips right on through.  
Forgive us for holding hope so loosely.  
Forgive us for allowing the realities of today to define tomorrow.  
We know that this world needs people of hope, so today we pray:  
turn us into those people.  
Teach us how to sing Mary's song of hope for the world.  
With open hearts we pray, amen.**

*silence for personal confession*

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
Glory to God. Amen.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

*Greet one another with signs of reconciliation and love.*  
The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

## PROCLAMATION

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Jennifer Ingold Asbill

## SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (SEE INSERT)

How Wondrous Is Our Mother God! vs 1-2

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING  
Text by Stephen M. Fearing

## \*GOSPEL LESSON | LUKE 1:46-55 NRSV

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Glory to God. Amen.**

## SERMON

Katelyn MacDonald

## RESPONSE

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Eliza and Julia Grace Ferguson

*Following each petition:*

Mother of us all, **hear our prayer.**

— *Today's prayers of the people are written by Church Member Gair McCullough*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother, that inhabits the earth**

**Blessed are the names with which we call you  
and blessed are the fruits you provide us.**

**May justice come to your children**

**And may there be fullness together with a dignified and good life.**

**May your riches be shared with equity**

**So that there is no lack of bread, rice, yams, potatoes, milk or wine  
on any table or on any street.**

**Forgive us the abuse,**

**The waters that we poison.**

**The air that we contaminate.**

**Lead us not into the temptation of**

**The pride of power and the arrogance of wealth.**

**Because yours is the memory of the loving creator**

**And the present of the struggle for abundance**

**And the future of all hope. Amen.**

— *Adapted from "Liturgies For Below" by Claudio Carvalhaes*

### OFFERING OURSELVES

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

Celebration of Certified Candidates Katelyn MacDonald, Justis Mitchell, Eliza Stewart

### OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

*Give online at [dukememorial.org/give](http://dukememorial.org/give) or in the designated offering boxes.*

### OFFERTORY

Sanctuary Choir

You'll Never Walk Alone

arr. David Lundblad

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

# SENDING FORTH

## \*CLOSING HYMN

Worship & Song (green) 3154 | Draw the Circle Wide

DRAW THE CIRCLE

## \*BENEDICTION

Katelyn MacDonald

## CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

## POSTLUDE

Minister of Music Cyril Jolly

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**Today's Preacher:** Katelyn MacDonald (she/her) is a certified candidate for ordination in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Katelyn is passionate about connecting queer people, pastors, and congregations, seen in her work as a co-leader of Durham Queer Methodists, a group of eleven affirming United Methodist churches in Durham who march together in Durham Pride, worship together at their annual Queerly Beloved service, and gather for fellowship. During the week, she works as Staff Specialist for Chapel Music at Duke University Chapel.

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**A Called Charge Conference, May 21, 7:00 pm:** District Superintendent Mike Frese has authorized Rev. Heather Rodrigues to hold a Charge Conference on May 21 at 7:00 pm at the open of Duke Memorial's regular Church Council Meeting. The sole purpose of this Charge Conference is to vote to increase Pastor Mick Raynor's salary, beginning June 1st in his new role as Pastor of Pastoral Care and Witness. The Charge Conference will be held via zoom (<https://shorturl.at/blouC>).

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**Live Stream:** This worship service is being live streamed.

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**Captions and Accessibility:** Our left screen is dedicated to live captions to make our service accessible to everyone. If you have any access needs please contact [office@dukememorial.org](mailto:office@dukememorial.org)

The Global Ministries of the UMC and the United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministries have provided grant funding for our captions through the end of 2024.



English



Scannez le code QR avec votre téléphone portable pour accéder aux sous titres français.



Escanea el código QR para acceder a los subtítulos en español.



 **Global Ministries**  
The United Methodist Church