

Sunday Aug 16, 2026
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

We Gather In God's Presence

Welcome

One: Boozhoo (pronounced *boo-zhoo*). Aanii (pronounced *Ah-nee*).
Shekoli (pronounced *Shay-go-lee*). Kwe Kwe (pronounced *Gway Gway*).
Welcome in the name of Christ.

**All: Welcome to this place of worship,
located on land represented by the London Township Treaty of 1796.
These are the traditional territories of the Anishnabewaki,
the Attawandaronk, the Mississauga, and others.**

One: Welcome to this space where God invites us to find sanctuary,
bring ourselves just as we are,
and learn to follow Jesus
as we care for God's creation and for one another.

**All: We gather today to share in song, Word and prayer,
and to celebrate the diversity of God's human family.**

One: In this space, regardless of age, ability, identity, orientation,
ethnicity, or background,
everyone is welcome.

All: We are all welcome here.

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation:

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Prelude: "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

William Waller.
Arr. Cindy Berry

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

All: We walk in the Light of Christ.

Gathering Hymn "Jesus Stand Among Us" VU 396

Words (v 1 and 2), Music; Public Domain.

Words (v 3): Lydia Pedersen.

CCLI

- 1 Jesus, stand among us
 in your risen power;
 let this time of worship
 be a hallowed hour.
- 2 Breathe the Holy Spirit
 into every heart;
 bid the fears and sorrows
 from each soul depart.
- 3 Lead our hearts to wisdom
 till our doubting cease,
 and to all assembled
 speak your word of peace.

Call to Worship

One: We are here in this place gathered to worship our God.

All: We come to lift our voices in song and in prayer and to be filled by the Spirit.

One: We come as those who seek to know one another's names,

All: knowing that it is God who knows us and names us.

One: God is the One who sees us in such a way that we are forever changed.

All: May we open ourselves to God's transforming love.

One: And may we seek to see one another as God sees us.

Gathering Prayer

Hymn Sing

A New Creed VU 918

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 live with respect in Creation,
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.

Learning With All God's Children

Hymn: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" VU 575

Words: Public Domain.

Arrangement: Estate of Wendell Whalum,
c/o Mrs. Clarie G. Whalum

- 1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31

Response to the Word

One: The Living Word of God in scripture.

All: May the Word live among us and within us.

Sermon: "Who Are You?"

Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" VU 271

Words: Frederick William Faber. Music: Johann Ludwig Steiner.
Public Domain.

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
- 2 There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such gracious judgement given.
- 3 There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that Christ has shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
- 4 Troubled souls, why will you scatter
like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will you wander
from a love so true and deep?
- 5 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

Offertory Hymn: VU 544 (tune 625) In Gratitude and Humble Trust

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In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself for us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of God's 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 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn ‘Bless Now, O God the Journey’ VU 633

Words: G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
Music: MCPS Dr. Basil Harwood Royalties c/o Christopher Harwood.
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- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey
 that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
 the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
 and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
 the road where faith is found.
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
 who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors,
 whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
 while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking
 the road where faith is found.
- 3 Divine Eternal Lover,
 you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
 where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places,
 you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
 on roads, as faith is found.

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Response: “Go Now in Peace” (sing x 3) VU 964

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Go now in peace,
go now in peace,
May the love of God
surround you everywhere,
Everywhere you may go.

Postlude: “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

Spiritual. Arr. Cindy Berry