

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Membership and Anniversary Celebration
April 21, 2024

PRELUDE and TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God whose love surrounds us on this day of celebration.

PEOPLE: For God has done marvelous things among us through all these years!

Leader: Sing praises to God whose grace and mercy have sustained and strengthened us.

PEOPLE: For God is still doing marvelous things!

Leader: Let us worship with joyful hearts in the name of the One who is with us always.

*OPENING HYMN *Standing on the Promises* # 374

PRAYER FOR HOMECOMING DAY Adapted from the 2009
Celebration

Eternal and Loving God, today we give you thanks for your goodness through all the years of worship and witness in this holy place. For your grace in calling us to be your people, for your love revealed to us in Christ your Son, for your gift of the Spirit and the joy of salvation:

Response: We give you thanks, O God. (R)

For those who established this congregation, for their faith and their vision, and for their gifts and abilities: **(R)**

For all who have been members of this congregation, for those who have given freely of their time and their offerings, and for those whose wisdom guided our church through the years: **(R)**

For all who have preached and taught here; for all who have confessed here that Jesus is Lord; and for all who today lead in worship, witness, and service: **(R)**

Holy God, as we worship you today, give us the assurance, we pray, that we too belong to the great company gone before us, that we too may find the peace that passes understanding as our ministry for your Kingdom continues through Jesus Christ our Savior. **(R) Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Kings 2.1-3, 6-15a

CHORAL ANTHEM *Find Us Faithful*

RECOGNITION OF OUR SPECIAL MEMBERS

SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 11 (selected verses) and
Hebrews 12.1-2a

SERMON *Standing on Their Shoulders*
The Rev. Arlene Tully, District Superintendent
Many Waters District of the New England
Annual Conference

*HYMN *Leaning On the Everlasting Arms* # 133

A TIME OF PRAYER

The Pastoral Prayer
Time of Silent Prayer
The Lord's Prayer # 895
Choral Prayer Response

RECEIVING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Offertory
*Doxology # 95
*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN *Forward Through the Ages* # 555

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS OF BENEDICTION

Leader: For these one hundred and thirty-five years the people of God in this holy place have gone out to love as God loves and to serve as Christ serves.

PEOPLE: Strengthened by their faithfulness and following the example of Jesus' obedient service, we go forth.

Leader: May the grace of God, the peace of Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit go with us all.

PEOPLE: We go forth in God's holy name. Amen.

BENEDICTION IN SONG

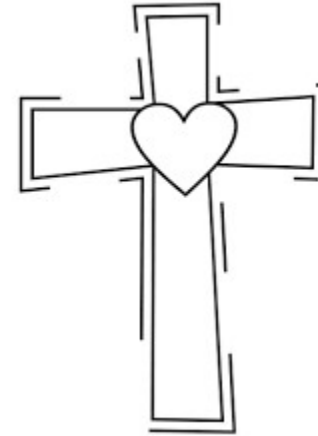
Sent Forth By God's Blessing (vs 1) # 664

*POSTLUDE

Today's Worship Leaders

Sue White, Lay Reader
Verne Smith, Video Production Manager
Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director
Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith, Pastor

*Boldly Caring for our
Community*



*Grounded in God's Love
Since 1889*

Lisbon United Methodist Church
welcomes, nurtures, and serves
all people
with the love of Christ.