

WE GATHER IN CHRIST’S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC *Psalm-Prelude II* Herbert Howells
But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.
Psalm 37:11

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* UNISON INTROIT (Hymn 297, v. 4)
Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love. For you are within us, around us, above.
Equip us for service with gifts you bestow.
In Christ is our calling. In Christ may we grow.

* OPENING RESPONSES (Psalm 63) Abraham Roos
O Lord, you are our God, we search for you.
In dry and weary places, our souls thirst for you.
Let us turn our eyes to you in this sanctuary and behold your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips shall praise you.
We will bless you as long as we live.
We lift up our hearts and call upon your saving name.

* HYMN 333 “How Our Hearts” GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT

* ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Beloved in Christ: God is with us!
We are not alone!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION
When we take the gifts of life for granted, without giving thanks or recognizing they come from you, forgive us, Lord, and help us to repent. When we refuse to listen to your voice through the prophets and messengers you send, forgive us, and help us to repent. When we disregard your divine compassion and justice because it threatens our comfort, forgive us, and help us to repent. When we do not love our neighbors as we love ourselves, forgive us, and set us free, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 341, v. 1)
O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with your grace
And cause to shine upon us the brightness of your face.
So that your ways most holy on earth may soon be known.
And unto every people your saving grace be shown.
Let all the people praise you; let all the nations sing.
In every land let praises and songs of gladness ring.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 16:16-24 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.136)

ANTHEM *Eternal Light* Leo Sowerby
A Choral Grace
Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* GOSPEL LESSON Luke 14:25-33 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.78)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

DEPARTING SONG
‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word.
O to rest upon his promise, and to know, “Thus says the Lord.”
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him. How his light guides o’er and o’er.
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus. O for grace to trust to trust him more.

SERMON “What Will this Cost Me?” Dr. Butler
“Who builds a tower without first estimating the cost so that there is enough to complete it?”

* HYMN 718 “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said” BOURBON

WE PRAY AND GIVE THANKS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY

Lord Jesus Christ, True Man and God

Friedrich Wilhem Zachau

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

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

* HYMN 826

“Lift High the Cross”

CRUCIFER

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

DEPARTING MUSIC

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator Blest

Nicolas de Grigny

The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship, service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor

The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates

Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music

Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

Sara Gresh, Secretary and Financial Secretary

Kimberly Hook, Childcare Provider and Evening Receptionist

Carolyn Fordosi, Housekeeper; Scott Schreibman, Maintenance Custodian

Margaret Limkemann, Minister of Music Emerita



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

10 a.m.
