



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Adagio from Sonata in C Minor" Felix Alexandre Guilmant

() Indicates that all are invited to stand*

***CALL TO WORSHIP ⁽¹⁾**

One: Beloved, this is the core of our faith: nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: God's never-ending love surrounds us and calls us, assuring us that through God's love, all things work together for God's purposes.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: God's never-breaking love empowers us in the face of temptation, distress, division, and scarcity to hold onto our faith and work together for the flourishing of all God's creation.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: Come, let us worship God who is Love, trusting that through joy and sorrow, happiness and despair, contentment and pain, Love will carry us through.

All: Thanks be to God who forms, connects, and guides us through Love. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” #55 NCH vv.1-3 only**

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

**Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.**

**You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (2)**

**Loving God, help us. When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love,
when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us.
Merciful God, forgive us. When we have been selfish, when we have been mean, when we
have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us.
Powerful God, heal us. When we are so broken we cannot move, when we don't know how
to stop the bleeding of our wounds, when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us.
Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept your grace and to hear your call
to Christ. Amen. *(silent confession)***

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Friends in Christ, hear this Good News and see the grace of God: You are forgiven!
You are free to go and live in the light of love!
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” v.4**

**Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.
Eversingin, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:26-39

Pew Bible pp. 919-920

A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Diane Yanczer

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Take My Life, God, Let It Be” #448 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.

Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.

Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.

Of

Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.

Take my heart, and by your grace make it your dwelling place.

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.

Take me now, and help me be part of Christ’s community.

RESPONDING

We respond to God’s Word through our prayers and our gifts.

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY "The Rising Sun" David Christiansen
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE (tune from "Blessed Assurance)

Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.

Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.

Praise to the Spirit, our strength and friend.

Three-in-One present, world, without end.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMISSIONING HYMN: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"#82 NCH

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you, here with tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Tell Out, My Soul" J. Wayne Kerr

SENDING

With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.

Worship Endnotes

(1) Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2026

(2) Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, Hold Fast to What is Good

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