

A Service of Song, Word, & Table
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
October 5, 2025

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

(11:00) “Just Jazz” PreService Music Jazz to Go (Linda Davidson,
Flute; Robert Lah, Piano; David Parlato, Bass; Cal Haines, Drums)

Nostalgia in Times Square
Lotus Blossom
Contemplation/Footprints

Mingus/Arr. Lah
Dorham/Arr. Lah
Tyner-Shorter/Arr. Lah

PRELUDE

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

(11:00) Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown
Jazz to Go

Scottish Folk/Arr. Lah

CALL TO WORSHIP / LLAMADO A LA ADORACIÓN LÍDER:

Vengan todos los que están sentados junto a ríos de tristeza, quienes han abandonado la esperanza y se preguntan si Dios canta todavía.

We come carrying exile in our bones, dislocation in our hearts, and longing in our prayers.

Esta es la mesa en la honramos el recuerdo, donde la historia es sagrada, donde los desconocidos se convierten en familia.

We come to taste and see that the Lord is good, to feast on grace, to believe again in belonging.

En todo el mundo, a través de lenguas y paisajes, se ha puesto una mesa santa.

We come not because we are worthy, but because Christ calls us in love.

ALL: Come, let us worship the One who welcomes, the One who remembers, the One who feeds the whole world with hope.

*** HYMN**

I Come With Joy (vs 1-4)

UMH 617

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 17:20-23

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

Abbey Reed

MUSICAL RESPONSE

For Everyone Born

Mann, arr. Trenney

Marshal Hollingsworth, baritone

PASTORAL PRAYER

God of the rivers and the wilderness, of Babylon and Jerusalem, we come to you today with the deep ache of a world that still knows displacement. We pray for all who are wandering, refugees fleeing war, immigrants seeking welcome, souls lost in systems that forget their name. May they find rest. May they find home. We pray for the ones whose faith feels the size of a mustard seed, tiny, unsure, overwhelmed. May they know that even the smallest act of trust can plant forests of transformation. Help us show up, as servants, as neighbors, as those willing to set the table for others. We lift up those in sorrow, those grieving loss, carrying illness, navigating fractured relationships. Hold their brokenness with tenderness. Bring healing where healing can come, and peace where it cannot. We pray for the church universal, each congregation celebrating Communion this day, each voice singing in their own key of grace. Let our unity not erase our difference, but celebrate it, a foretaste of the kingdom where every tribe, every language, every story has a place. And God, where the world breaks trust and justice is delayed, let your Spirit stir us toward equity, let your church rise to embody compassion, and let your table always remain open, never guarded. In the name of Christ who breaks bread with the broken, we pray. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

REGATHERING HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together (vs 1,3) UMH 618

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, you have set a table that stretches from Charlotte to Kinshasa, from Bogotá to Seoul. You have fed us with grace and invited us into your holy community of justice and joy. So now, we offer back to you a portion of what we have received. May our gifts, of money, time, and lives, be used to extend your welcome, to build tables in places long denied a feast, and to nourish hope in hearts

still waiting for home. Bless and multiply these gifts for your glory and your people. Amen.

OFFERTORY

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

(11:00) Just a Closer Walk

arr. Jack Schrader

Chancel

Choir and Jazz to Go

DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

TFWS 2257 b,c,d

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

How lonely was chaos, Gardener of the Universe,
until you spoke a Word, and your Spirit created:

leaves that burnish gold and red in autumn,

snow that drifts lazily in winter skies,

frozen brooks that burst in spring,

ponds splashing with children in summer.

You planted the seeds of joy in our ancestors
hoping they would pass them onto us,

but they walked sin's lonely streets

and drank the bitter tears death offered.

Though the prophets came

to remind us of your great faithfulness,

we continued to feast on the

wormwood and gall offered by the world.

But you would not forget us,

and so sent Jesus to bring us home to you.

Therefore we join our voices,

as we sing of your mercies

made fresh in every moment:

Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. (3x) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

You alone are holy, heart Speaker,
and we are blessed through Jesus, life's Promise.
When we would wander the lonely streets of the world,
 he would take us by the hand,
 to lead us into your joy.
When others would pass on
bitterness and hate to us,
 he fills us with the gifts
 of hope and love.
Splashing in sin's puddles,
 he washed our feet
 and dried them with his love,
 leading us into the kingdom.
Daughters of despair, sons of sadness,
orphans of woe -
 he gathers us all up
 in his arms of mercy
 wiping out death,
 and sits us down
 at the family Table.

As we remember his grace and love,
as we dare not forget his sacrifice for us,
we sing of that mystery we call faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

Holy Spirit,
as we offer the gifts
of the bread and the cup
for your blessing,
so we present ourselves:
 our accomplishments, our failings,
 our hopes, our realities.
Make us weak,
 so we might rely

on your strength.
As we have heard the Word,
may we listen
to the cries of the poor.
As we are family
with those sitting beside us today,
may we love our sisters and brothers
in every corner of creation.
As you hold out
the bread and the cup to us,
may we reach out to enemies
to clasp hands as friends.

God in Community, Holy in One,
all honor and glory are yours,
as we sing our praises through all eternity:

LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN IN YOUR HEART LANGUAGE)

**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.**

R3 Amen, amen, amen. Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

(11:0) Domine, Domine

Taize/Arr. Lah Jazz to Go

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*** SENDING HYMN** One Bread, One Body UMH 620

BENEDICTION

Go now as those who have been fed, not only with bread and cup, but with remembrance, mercy, and the wild welcome of Christ. Let your faith, even if only a mustard seed, uproot indifference, plant compassion, and prepare a place for someone else to be seen, to be heard, to be healed. Wherever you go, Babylon or

Jerusalem, downtown or dirt road, may you carry the table with you. And may the Spirit of God go before you to stir courage, walk beside you to offer peace, and dwell within you to keep setting the table of grace. Go in love, go in justice, go in belonging. Amen.

POSTLUDE

(8:30) Dr. Daniel Cummings, piano

(11:00) Up, Up And Away

Webb/Arr. Lah

Jazz to Go