

# GLENN MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## ■ The Worship of God

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 | 11:00 A.M.

A SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

The bulletin art is by John August Swanson, titled *Moses* (Acrylic painting, 1983).

The altar flowers are given by Susan and John Hogshead to the glory of God and in memory of their parents.

**On December 26, 1747, John Wesley strongly urged the Methodists to renew their covenant with God.**

His first Covenant Service was held on August 11, 1755. He issued this as a pamphlet in 1780 and the form was used without alterations for nearly a century. After that, various modifications were made from time to time. This service is edited to make it more understandable to contemporary minds and hearts. This service has been a blessing to Methodists since 1755!



LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE

Register your attendance online, using the QR code, or in the attendance pad at the end of the pew.

Hearing devices, pew cushions, and Children's Worship Kits are available from an usher.

**A new sound system for the Sanctuary is currently in the works!** In the meantime, for optimal sound, sit a few rows back (rather than the first rows of pews) and not under the balcony.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is available throughout the service in the Nursery (room 200, Church School Building), Two's & Three's Room (room 206), and on the Playground (entrance next to room 206), or Pre-K/Kindergarten Room (room 304).

Parents/guardians, please escort your children & sign in with our Childcare Staff.

A Comfort Room & restroom is available downstairs at the back of the Sanctuary.

Additional restrooms available downstairs at the front of the Sanctuary.

GLENN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church is committed to loving God and loving neighbor with our whole selves – heart, mind, soul, and strength. As Jesus loved those around him, we believe that all persons are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God's creation. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of our congregation, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family or socioeconomic status, education, politics, physical or mental ability, or faith history.



GLENN CHURCH & RECONCILING MINISTRIES

Glenn Memorial UMC has been a proud affiliate of Reconciling Ministries Network since 2014, and welcomes and affirms all LGBTQ+ persons.



YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT GLENN

**Your gifts directly support the ministries of Glenn.** Scan the QR code or visit [www.glennumc.org/give](http://www.glennumc.org/give) to donate securely online.



## ■ Welcoming All to the Table

*\*You are invited to rise in either body or spirit.*

### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

##### Prayer

Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)

This musical prayer is rich, thanks to sumptuous harmonies characteristic of the Romantic music of the late 19th century, and to long, soaring melodies. The piece is constructed in an arc; it begins softly and gradually grows both in volume and harmonic tension, after which it settles back into its original tender spirit.

#### \*OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Jennifer Hansen

**ALL: O God, you search our hearts and see every part of us. All our desires are known to you, and from you no secrets are hidden. By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, cleanse our hearts so we may perfectly love you and glorify your holy name. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

One: Now as God's dearly loved children, let us pray together:

**ALL: 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN UMH #606

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

KINGSFOLD

*All children are invited to come up to the chancel area during the last verse.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Rev. Susan Pinson

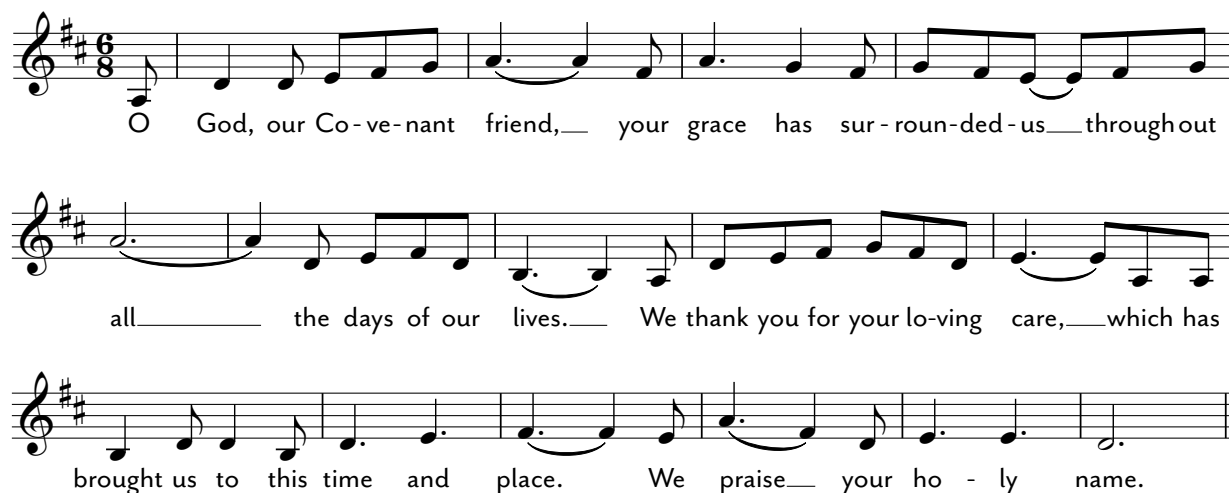
\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Brent Huckaby & ALL

