

CREATED FOR

CONNECTION



August 30, 2026

Traditional Worship

8:15 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Slack



Please use either this QR code or a card in the pew for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

arr. Lloyd Larson

Dr. Jenny Anderson, piano

*HYMN No. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

*UNISON PRAYER

by Nancy C. Townley

Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with us this day as we gather to encounter your word and your way for us. Remind us that we can place our trust in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and place us on the pathways of grace and service. These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 70

Glory Be to the Father

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:9-21 (The Message)

Virginia Hardwick

9 Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. **10** Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle. **11** Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. **12** Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. **13** Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality. **14** Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. **15** Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. **16** Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with

nobodies; don't be the great somebody. **17** Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. **18** If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. **19** Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it." **20** Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. **21** Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Created for Connection
Rev. Slack

ANTHEM

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Peter Scholtes, arr. Dockery

Morning Glory Chorus; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we'll pray that all unity will one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand-in-hand,
and together, we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side-by-side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 883**

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

I've Got Peace Like a River
arr. Brad Jacobsen

***DOXOLOGY No. 94**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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
trespasses as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN (insert)**

O for a World
AZMON

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker
arr. Kristina Langlois

Traditional Worship

10:30 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Slack



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OPENING PRAYER

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Sam Cranford, acolyte
Finleigh Tillman, acolyte

PRELUDE

Menuet Gothique
Léon Boëllmann
Dr. Jenny Anderson, organ

INTROIT

Take My Life, and Let It Be
Louis J. F. Hérold, arr. George Kingsley
Chancel Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

*HYMN No. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
BEECHER

*UNISON PRAYER

by Nancy C. Townley

Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with us this day as we gather to encounter your word and your way for us. Remind us that we can place our trust in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and place us on the pathways of grace and service. These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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world without end. Amen. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our children's ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card in the pew and send with your child to KOW to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level at the end of the worship service.

CENTERING HYMN

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place
Mark Miller

There's a spirit of love in this place,
there's a spirit of love in this place.
You can't see it, but it's there just as precious as the air.
There's a spirit of love in this place.
O alleluia, sing alleluia! We bless your holy name.
O alleluia, sing alleluia! There's a spirit of love in this place.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:9-21 (The Message)
Dr. Eric Simpson

9 Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. **10** Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle. **11** Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. **12** Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. **13** Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality. **14** Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. **15** Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. **16** Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody. **17** Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. **18** If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. **19** Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it." **20** Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. **21** Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

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SERMON

Created for Connection
Rev. Slack

ANTHEM

Fill This House with Grace
Joseph M. Martin

Lifted up from firm foundations, living stones reach out in faith.
Rising high to touch the heavens with the sacrifice of praise.
On God's Cornerstone eternal we have built this sacred place.
Now we gather in your presence, Alleluia.
Come fill this house with grace. Lord, fill this house with grace.
Lord we empty now our temples leaving hate and fear outside.
Purging all the sin and sadness, all our selfishness and pride.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit, come inhabit every space.
Till our hearts are overflowing Alleluia.
Come fill this house with grace. Lord, fill this house with grace.
Let the music of our worship resonate throughout these halls.
Let it consecrate our purpose to proclaim the Lord of all.
Let our hearts be your cathedral; make our lives a gift of praise.
Fill our temples with our spirit; set our altars all ablaze.
Let your church rise up together, one in Jesus' strong embrace.
For the church will stand forever. Alleluia!
Come fill this house with grace. Lord, fill this house with grace.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
arr. Lloyd Larson

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Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

***HYMN (insert)**

O for a World
AZMON

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil
John L. Bell

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.

***POSTLUDE**

My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker
arr. Kristina Langlois

Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

WELCOME MUSIC

Worship Band

9 to 5
Dolly Parton

WELCOME

Ralph Jeffers



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WORSHIP

Goodbye Yesterday
Elevation Rhythm

Every Bone
Mountain People Worship

Praise the Lord Forever
Phil Wickman

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OFFERING

Rev. Teanna Black

TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:9-21 (NLT)

SERMON

Created for Connection
Rev. Black

CLOSING WORSHIP

Hold Us Together
Matt Maher

BENEDICTION

Next
SUNDAY
 SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2026
 TAILGATING 9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM
 WORSHIP AT 10:30 AM

NO 8:15 TRADITIONAL OR
 10:30 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
 AND NO LIVE STREAMING!

ON PURPOSE
 SERMON FOCUS STARTING SEPTEMBER 6th
1stchurch.org/worship

Please sign up at
1stchurch.org/students

Saturday, September 19th
10:00 am in Asbury Hall
Come help pack 20,000 meals!

Learn more at
1stchurch.org/riseagainsthunger

Overnight Event at Church
September 25, 2026
\$15 per child
 (Space is limited)

Register at 1stchurch.org/camp
 by September 20th, Space limited!



1STCHURCH.ORG

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 Maryville, TN 37803
 865-982-1273