



**October 18, 2026, 10:30 am**  
*21<sup>st</sup> 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

*Prayer for Peace*

Michael Helman

Jubilate Ringers

*Silent prayer of preparation*

From everlasting to everlasting you are God. Carry us today in your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days, living life fully in Christ's name. Amen.

Introit      *I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus*      Janice Kapp Perry arr. Barlow Bradford

Call to Worship *based on Psalm 96:1-9*      Liturgist: Mary Katherine Greenlaw

Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**We worship the God of our salvation. Praise the Lord!**

Declare God's glory among the nations; marvelous works among all peoples.

**Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.**

God made the heavens and radiates honor and majesty, strength and beauty.

**Bravo, God, bravo! We join in the great shout: Encore!**

Come, bring gifts and celebrate; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

✠Hymn 12      *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,*

*in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,*

*most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,*

*almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,*

*nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;*

*thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above;*

*thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.*

*In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;*

*We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,*

*then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; oh, help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

✠Prayer of Confession *based on Psalm 99*

**Majestic God, you tower in splendor over all the world. You are a lover of justice, laying things out fair and square with foundations of righteousness. And even as we praise your great and awesome name, we tremble. For we confess that our lives have not reflected your justice. We have not kept your laws or commandments. Forgive us, cleanse us, and restore us again to your covenant promises. We pray to you, trusting that you will hear our cries and answer us once again, for you alone are holy. 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: *Exodus 33:12-23*

p. 99 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children *Third Grade Bible Presentation*  
Caroline Bothel, Eliza Harvey

Natasha Taylor

Anthem

*Song of the Apostle*

John Ness Beck

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 22:15-22*

p. 30 in the pew Bible

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

Sermon

Things that are God's

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 10

*Sing Glory to the Name of God (Psalm 29)*

*Sing glory to the name of God,  
whose holy splendor shines abroad. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Enthroned above the crashing waves, the God of grace and glory saves.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The name of God is full of might:  
resounding thunder, flashing light. Alleluia, alleluia!  
The wilderness cannot contain the echoes of the great refrain:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The name of God is wild and free, a while in holy mystery. Alleluia, alleluia!  
A secret wrapped in smoke and fire, still chanted by the temple choir:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*May God forever be our peace;  
may hymns of glory never cease: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let all the faithful people come; sing praise to God, the Three in One:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

✠Affirmation of Faith *The Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 1 and 32*

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death  
– to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ . . . Because I belong to him,  
Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me  
wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

But why are you called a Christian?

**Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his  
anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him  
as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against  
sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over  
all creation for eternity.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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

Moment for Mission

Thanksgiving Boxes

## 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

*Down By The Riverside*  
Jubilate Ringers

Valarie W Stephenson

✠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

### SENDING

✠Hymn 716

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

during the last verse, children are dismissed to the ed. building for Covenant Choir

*God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

*Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.*

*Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:  
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands, in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.*

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude

*Rejoice in the Lord Always*

Donald F. Callender

*Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.  
Join us for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday lunch in the Fellowship Hall after worship.*



*The flowers on the pulpit are given in loving memory of Duane Hansen  
by his daughters, Laurie Kendall and Leeann Sherrod, and their families.*

***Serving in Worship Today:***

Organist: Amy Shirk

Director of Music: Mike McCarthy

Ushers: Marjolijn Bijlefeld, Steve Spratt

Elevator Assistant: Barry Hall

Sanctuary Guild: Piper Foresman

Videographer: Ed Foresman

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*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* – Text Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.; Music: Welsh folk melody; arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839;  
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*Song of the Apostle* © 1982 Beckenhorst Press Inc.

*Glory Be to the Father*—Text: Trad. liturgical text; Music: Henry W. Greatrex; ©1851; Public Domain

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*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*—Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; Public Domain

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