One: Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies.

**Refrain:**



O God, our Co-ve-nant friend, — your grace has sur - roun - ded - us — throughout  
all — the days of our lives. — We thank you for your lo - ving care, — which has  
brought us to this time and place. We praise — your ho - ly name.

- One: You have given us life and reason and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends and ministered to us through the hands of our siblings in Christ. **Refrain**
- One: You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us and called us to the more excellent way of love in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and in the witness of your Church. **Refrain**
- One: You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in our labors. **Refrain**
- One: You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we fled from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace, we give thanks. **Refrain**

## ■ We Hear God's Word

\*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Richard Belcher

**John 15:1-8**

[Jesus said,] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

One: May God bless the reading of the Word.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**

arr. Ryan Murphy (b. 1971)

*The text can be found at UMH #480.*

SERMON

**Grace-Grounded and Growing**

The Rev. Mark Westmoreland

# ■ We Respond

## REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Bishop Robin Dease,  
Resident Bishop, North Georgia Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church

One: Sisters and brothers in Christ: through the sacrament of baptism God's Spirit has been poured out upon us—water poured over and immersing us, water that flows freely for all who will receive it, water from the streams of God's saving power and justice, water that brings hope to all who thirst for righteousness, water that refreshes life, nurtures growth, and offers new birth. Today we come to the waters, to renew our commitments to Christ who has raised us, the Spirit who has birthed us, and the Creator who is making all things new. And so I ask you, will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?

**ALL: We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin.**

One: Will you let the Holy Spirit use you as prophets to the powers that be?

**ALL: We accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.**

One: Will you proclaim the good news and live as disciples of Jesus Christ, his body on earth?

**ALL: We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races.**

One: Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

**ALL: We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.**

One: Will you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

**ALL: We affirm and teach the faith of the whole church as we put our trust in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, his only Son, and in the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.**

One: The Spirit of the Lord is with us.

**ALL: Even so, come, Lord Jesus!**

One: Let us pray. Almighty God, the life you birthed in us by baptism into Jesus Christ will never die. Your justice never fails. Your mercy is everlasting. Your healing river flows. Your Spirit blows where you will. We cannot stop you, God! But sometimes we try. We try to block the flow, we redirect the winds of the Spirit, or we walk so far away from the life-giving Stream that we do not hear its sound, and we forget its power. We parch ourselves. We are dry and thirsty, O God.

**ALL: Come, refresh us.**

One: Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy. Let these waters remind us of your righteousness and justice. Let these waters renew in us the resurrection power of Jesus. Let these waters make us long for your coming reign. Eternal God, One in Three and Three in One!

**ALL: All glory is yours, now and forever. Amen!**

\*HYMN UMH #400

**Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

NETTLETON

*The people are invited to come up and touch the water to reaffirm their baptismal vows.*

COVENANT SERVICE

Rev. Westmoreland, Rev. Pinson, Rev. Hansen,  
Rev. Huckaby, John Wiley, Jennifer Scott-Ward

One: Let us gathered here before the Lord now in covenant commit ourselves to Christ as his servants. Let us give ourselves to him so that we may fully belong to him. Jesus Christ has left us with many services to be done. Some of these services are easy and honorable, but some are difficult and disgraceful. Some line up with our desires and interests; others are contrary to both. In some we please both Christ and ourselves, but there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Jesus Christ, we offer you this prayer:

**ALL: Let me be your servant. Let me follow your commands. I will no longer follow my own desires. I give myself completely to your will.**

One: The power and strength to live as true servants is given to us in Christ. We accept the place and work he gives us, acknowledging that he alone will be our reward.

