



Stewardship Sunday
September 20, 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 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" John A. Behnke

() Indicates that all are invited to stand*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (1)

One: We have come in with wandering and lonely hearts.

All: God draws us together in community.

One: We have come in with confusion about sharing our gifts.

All: God offers us clarity and hope.

One: We have come in for a good word.

All: Jesus offers us this calling, "Where our treasure is, there our hearts will be."

*GATHERING HYMN: "For the Fruit of All Creation" #425 *New Century Hymnal* vv.1-2
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For God's gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION ⁽¹⁾

God of both secret and public places, we confess that we don't always know
if our hearts are in the right place.

Our motivations are sometimes self-serving and focused on immediate needs.

Grant us grace and discernment as we seek to align our hearts with our resources.

Renew our church as we strive to connect our ministry with your calling.

(silent confession)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God knows the struggles and worries of our hearts, and pours out grace beyond measure.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE: "For the Fruit of All Creation" v.3

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Pew Bible p.787

A Word of God that is stilling speaking, **thanks be to God.**



www.puertoricoebooks.com

SILENT MEDITATION

LITANY OF GIVING (2)

Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.

You have entrusted us with gifts—time, talent, treasure, and our whole selves--and asked us to use them to build your kingdom. With thanks and praise we respond to your call.

We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity with gratitude.

We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our labors and our love. We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.

We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen!

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

HYMN: “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” #69 *Glory to God Hymnal*

(During the music all are invited to come forward and place pledge forms in the basket and then return to your seat. You may also place your forms in the offering plate or mail to church office.)



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est



made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

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 "Andante" from "Partita on *Hyfrydol*" Charles Callahan
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

RESPONSE OF PRAISE "We Give You But Your Own" #785 *New Century Hymnal
We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

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

***COMMISSIONING HYMN: "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" #565**
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)
God, whose giving know 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 serving, that your will on earth be done:
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, honoring you by loving all.

Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;
From the night of anxious keeping, loose us into generous day.
Then when years on earth are over, and we've lived our human span,
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming, all our stewardship began.

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

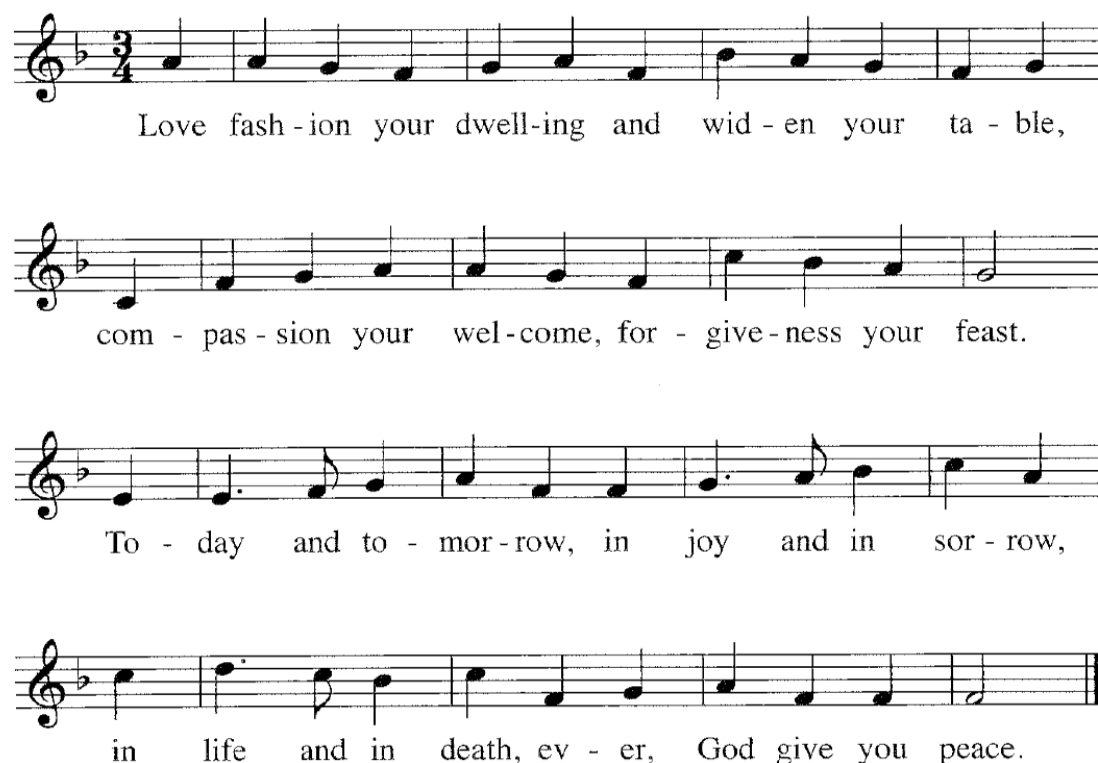
***CHORAL BENEDICTION "God, Bless Us and Keep Us"**

Robert Buckley Farlee,
Text by Susan Ruth Briehl

Choir: *God bless you and keep you and make you a blessing,
a sign of God's mercies outnumbering the stars.
Grace render you grateful, your promises faithful,
the binding of gentle and generous hearts.*

*Hope shine on your path as a beacon of courage,
a light in the darkness, the dawn of your days.
God's kindness uphold you, defend you, and clothe you
in garments of gladness and garlands of praise.*

All:



Love fash-ion your dwell-ing and wid-en your ta-ble,
com-pas-sion your wel-come, for-give-ness your feast.
To-day and to-mor-row, in joy and in sor-row,
in life and in death, ev-er, God give you peace.

POSTLUDE "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" from "Solomon" George F. Handel;
Arr. Colin Hand

Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from UCC 2026 Stewardship materials, liturgical resources by
Rev. Amber Neuroth
 2. Adapted from www.ministrymatters.org
- Music reprinted by permission OneLicense A-722326

