

September 6, 2026 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
15th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship / Breath Prayer

GATHERING

Prelude

Presentation of Gifts

Responsive Call to Worship – from *Psalm 119:33-40*

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.
Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
Turn my heart to your decrees;
in your righteousness be gracious to me.

Opening Prayer

Holy God, let us gather today
with open minds and open hearts
and give thanks for this time together
to worship you as one unified body. Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 366** – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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

Loving God,
Loving God,
Help us to love others
Help us to love others
like you love us.
like you love us.
Amen.
Amen.

CONFESSING

Call to and Prayer of Confession

**Lord God, we have judged others
harshly, unfairly, and casually.
We tend to focus on the sin,
brokenness and foibles of others,
rather than on the growth
and work we are called to.
We've made assumptions
about what others want and need,
robbing them of the freedom
to speak for themselves.
We've tuned out the voices bold enough
to express views that are different from ours.
We've relied upon your grace,
time and time again,
while hastily denying that you are eager to give it
not only to us, but to our enemies, also.
Help us to see others as you see them;
help us to see you with faith and trust.**

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

LEARNING

Anthem – *At the Table of the Lord* – Jay Althouse

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson – *Romans 13:8-14*

Sermon

RESPONDING

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, these offerings seem insignificant
in light of all that you have offered us.
We give, because you gave.
We love because you first loved us.
Receive our gifts and our lives,
and use them, we pray,
for your reconciling work
in the world you love. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up our hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:
You have made an everlasting covenant with us,
the promise of your faithfulness and steadfast love.

Even when we struggle against you,
you never let us go.

Therefore, we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Response No. 595 – *Holy, Holy, Holy (Santo, Santo, Santo)*
Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!

Santo, santo, santo. ¡Mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:
You sent Jesus to show the abundance of your love.
With five loaves and two fish he fed a multitude;
still he feeds us with the extravagance of his grace.
Remembering your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you
with gratitude as we share this joyful feast.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup;
make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**As you love and bless your people,
let your church be a sign of Christ's blessing and love,
calling all people into your gracious covenant.**

Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
we bless you, God of glory, now and forever.

Hear us now as we pray the prayer
taught to us by your son, Jesus Christ ...

**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.**

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Music

Hymn No. 507 – *Come to the Table of Grace*

**1 Come to the table of grace.
Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.
Come to the table of grace.**

2 Come to the table of peace...

3 Come to the table of love...

4 Come to the table of hope...

5 Come to the table of joy...

Hymn No. 215 – *What Wondrous Love I This*

**1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!**

3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Hymn No. 515 – *I Come with Joy*

1 I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

4 The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,
alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

Hymn No. 456 – *Listen, God is Calling*

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

1 Jesus gave his mandate: share the good news
that he came to save us and set us free.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

2 Let none be forgotten throughout the world.
In the triune name of God go and baptize.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

3 Help us to be faithful, standing steadfast,
walking in your precepts, led by your Word.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.
Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Sending Hymn No. 300 – *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

1 We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2 We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

3 We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

4 All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Josh Clapp, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Robert Browning, Liturgist
Erika Stiner, Director of Children's Spirituality
Christian Carpenter, Media Technician
Zachary Ridgway, Organist / Pianist
Keith Martinez, Director of Choral Music
The UPC Adult Choir
Art & Sandy Nicholson and Bob & Julie Wise, Greeters
Elder Doug Posey and Deacon Paula Gentner, Communion Servers

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