**ALL: I am not my own. I am yours alone. Make me into what you will. Rank me with those you will. Put me to use for you. Put me to suffering for you. Let me be employed for you. Let me be laid aside for you. Let me be lifted high for you. Let me be brought low for you. Let me be full or let me be empty. Let me have all things or let me have nothing. With a willing heart, I freely give everything to your pleasure and disposal.**

One: Christ is Savior to those who are his true servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. To be his servant is to consent fully to his will. Christ accepts nothing less. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing. Let us pray together:

**ALL: My righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me now as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness when I have not done your will. You promise mercy if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

One: God requires that you rid yourself of every idol in your life.

**ALL: From the bottom of my heart, I here and now renounce every idol in my life, covenanting with you that I will not commit any known sin. By turning against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch for any temptation that will lead me away from you.**

One: Through Jesus Christ, God offers to be your God again, if you allow him to be.

**ALL: Before all heaven and earth, I here and now acknowledge you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as my Lord and God. I vow to give all of myself, body and soul, to be your servant and to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

One: Jesus Christ is the only way and means to God. God has given us Jesus as the way and means to salvation.

**ALL: Jesus, I here and now accept you as the only new and living Way. I join myself in covenant with you. With all my power, I accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own unworthiness and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take your will as my law.**

One: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**ALL: I hear and now willingly take on your yoke and burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I accept them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions. I will strive to order my whole life around your will and love.**

One: The Almighty God searches and knows you, even the thoughts of your heart.

**ALL: O God, you know that we have made this covenant today in sincerity, without deceit or reluctance. If you find anything false in us, guide us and help us to set it right. O mighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. You are mine and I am yours. So be it. May this covenant that I make here on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

### A Covenant Prayer

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

*-John Wesley, 18th century*



\*DOXOLOGY UMH #95

**Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow**

OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise  
God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A - men.  
(Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.)

■ **We Go Forth**

\*CLOSING HYMN UMH #117

**O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

ST. ANNE

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Westmoreland

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Fiesta**

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

As a composer, Emma Lou Diemer has an impressive output of works for orchestra, chamber ensemble, keyboard, voice, chorus, and electronic media. Also a performer, she received degrees from Yale University and the Eastman School of Music. True to its name, this piece dances and features a tango beat, mixed meter, and jazz chords, all of which combine to create a joyful celebration.



## ■ Announcements & Special Events

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**Sundays, 9:45am, Church School Building** | *Learn more at [www.glennumc.org/adults](http://www.glennumc.org/adults)*

#### **Ventures in Faith**

*Room 211, September 17*

The Ventures in Faith Sunday School class will start their fall season on Sunday, September 17. Each of our class discussions stands on its own, so you should never hesitate to drop in anytime. We will begin our season considering the unlikely story of the selection of the first disciples, with parallels to our own unlikely qualifications for discipleship today. Join us as we explore together! Contact Gordon Boice for questions ([g.boice@emory.edu](mailto:g.boice@emory.edu)).

#### **Coffee & Conversation**

*Parlor*

Join with Pastor Mark, Glenn intern Britt Dush, and David O'Brien as we gather each week for fellowship and discussion of weekly Scripture and faith in our daily lives.

#### **The New Class**

*Room 208*

The New Class welcomes a variety of exceptional speakers from Emory, the larger UMC, and beyond. Join us for a World Religions Series featuring Emory University Chaplains from the Office of Religious & Spiritual Life.

