

Spreading the Word And Living The Love Of Jesus

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We Turn Our Hearts to Worship God

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Today, we gather to join our voices with winds and seas, sunshine and rain, mountains and grassy plains to worship God, our Creator.

People: We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.

Leader: We gather to join our hearts with creatures who creep and crawl, slither and squirm, swim and soar, to worship God, our Creator.

People: We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.

Leader: We gather as witnesses of the harm that has been done to God's creation, to the groanings of the earth and all the earth's inhabitants who long for peace and flourishing.

People: We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who strengthens and equips us, guiding us to live out our faith as good stewards of God's good creation.

People: Come, let us worship God who inspires and empowers us to be stewards of hope and redemption in a wounded and hurting world! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2026.

***Opening Hymn**

“God, Whose Love Is Reigning Over Us” #100(UMH)

***Opening Prayer - Unison**

God of grace and love, We rely on Your love extended to us in all ways and at all times, extravagantly and with generosity. We live day by day knowing that Your care and concern is poured out for us in Your provision for our needs and beyond our imagining. You entrust us with the gift of the good news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message of grace. Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come to You to acknowledge and praise You for all Your goodness to us. Amen.

Written by Rev. Nigel Robb

***Passing of the Peace**

Scripture: Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Please use a Bible or a Bible App for the scripture reading.

Leader: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

Rev. Marie Rittenberry

Hymn Of Praise

“Sanctuary” #2164 (FWS)

Special Music

Offering

The offering plates will be passed through the aisles by the ushers. Please place your prayer cards in the plates.

***Doxology Hymn**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #625(HWC)

***Prayer of Dedication**

Song of Prayer

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” # 496 (UMH)

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

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, forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Lord, You Give The Great Commission” #584(UMH)

Postlude

* indicates - please rise in body or spirit



Prayer cards are available in pews. Please place your prayer cards in the offering plate when it is passed.

Prayer Requests & Celebrations

Congregational Concerns:

- Kayci, a student from UMSO, recently lost her friend, Grace LaSell. Please pray for Grace's family and friends as they navigate this difficult time of loss and transition.
- Pastor Mary's great-uncle, Jim Ketcham, passed recently. Please pray for his family during this time.
- For Maya Fisher's grandmother, for healing after a recent surgery.
- For our members who are homebound or reside in nursing care centers.

World Concerns:

- For those in need in our community, country, and worldwide
- For our missionaries serving in our country and other areas around the world



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