

August 23, 2026 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship / Breath Prayer

GATHERING

Prelude

Presentation of Gifts

Responsive Call to Worship

Hear O Israel! I am calling! Are you listening?

We are here and we are ready.

Beloved Children, who do you say that I am?

You are our rock and our redeemer.

Our trust is in you.

Our hearts, minds and souls belong to you!

I created you, named you and have a calling for your life.

We give thanks with our whole hearts for your steadfast love!

Opening Prayer

Holy God, we thank you for this day and this time
to worship together as a family of faith.

We pray that our worship is pleasing to you,
and that our hearts are made clean.

Reveal yourself to us today.

In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

*Opening Hymn No. 93 - *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

**1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.**

**2 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

**3 Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Children's Song – *Where Children Belong*

**This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
this is where children belong.**

Children's Moments and Prayer

What is worship?

Worship is an encounter with God.

What is worship?

**Worship is a response to
the grace and love God has given us.**

What is worship?

Worship is a place for faith in the making

Children: What is worship?

Worship is a place where you belong.

Children's Prayer

**Thank you, God, for loving us
and making us part of your story.**

**Thank you for a community
where we belong.**

Help us to worship you. Amen.

CONFESSING

Call to and Prayer of Confession

**God of truth, like a moth that gnaws at wool,
our brokenness eats away at our souls.**

**We allow the cacophony of greed, selfishness,
apathy and ignorance to drown out your voice
as you call us to see the suffering in our world
and respond to the needs of your children.**

**In our busy lives, we convince ourselves
that there is no time to help,
no space for prayer and no need for justice.
Forgive us.**

**Remind us that only when we slow down
and breathe deeply of your Holy Spirit and holy Word
can our ears hear your voice.**

Inspire us to greater love for you and for one another. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response No. 447 – *We Are Forgiven*

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you.

And also, with you.

LEARNING

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson – *Exodus 1:8-2:10*

Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response No. 833 – *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

1 O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

2 O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

3 O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

***Affirmation of Faith – from *The Confession of 1967*, inclusive language ed.**

The members of the church are emissaries of peace
and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities
in politics, culture, and economics.
But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices
when these same powers endanger human welfare.
Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose
rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Doxology No. 606 – *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

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. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of Abundance,
we have received blessings from you
and today we hear your call to share
our time, our talent, and our treasure
with your beloved community.
May these gifts bring your light, love, and hope
to all who need them.

SENDING

Sending Hymn No. 372 – *O for a World

1 O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.

2 O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.

3 We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.

4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong;
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

5 O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Lora East, Pastor
Stevie Calzada, Acolyte
Clapp Family, Presentation of Gifts
Samantha Clapp, Liturgist
Erika Stiner, Director of Children's Spirituality
Josh Clapp, Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Christian Carpenter, Media Technician
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