- Sept 17 - Shweta Chaitanya, Hindu Chaplain
- Sept 24 - The Venerable Priya Sraman, Buddhist Chaplain
- Oct 1 - Rabbi Jordon Braunig, Jewish Chaplain
- Oct 8 - Isam Vaid, Muslim Religious Life Scholar

For the zoom link and the full class schedule, visit: [www.glennumc.org/adults](http://www.glennumc.org/adults)

### CHUCK HORTON MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

#### **Wednesdays, 8-9am at Panera-Emory Village**

In loving memory of a faithful friend and Bible study participant, Chuck Horton, join with men of all ages & stages as we read through the Scriptures and share thoughts on our faith journey. Fall 2023 finds us in the book of Jeremiah. For more info, contact the church office or Glenn members Dan MacFarlane or Bill Phillips.

### FLU CLINIC

#### **September 17, 12-2pm, Sanctuary Narthex**

For ages 13 & older. Bring this completed form (found here: [bit.ly/flu-vaccine-form](http://bit.ly/flu-vaccine-form)), your ID, and health insurance and Medicare cards. Sign up here: [bit.ly/flu-vaccine-2023](http://bit.ly/flu-vaccine-2023).

## FRIENDSHIP GROUP: TOUR & LUNCH AT VILLA INTERNATIONAL

**Thursday, September 21, 11am**

Join with our older adult ministry's monthly "FriendShip Group" for a tour and lunch with our neighbors at Villa International on Clifton Rd – a 33-room residence founded in the late 1960's as a "home away from home" for international guests in Atlanta – primarily professional fellows and researchers at the CDC and Emory University—as a short-term affordable option for housing and community. Come learn more about this ministry and share a meal together (suggested donation \$10/person). RSVP with Rev. Susan Pinson 404-634-3936, ext. 103 to arrange carpools due to limited parking.

## GLENN-EMORY DAY

**Sunday, September 24 | Full schedule:**

*(No 8:30am Service)*

9:45am Sunday School

11am Worship in the Sanctuary (Rev. Dr. Teresa Fry Brown preaching)

12pm Lunch on the lawn. Sign up here ([bit.ly/glenn-emory-lunch](http://bit.ly/glenn-emory-lunch))

5pm The Gathering Worship in the Ward Fellowship Hall

## FALL SAVE-THE-DATES

More details at [glennumc.org/upcoming-events](http://glennumc.org/upcoming-events)

Sept 27 - Financial Aid Seminar for High School & College Students and Parents. Register: [bit.ly/financial-aid-seminar-glenn](http://bit.ly/financial-aid-seminar-glenn)

Oct 6-8 - Fall Camping at F.D. Roosevelt State Park

Oct 13-15- Men's Retreat at Lake Lanier

Oct 15 - Atlanta Pride Parade

Oct 19 - FriendShip Group: Tour of Creekwater Farm

Oct 21 - Emory Village Open Streets with Trunk or Treat

Oct 22 - Commitment Sunday

Nov 14 - DeKalb Symphony Orchestra and Glenn Chancel Choir Concert (7pm)

Nov 15 - FriendShip Group Lunch & Learn: What We Learn in Times of Loss

Nov 17-19 - Middle School Retreat



**To register for upcoming events or to learn how you can become more involved at Glenn, please visit [glennumc.org/upcoming-events](http://glennumc.org/upcoming-events) or contact any of our staff.**

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## ■ Giving

### **Financial Report as of July 31, 2023:**

2023 Budget: \$1,814,532

Total Income Through July 31: \$1,096,097

Needed: \$718,435

Needed % : 39%

**To give a gift, visit [www.glennumc.org/give](http://www.glennumc.org/give)  
or scan the QR code below.**



## ■ Next Sunday

### **Sunday 9.17 | Worship of God**

8:30am   Worship - Little Chapel

11am     Worship - Sanctuary

5pm      The Gathering - Fellowship Hall

## ■ Stay Updated

### **Want to stay updated on the Glenn Community?**

Visit [www.glennumc.org](http://www.glennumc.org) and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send one newsletter every Friday, and occasional updates.