

WE GATHER TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSICRetrospectionFlorence Price
Malak Kortebein, organ

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCEThe Rev. Dr. James Butler

* UNISON INTROIT (Hymn 49, v. 1)
The God of Abraham praise, who watches from above.
The Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great ‘I am,’ by earth and heaven confessed.
We bow before your holy name, forever blessed.

* GREETINGS AND OPENING RESPONSESThe Rev. Dr. Steve Gorman
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.
From the rising of the sun to its setting, may God’s name be praised among the nations.
This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* HYMN 386“Come, Worship God”O QUANTA QUALIA

* 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. Amen. Amen. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION
Gracious Lord, for our decisions that did not serve the common good, we ask your

forgiveness. For old grudges and new resentments that we hold, we ask your
forgiveness. For promises we did not keep and commitments we did not fulfil, we ask
your forgiveness. Grant us strength to repent and a desire to love and to do what you
will bless; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 437)
You are the Lord, giver of mercy. You are the Christ, giver of mercy.
You are the Lord! Giver of mercy.

WE LISTEN FOR THE LIVING WORD

FIRST LESSONJames 2:14-17(Pew Bible, N.T. p.233)

ANTHEMBlest are the Pure in HeartH. Walford Davies
Chancel Choir
Blest are the pure in heart. For they shall see our God. The secret of the Lord is theirs, their
soul is Christ’s abode. Still to the lowly soul God doth themselves impart. And for the dwelling
and God’s throne, chooseth the pure in heart.

* GOSPEL LESSONMatthew 21:29-32(Pew Bible, N.T. p.24)

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“Getting to ‘Yes’”Dr. Butler
”The first son answered, ‘No, I will not go,’ but later changed his mind.”

HYMN 728“Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door”SOMEBODY’S KNOCKING

WE PRAY AND GIVE THANKS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

Swing Low Sweet Chariot

Traditional Negro Spiritual

Venus Minaya, Tenor

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see, coming for to carry me home? A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. If I get there before you do. Coming for to carry me home. I'll cut a hole and pull you through. Coming for to carry me home.

* 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 719

“Come, Labor On”

ORA LABORA

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* DEPARTING MUSIC

Adoration

F. Price

Malak Kortebein, organ

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



SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

10 a.m.
