

Purveyors of Awe

“Wonder”

Third Sunday After the Epiphany
January 25th, 2026 at 10:30am (online)

 Umstead Park
United Church of Christ

GATHERING

Welcome

Rev. Paula Womack

Invocation[†]

Kathy Austin

Meditation

“Gently peeking its head around mental corners or bombastically announcing its arrival into our trembling psyche, wonder changes our perspective, our bodies, our souls and our lives. Art, music, religion, politics, science, nature, love, fear, birth, death; each of the myriad experiences that compress to form the bedrock of human life has a golden vein of wonder running through it.”

–Monica C. Parker, *The Power of Wonder*

Prelude

“What a Wonderful World”

[Video](#)

Call to Worship

Rev. Paula Womack and Kathy Austin

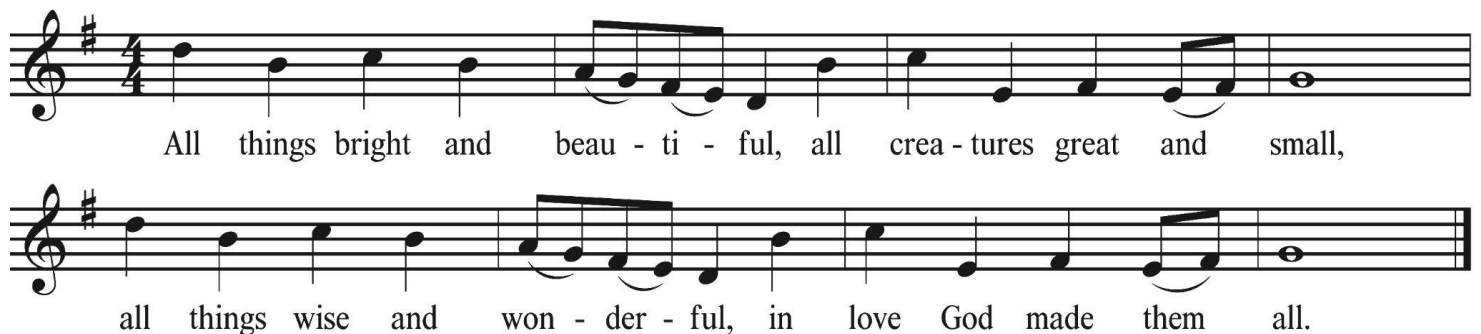
One: Beckoned to this place of belonging, we, of Umstead Park United Church of Christ, with body, mind, and spirit, gather to worship, serve, and proclaim God, unknowable mystery whose center is love, and Jesus the Christ, who makes this loving mystery known.

Kathy: **With inarticulate words and unfinished lives, we yearn to further embody this holy love, shaping the future as partners with God, who dances and weeps with us along the way.**

-from the UPUCC Covenant

Time with Children

Christy Tucker



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,
all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all.

HEARING AND RESPONDING

Reading of Scripture

Psalms 139:14
from *The Inclusive Bible*

Kathy Austin

“For all these mysteries I thank you—
for the wonder of myself,
for the wonder of your works—
my soul knows it well.”

Reflection

Rev. Paula Womack and Congregation

Responsive Hymn

“To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”

[Video](#)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Paula Womack



You are invited to share names or brief joys and concerns. To submit written prayer requests for the weekly email, visit tinyurl.com/upuccprayers, or scan the QR code to the left.

Celebration of Gifts (Offertory)

Rev. Paula Womack

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

Announcements

Affirmation of Community

Kathy Austin

One: We believe that all people are God's people, that every child is holy, that every person is a part of the sacred family.

Many: **We believe that God's love embraces all, and that to exclude any person would be contrary to the message of Jesus.**

One: We proclaim that this community of faith, Umstead Park UCC, will strive to be as open as the radical realm of God, and as liberating as the love of Christ.

Many: **And so we journey into our hopeful future with joy, pledging to offer each other welcome, compassion and care. May God grant us wisdom, grace, and guidance in our life together.**

Sending Hymn

"All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir"

[Video](#)

Benediction

Rev. Paula Womack

umstead park

UNITED CHURCH *of* CHRIST

Church Staff

Lindsay Cooper, she/her
Nursery Director

Rev. Tyler Ung, they/them
Senior Pastor

Gwen Vass, she/her
Financial Administrator

Cody Walter Welch, he/him/they/them
Teaching Intern

David Wilson, he/him
Director of Music

Rev. Paula Womack, she/her
Associate Pastor

A special "thank you" to this week's volunteers:

Christy Tucker (she/her), Lay Leader

Kathy Austin (she/her), Lay Leader

Nevin Fouts, AV Team

Giving

Scan the QR code to make a one-time or recurring donation!

Visiting?

You are invited to fill out the online visitor form so that we can get to know you!

Realm

Access your Realm account



UPUCC Updates

Square Dancing | Sign Up by Today

Join us January 31, Sat from 2-4pm for Square Dancing. We had a great time with this event last year. No experience needed. No charge but donations are accepted to offset the cost of the Caller. Bring yourself and some friends!. [Click here](#) to sign up by January 25th, or [Learn More](#)

Great Raleigh Clean Up | February 7th

Due to the forecast for a winter storm, we have postponed the Great Raleigh Cleanup scheduled for this Saturday until February 7th! [Learn More](#)

Nertz Meet-Up Group | February 16th at 6:30pm

David Wilson is in the midst of starting a Raleigh Nertz Meet-Up group, which will meet on February 16th at 6:30pm for the first time! If interested, [join the Meetup group](#), or [contact David](#) directly.

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper | February 17th

Join the Fellowship Committee for a Mardi Gras pancake supper on Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 5:30–7:00 as we head into the season of Lent. Pancakes and toppings will be provided, including gluten-free and hopefully vegan options. Let's celebrate together! [Sign Up](#), or [Learn More](#).

Ash Wednesday | February 18th at 12pm

On Wednesday, February 18 at 12:00 p.m., please join us for an Imposition of Ashes onsite in the UPUCC sanctuary or [online via Zoom](#). If you would like to have ashes mailed to you, [contact Pastor Paula](#).

Building on Faith with Habitat for Humanity | February 21st

Join us on our next build day on Saturday, February 21st! We have just a few slots for this build day in Old Poole Place, where we will work with others from different faith communities. Please contact [Sarah Bellak](#) for sign up information. Spaces are limited at this time.

Rev. Tyler Ung Parental Leave | Returns March 8th

While Tyler is away, Rev. Paula Womack will step into an expanded leadership role as the Acting Senior Pastor, along with several guest preachers. [Learn More](#)

Healing Transitions Capital Campaign

Healing Transitions is pioneering an innovative recovery housing model on its Women's Campus, providing family reunification, and supportive homes for women in the next stage of recovery. [Learn more or Donate](#)

We're Hiring!

Explore two part-time opportunities—Youth Director and Teaching Intern—in our vibrant, progressive faith community. We are thrilled to have Cody Walter Welch on staff as one teaching intern, and are looking to add to our team!

Ongoing Needs

[Click here](#) to learn more about our ongoing efforts toward food insecurity, and welcoming our neighbors from Healing Transitions on 1st Sundays.

Learn more at upucc.org/news!