

WE ASSEMBLE IN CHRIST’S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

Love One Another  
Dr. Kaori Hongo, organ  
“Wayfaring Stranger, Psalm 121”  
Jim Kulma, guitar

Clay Christiansen  
  
John Ylvisaker

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE

David Brill

\* 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 SENTENCES  
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us.  
**Amen.**  
Jesus said: You are the light of the world. Let your light before others.  
**May they see good works in us and give glory to God.**  
This is the day the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\* HYMN 402

“How Lovely, Lord”

MERLE’S TUNE

\* ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!  
**We are not alone!**

The Rev. Jim Kulma

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION  
God of grace and loving kindness: Jesus gave us a new commandment, that we love one another as he loves us. When we seek to find fault in others, forgive us and set us free. When we participate in unhelpful behind-the-scenes criticism, forgive us and set us free. When we do not forgive as we have been forgiven, forgive us and set us free; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Romans 13:8-14

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.162)

SOLO

Concerto in G Major, *Movement II*  
Kimberly Hook, flute

Johann Joachim Quantz

\* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-20

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.20)

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

“Where Two or Three Are Gathered”  
“Owe no one anything, except to love one another.”

The Rev. Jim Kulma

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

\* HYMN 300

“We Are One in the Spirit”

THEY WILL KNOW

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

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Arr. Dick Bolks

\* **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**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

\* **HYMN 313**                      “Lord, Make Us More Holy”                      MAKE US MORE HOLY

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **DEPARTING MUSIC**                      Psalm 19 *The Heavens Declare*                      Benedetto Marcello  
*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



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**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

10 a.m.

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