



ON PURPOSE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Traditional Worship

8:15 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Teanna Black



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

This Little Light of Mine

arr. Calvin Taylor

Dr. Jenny Anderson, piano

*HYMN No. 189

Fairest Lord Jesus

ST. ELIZABETH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Holy God, we are happy to worship you today!

ALL: We come ready to receive good news.

LEADER: What if the good news is that we are already enough? And that God wants to shine light through us?

ALL: Let our worship be a time of receiving, renewal, and rejoicing! God has made us to be a light to the world. May we shine. 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

Matthew 5:13-19 (NLT)

Jonathan Gibson

13 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. **14** “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. **15** No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. **17** “Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. **18** I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth

disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. **19** So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God's laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

On Purpose: What is a "Purpose"?
Rev. Black

ANTHEM

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning
Sacred Harp, arr. Douglas Wagner
Morning Glory Chorus; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.

We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.

By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.

In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord.

In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 885**

A Modern Affirmation

**We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance
from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end that the kingdom of God
may come upon the earth. Amen.**

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me
arr. Thomas Keesecker

***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 No. 206**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
HOUSTON

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Renew Me, O Eternal Light
arr. Brian L. Hanson

Traditional Worship

10:30 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Teanna Black



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OPENING PRAYER

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Caia Sanford, acolyte
Hartley Cranford, acolyte

PRELUDE

Air
Eric H. Thiman
Dr. Jenny Anderson, organ

INTROIT

Gather Us In
Marty Haugen
Chancel Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

We are the young -- our lives are a mystery,
we are the old -- who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in -- the rich and the haughty,
gather us in -- the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

*HYMN No. 189

Fairest Lord Jesus
ST. ELIZABETH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Holy God, we are happy to worship you today!

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LEADER: What if the good news is that we are already
enough? And that God wants to shine light through us?

***ALL: Let our worship be a time of receiving, renewal,
and rejoicing! God has made us to be a light to the
world. May we shine. 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.

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 No. 349

Turn Your Eyes Upon

Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of his glory and grace.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-19 (NLT)

Jonathan Gibson

13 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. **14** “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. **15** No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. **17** “Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. **18** I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. **19** So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God’s laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

On Purpose: What is a “Purpose”?

Rev. Black

ANTHEM

Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Hugh

Benham

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.
Lord, we thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple meet for thee.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Trumpeter's Lullaby
Leroy Anderson
Chris George, trumpet

***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 No. 206** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*
HOUSTON

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *This Little Light of Mine*
African American spiritual, arr. Jeffrey Radford

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

***POSTLUDE**

This Little Light of Mine
arr. Calvin Taylor

Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

WELCOME MUSIC

Worship Band

Place in This World

Michael W. Smith

WELCOME

Ralph Jeffers



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

WORSHIP

Ain't Nobody

Cody Carnes

God of This City

Chris Tomlin

From the Inside Out

Joel Houston

DISMISSAL TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

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OFFERING

Rev. Sarah Slack

TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV)

SERMON

On Purpose: What is a "Purpose"?
Rev. Slack

Start a Fire

Unspoken

BENEDICTION

NOW EVERY SUNDAY!

BARRIER FREE WORSHIP

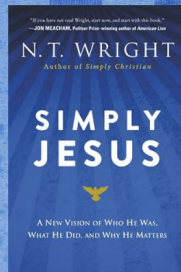


1:00 pm - Lunch & Fellowship
2:00 pm - Worship



This special time of worship is designed for people living with dementia, cognitive challenges or various expressions of neurodivergence. During this simple service there will be a special emphasis placed on the atmosphere, the music, and prioritizing how people feel in this time and space.

1stchurch.org/sycamore-tree



Men's Bible Study

Starts THIS TUESDAY, September 15th

7:00 to 8:00 am
Room 202

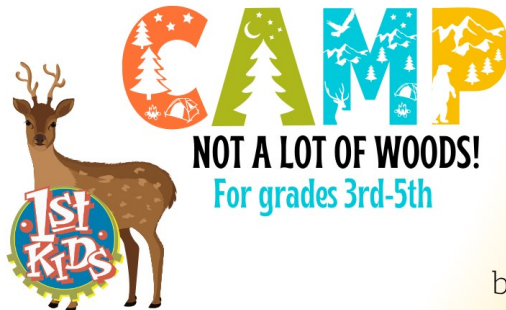
GO DO

RiseSM
AGAINST HUNGER
food • community • sustainability

THIS 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!

DID YOU HAVE FUN LAST SUNDAY
AT THE ALL-CHURCH TAILGATE?



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SHARE YOUR PICTURES
OR FIND THE LINK AT 1STCHURCH.ORG/TAILGATE



1STCHURCH.ORG

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