

WE ASSEMBLE IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

Our Father in Heaven
BWV 636

Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE

The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* UNISON INTROIT

***Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty. Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty. God in three persons—Blessed Trinity.***

* GREETING AND OPENING RESPONSES

Cameron Toth

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know.

Be still.

Be.

*** HYMN 286**

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

TRENTHAM

*** ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION

Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You never leave us nor forsake us. You are there when we are faithful and when we fail. For the harm we have caused to ourselves, to others, and to the world you love, we ask your forgiveness. Help us to open our hearts to your Spirit so that we desire your will above everything else. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 32:22-32

(Pew Bible, O.T. p.30)

ANTHEM

Be still, for the presence of the Lord
Summer Choir

David J. Evans

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Come, bow before God now with reverence and fear. In God no sin is found, we stand on holy ground. Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around. God burns with holy fire, with splendour is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light! Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around. Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place. God comes to cleanse and heal, to minister the grace. No work too hard for God, in faith receive the Lord. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:21-28

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.18)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DEPARTING SONG

***Do not miss the faith of children, who have questions deep inside.
For to them belongs the kingdom; wonder with them, be their guide.
Jesus, as we hear your blessing for the ones you welcomed in,
May our deeds reflect your caring as we welcome them again.***

SERMON

“Going to the Mat with God?”

Dr. Butler

“Jacob called the place where he wrestled with the man, Peniel...”

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

* **HYMN** (see insert)

“Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown”

CANDLER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

* **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.*

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Our Mission

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



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026
10 a.m.