

ORDER OF WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

WELCOME

Pastor Kelli

PRELUDE

Dr. Daniel Cummings

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Abbey Reed

Friends, please rise to your feet, or rise in your heart, as we offer our Call to Worship before God.

Come, people of God, for our generous God calls each of us into the work of the kin-dom.

We come grateful for God's grace and love.

God's blessings are not earned but freely given.

We come trusting in God's mercy, not our own deserving.

In Christ, there is room for all, and grace enough for everyone.

We come to rejoice in God's abundant generosity.

Let us worship the God whose love is greater than our understanding.

We come with thankful hearts to praise the Lord. Amen.

Please remaining standing for our Gathering Hymn,

*HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise UMH 103

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Jacob

Klump

You may be seated [pause for folx to settle.]

My name is Jacob Klump and my pronouns are he/him.

Friends, please join me as we pray together our prayer for transformation and new life.

God of grace and generosity, thank you for loving us beyond what we deserve. Forgive us when we compare ourselves to others, keep score, or forget that your grace is a gift. Free us from envy and judgment. Fill our hearts with gratitude, that we may rejoice in your blessings and share your love with all people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jacob

Klump

Siblings in Christ, hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. God's mercy is greater than our failures, and God's generosity is greater than we can imagine. Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jacob Klump

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us exchange signs of Christ's peace with one another.

***HYMN** I Have Decided to Follow Jesus TFWS 2129

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Abbey Reed

Please remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.

Today's Scripture Lesson is the parable of The Laborers in the Vineyard in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter twenty, verses one through sixteen, from The Message.

One: Listen for the Word of God.

All: Our ears are open.

Matthew 20:1-16

¹⁻² "God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work.

³⁻⁵ "Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went.

⁵⁻⁶ "He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?'

⁷ "They said, 'Because no one hired us.'

"He told them to go to work in his vineyard.

⁸ "When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.'

⁹⁻¹² "Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.'

¹³⁻¹⁵ "He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to

the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

¹⁶“Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first.”

One: Friends, this is the Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

You may be seated.

(11:00) ANTHEM Let Us Not Become Weary Benjamin Kornelius
Chancel Choir/Amanda Porter, soprano

SERMON Parables of Jesus: Laborers in the Vineyard

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** For the Fruit of All Creation Ar Hyd Y Nos
For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

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.

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)
Tune: Welsh melody (PD)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Abbey Reed

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Abbey Reed

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, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Abbey Reed

Everything we have is a gift from our generous God. In gratitude for the grace and mercy we have received, we now offer a portion of those gifts to God's work in the world. May our offerings become signs of God's love, bringing hope, healing, and welcome to our neighbors.

OFFERTORY Ain't Got Time to Die Hall Johnson/arr. Purifoy Dr.
Karen Marroli, mezzo-soprano

***DOXOLOGY** Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94

HOLY COMMUNION UMH 17

Invitation to the Table

Pastor Kelli

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

From the beginning, you have called your people
to walk in your ways of love and grace.
When we wandered, you welcomed us home.
When we turned away, you remained faithful, always inviting us into the joy of
your kingdom.

Jacob Klump

And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.
 Jesus taught with stories that revealed your kingdom,
 welcomed all who would come,
 and called people to lives of grace and love.
 Through his life, death, and resurrection, you overcame sin and death
 and opened the way to abundant and everlasting life.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us,
Abbey Reed
 he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
 poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ's offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died;
 Christ is risen;
 Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
Pastor Kelli
 and on these gifts of bread and cup.
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
 redeemed by his love and sent by his grace.

Open our eyes to see our neighbors.
 Open our hearts to receive your grace.
 Open our hands to share your generosity.
 Teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven,
 to welcome as we have been welcomed,

and to rejoice whenever your love changes a life.

By your Spirit, unite us with Christ, with one another,
and with all your people in every time and place,
until we gather at your heavenly banquet,
where every tear is wiped away,
every outcast is welcomed home,
and your kingdom comes in all its fullness.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Abbey Reed

***SENDING HYMN**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

UMH 127

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

People of God, hear the good news: God's grace is greater than we can earn, measure, or imagine. Go into the world trusting in the generosity of God's love.

May God the Father fill you with gratitude for every good gift.

May Jesus Christ free you from comparison and lead you in the way of grace.

And may the Holy Spirit give you generous hearts, ready to love and serve all people.

We go in peace to love and serve our neighbors, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit—one God, the Mother of us all. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Dr. Daniel Cummings