



ON PURPOSE

SEPTEMBER 27, 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

We Gather Together
arr. John Carter
Dr. Jenny Anderson, piano

*HYMN No. 660

God Is Here
ABBOT'S LEIGH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Lord, we come to worship you in spirit and in truth today.

ALL: May we hear from you as we give you praise.

LEADER: Some of us have come seeking your will for our lives.

ALL: Give us a spirit of discernment to know how we can reach out to those who need our help.

LEADER: Time is of the essence.

ALL: We do not wish to tarry but to be ever present in the lives of your people. We thank you for the ways in which you will use us this week in our community.

*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 14:13-21 (NRSV)
Marcia Prill

13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14** When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. **15** When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." **16** Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." **17** They replied, "We have nothing

here but five loaves and two fish.” **18** And he said, “Bring them here to me.” **19** Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20** And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. **21** And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

On Purpose: Purpose is Present
Rev. Slack

ANTHEM

I Stand Amazed in the Presence
arr. Keith Christopher

Morning Glory Chorus; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

I stand amazed at the presence of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

For me it was in the garden, he prayed, "Not my will, but thine."
He had no tears for his own griefs but sweat drops of blood for mine.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

When with the ransomed in glory his face I at last shall see,
'twill be my joy through the ages to sing of his love for me.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

***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

How Can I Keep from Singing?
arr. Howard Helvey

***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. 348** (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Softly and Tenderly
THOMPSON

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

God Himself is Present
arr. Terry D. Wilson

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

Lydia Givens, acolyte
Caroline Ritchey, acolyte

PRELUDE

Processional in C
arr. Sandra Eithun and Martin Ellis
Youth Handbells; Dr. Jenny Anderson, conductor/organist

*HYMN No. 660

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MEINEKE

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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 SONG

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

arr. Heather Sorenson

Youth Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.
You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger;
your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing
ten-thousand reasons for my heart to find.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:13-21 (NRSV)

Sarah Ingram

13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14** When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. **15** When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." **16** Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." **17** They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." **18** And he said, "Bring them here to me." **19** Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20** And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. **21** And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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SERMON

On Purpose: Purpose is Present

Rev. Slack

ANTHEM

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

arr. Moses Hogan

Chancel Choir

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus. Lord, I want to be more holy.
Lord, I want to be a Christian.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Maya's Prayer For Peace
Tom Trenney; text by Maya Angelou
John Wesley Wright, tenor

Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence
during the hard and mean days. For then we have you to lean upon.
Thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days,
for then we can share that which we have with those who have less.
And thank you for your presence during the holy days,
for then we are able to celebrate you
and our families and our friends.
For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak.
For those who feel unworthy,
we ask you to pour out your love in waterfalls of tenderness.
For those who live in pain,
we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing.
For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company.
For those who are depressed,
we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope.
Father, Mother, God, you, the borderless sea of substance, we ask
you to give all the world that which we need the most—peace.

***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. 348** (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Softly and Tenderly
THOMPSON

*BENEDICTION

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*
arr. Wendell Whalum

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime.

*POSTLUDE

How Can I Keep from Singing?
arr. Howard Helvey

Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

WELCOME MUSIC

Worship Band

Empty Me Out

Liz Vice

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

Breathe Miracles

Red Rocks Worship

My God Can

Katy Nichole

King of My Heart

John Mark and Sarah McMillan

DISMISSAL TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

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OFFERING

Rev. Teanna Black

TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:13-21 (NLT)

SERMON

On Purpose: Purpose is Present
Rev. Black

CLOSING WORSHIP

Beautiful Things

Gungor

BENEDICTION



Recovery Soldiers

September 30th
6:30 pm in Asbury Hall
(lower level)



RISE & SHINE

MORNING DEVOTION & BREAKFAST FOR JR/SR HIGH YOUTH
TUESDAYS FROM 7:30-8:00 AM

WESLEY HALL (UPPER LEVEL)

1STCHURCH.ORG/STUDENTS

*NO RISE & SHINE ON OCTOBER 6TH



FALL festival

1st

DONATE ITEMS FOR THE TRUNK-OR-TREAT!

- INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED CANDY
- FRUIT GUMMIES
- PIRATE'S BOOTY PUFFS SNACK
- INDIVIDUALLY PACKED GOLDFISH SNACK BAGS



Bin located outside of the church office

SIGN UP TO SERVE!

- TRUNK OR TREAT STATIONS
- HELP WITH INFLATABLES
- ASSIST WITH GAMES
- SET UP
- CLEAN UP
- AND MORE ...



1stchurch.org/fall-festival

FALL festival

OCTOBER 25TH
4:00 TO 6:00 PM



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Alternative
Gift Fair
2026**

November 1st
9:00 am to 1:00 pm



SHOP
WITH PURPOSE



1STCHURCH.ORG

804 Montvale Station Road
Maryville, TN 37803
865-982-1273