



October 11, 2026, 10:30 am
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship! Led by the Holy Spirit, we glorify God, nurture the faith with each other, and witness the fullness of Christ's love in the world. Beyond the pews, we hope you will grow in faith with us on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

Children are welcome in the Sanctuary throughout the service and are encouraged to visit our worship corner in the front left of the Sanctuary and borrow a variety of resources during worship. Childcare is also available for infants through 4-year-olds in the nursery on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

Assisted listening devices are available at the Princess Anne Street side entrance. Restrooms are located underneath the Sanctuary, accessed via the stairs off the porch on the Princess Anne Street side or elevator, or in the Education Building. If you need access to the Ed. Building during worship, please speak to an usher. Our service is livestreamed via YouTube.

We are glad you are here as we give glory to God together!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

✠We rise in body or spirit.
We say words in bold together.

GATHERING

Centering Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Prelude

God Sends Us Along

Gordon Young

Silent prayer of preparation

Holy God, you set before us every day a bounty of good things. Bring us to your feasting table, hungry for your Word, eager to rebuild the cities you have made and ready to receive strangers so that we celebrate at all times and in all places the peace which is life in you. Amen.

Introit

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Anon arr. Carl Schalk

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Jim Christie

You have been called to the banquet

This is the feast.

You have been summoned to the wedding.

This is the feast of life and light.

From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.

We have come to the banquet that has no end.

Alleluia! Amen!

✠Hymn 60

Your Endless Love, Your Mighty Acts

*Your endless love, your mighty acts surpass what words can tell;
Lord, may the joys your people know be mine to share as well.*

*Our rebel forebears rarely grasped your mercy or your might;
we need your mercy, just like them: we, too, do wrong not right.*

*Before a golden calf they bowed—an idol in your place!—
until, by Moses' faithful prayer, you drew them back to grace.*

*But when they spurned the promised land, you made your anger plain:
they wandered long on desert paths, and served the Baals again.*

*Yet those whom once you sold in wrath, in mercy you restored;
may we, like them, be gathered in to thank and praise you, Lord.*

✠Prayer of Confession

O Christ, we confess that we, too, make light of your invitation. We are reluctant to come when the feast is made ready. Our time is committed; business is pressing. We are afraid we will be with the wrong people. At times dissension hinders our response. We are not at peace with those likewise invited. We are in need of forgiveness to heal our divisions, and a measure of mercy to partake of your grace. Amen.

✠Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

✠ Gloria Patri (Hymn 581)

***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.***

✠Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 22:1-14*

p. 29 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Anthem

Serve the Lord with Gladness

GF Handel

Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Scripture Reading: *Philippians 4:1-9*

p. 242 in the pew Bible

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Be of the Same Mind

Natasha Taylor

Faith Formation Coordinator

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 514

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; leave the gloomy haunts of sadness.

Come into the daylight's splendor; there with joy your praises render.

Bless the one whose grace unbounded this amazing banquet founded;

Christ, though heavenly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

*Sun, who all my life does brighten; light, who does my soul enlighten;
joy, your wondrous gift bestowing; fount, from which all good is flowing:
at your feet I cry, my Maker, let me be a fit partaker
of this blessed food from heaven, for our good, your glory given.*

*Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, truest friend and dearest treasure,
peace beyond all understanding, joy into all life expanding:
humbly now, I bow before you, love incarnate, I adore you;
worthily let me receive you and, so favored, never leave you.*

✠Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

... forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors ...

Presentation of Offerings

Whether your gift is placed in the plate, given online, or shared through your time and talents, all are invited to pause as the plate is passed to you for a prayerful moment of thanksgiving.

Offertory

Chorale

Jean-Philippe Rameau

✠Doxology (Hymn 606) and Prayer of Dedication

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.

SENDING

✠Hymn 539

We Will Go Out with Joy

during the first verse, children are dismissed to the Ed. Building for Covenant Choir

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

REFRAIN Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit, sing a new song of joy.

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit, sing a new song of joy. [Refrain]

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God. [Refrain]

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude

Fanfare and Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell

Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.



*The flowers on the pulpit are given by Kim Baker
in memory of her parents, Jeanne and Jim Vennard.*

Serving in Worship Today:

Organist: Amy Shirk

Director of Music: Mike McCarthy

Ushers: Mike Gibson, Tom Theado

Elevator Assistant: Bill Stewart

Sanctuary Guild: Piper Foresman

Videographer: Ed Foresman, Trey Talmadge

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