

WE GATHER IN CHRIST’S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams

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

- * UNISON INTROIT (Hymn 393, v. 1)
O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light.
O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright.
On you, the high and lowly through ages joined in tune.
Sing “holy, holy, holy!” to God the great Triune.
- * GREETING AND OPENING RESPONSES Tedd Roos
May the grace and peace of Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
God’s grace has dawned upon the world, bringing healing for all. (Titus 2:11)
The grace of God is deeper than the seas and higher than the mountains.

* HYMN 32 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” ELLACOMBE

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

* PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SONG OF PRAISE
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
World without end. Amen. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION
Gracious Lord, for those moments when we did not love you with all our heart and mind and strength, when we failed to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, when

we did not act justly, love mercy or walk humbly before you, we ask your forgiveness. Help us to repent, walk in your ways, and love as we have been loved. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON Jonah 3:10-4:11 (Pew Bible, O.T. p.861)

ANTHEM O God, your goodness Ludwig van Beethoven
Chancel Choir
O God, your goodness reaches wide, as do the clouds above us. You crown us with your perfect love. You guide us and protect us. O Lord, our rock, our shield, our friend. Unto our thoughts and words attend. As now we pray before you.

* GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 20:1-16 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.21)

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 those you welcomed in,
May our deeds reflect your caring as we welcome them again.

SERMON “The Unfair Goodness of God” Dr. Butler
“Are you envious because I am generous?”

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN 716 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” BEACH SPRING

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 *Amazing Grace* Traditional
Amelia Freiburger, soprano

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found; was blind but now I see. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed! When we’ve been there ten thousand years bright-shining as the sun. We've no less days to sing God’s praise than when we first begun.

* 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 435 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” IN BABILONE

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* DEPARTING MUSIC Toccata in d Franz Xaver Murschhauser
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



SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026
10 a.m.
