

## September 27 – online service

**Prelude**

“Autumn Glory”

Sylvia Riggs

**Call to Worship**

L - Let us rejoice in the God of our salvation, to whom we turn in times of joy and times of sorrow.

**P - Help us, O God, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive us.**

L - Let us not be afraid to be real and honest before God in the community of faith.

**P - For this is a house of love and hope. May all be welcome here, baggage, burdens and all that we bring along with us.**

L - Restore us, O Lord;

**ALL - Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

**Hymn**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty ”

#139 UMH

**Prayer**

**God of understanding, we gather today as people who go through ups and downs in life. We confess that in difficult times we often close ourselves off to you and to one another. May we turn to you in our need, confident in your ability to handle all we bring to you. Help us to be a supportive community to one another, so that we can accept the present as we step into a future filled with your hope. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

#189 UMH

**Scripture**

**Ruth 1:11-21**

<sup>11</sup> But Naomi said, “Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? <sup>12</sup> Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— <sup>13</sup> would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD’s hand has turned against me!”

<sup>14</sup> At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup> “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.”

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” <sup>18</sup> When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

<sup>19</sup> So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, “Can this be Naomi?”

<sup>20</sup> “Don’t call me Naomi,<sup>[a]</sup>” she told them. “Call me Mara,<sup>[b]</sup> because the Almighty<sup>[c]</sup> has made my life very bitter. <sup>21</sup> I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted<sup>[d]</sup> me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.”

**Message**

“Being Okay When Life’s Not”

Pastor Victor Harner

**Hymn**

“ What a Friend We Have In Jesus ”

# 526 UMH

**Benediction**

As we go from here, never forget: We do not go alone. God’s own Spirit goes with us, always ready to

help in our weakness. So let's go in confidence and joy, knowing that wherever we go, we are surrounded by the love and mercy of God.

**Postlude**

"Chorus of Praise"

Peery