

Welcome to Worship! | August 17, 2025 | 10th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Prelude Arioso J.S. Bach

Welcome

Impact Story

*Call to Worship[†] René Sasser

Rejoice in the Lord always.

Joyfully present, we are here!

For God is generous and we are grateful.

I will say it again: Rejoice! The Lord is near.

Joyfully present, prayerfully connected, we are here!

To partner with God and put love into action.

Let us worship God with joy!

*Hymn 1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Call to Confession Rev. Parker Lucas

Prayer of Confession[‡]

Remembering your generosity prompts us to be generous like you and to practice generosity with you for the sake of the world. Remembering your generosity is vital in this covenant relationship. When we forget, we become distant, less likely to spend time with you; less likely to see the goodness in the day and be grateful for it; less likely to trust your generosity; and less likely to show kindness to your people and your creation. Trusting in your mercy, together we silently confess. (Silent confession) Holy God, forgive us. Help us remember to rejoice always, pray continually, and remain gratefully alert to your divine presence in our lives, in the church, and in the world; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Sung Response

(Sung to the tune "Hymn to Joy")

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Philippians 4:4-9

Second Lesson Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon Risky Generosity

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

*Hymn 716 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed (hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

David Hoff

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Offertory Footsteps

arr. Craig Courtney

I see his footsteps in the way, and follow them through the darkest night. Unafraid, I stumble not, in the glow of perfect light, I see. I walk in the footsteps of his love, and find his light leads on before. Then he gently turns to me, softly whispers, "trust me more." I walk, I walk. Then as I follow in his way, my path ahead will brightly shine. For in his path of guiding light, I find his footsteps first, then mine.

*Doxology 606

*Prayer of Dedication+

Generous God, over and over and over again, you bestow your gifts upon us. You drop them into our lives, then our hearts overflow in gladness, and—like ripples in a tidal pool—we respond by spreading our time, our talent, and our treasures outward. Through our offering, may we, like you, be the pebble that begins the ripple; through our prayers, may we, with you, be the water that carries it onward; and through our actions, may we, for you, be the vessel that spreads your love, now and forever more. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*Charge and Benediction

*Dismissal We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that

God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life goes with us.

Postlude Toccata Douglas E. Wagner

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington Associate Pastor, Rev. Parker Lucas Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger Choir Director, Angela Burns Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant Adult Choir Production Coordinator, Jim Fox Lay Reader, Brian Lanier

[†]Liturgy written by Randy Warner ‡Adapted from the writing of Karl B. Travis in *God's Gift of Generosity: Gratitude Beyond Stewardship* ‡Prayer of Dedication written by the Capital Campaign Prayer Team

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.