



August 23, 2026 | 11:00 | Traditional Worship

ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

Assisted listening devices are available in the sound booth.

PRELUDE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Arr. Don Hustad

† CALL TO WORSHIP

† Indicates the congregation should stand.

L: God calls us to worship today. He gives us the best ways to live.

P: It is hard to live as God commands. We stumble and fall short.

L: Yet God's ways bring fullness and light to our days. His words guide our feet safely.

P: We are all God's chosen people. His commands help us treat each other with love.

L: Come, let us walk in His truth and praise His holy name.

P: We are ready to hear God's word and walk together in His light.

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 98

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

† PRAYER

Holy and loving God, we gather today thankful for the perfect boundary lines You set for our lives. Your commandments are not rules that hold us back, but a map that leads us forward into true freedom, peace, and love. Open our ears to hear Your truth, open our minds to understand Your wisdom, and open our hearts to love our neighbors just as You love us. Fill this sanctuary with Your Holy Spirit, and empower us to leave this place ready to walk in Your light every single day. In Your holy and life-giving name, we pray. Amen.

† PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. As Christ welcomes everyone, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Now greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

L: The peace of Christ is here among us.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

The Church is of God, and will be preserved to the end of time, for the conduct of worship and the due administration of God's Word and Sacraments, the maintenance of Christian fellowship and discipline, the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world. All, of every age and station, stand in need of the means of grace which the church supplies.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you reject all that is evil, repent of your sin, and accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in what ever forms they present themselves? **I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? **I do.**

Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to keep God's holy will and commandments and walk in the same all the days of your life as faithful members of Christ's holy Church? **I do.**

The vow of the congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ. **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life, include Momo now before you in your care, and surround her with a community of love and forgiveness? **We will.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Eternal Father, Your mighty acts of salvation have been made known through water – from the moving of Your Spirit upon the waters of creation, to the deliverance of Your people through the flood and through the Red Sea. In the fullness of time, You sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb, baptized by John, and anointed by Your Spirit. He called His disciples to share in the baptism of His death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations. Pour out Your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and Momo who will receive it through Jesus Christ our Lord.

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Momo, do you desire to be baptized? **I do**

Momo, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Momo, may the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God, I commend Momo to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love. **Amen.**

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

CALL TO THE WORD

Looking deeper into the commandment against stealing, we find that it protects more than just physical property; it guards the fundamental dignity, time, and trust we owe to one another. We steal from others when we withhold fair wages, waste someone else's time, exploit resources at the expense of future generations, or strip away a person's reputation through gossip. Ultimately, this boundary invites us to shift from a mindset of scarcity and taking to one of gratitude and generosity. By honoring what belongs to our neighbor—including their dignity and peace of mind—we cultivate a community rooted in mutual respect and Christ-like love.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 20:1-4a; 7-10a; 12-15

¹Then God spoke all these words, ²"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴"You shall not make for yourself an idol,

⁷"You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal."

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

You Shall Not Steal – The Eighth Commandment

Pastor Markus Wegenast

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF RESPONSE 410

I Want a Principle Within

GERALD

vv. 1, 3

Worshippers may choose to use a hymnal for this less familiar hymn.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Covenant Choir

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

Music by Dan Forrest

† DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giving God, as we offer our gifts to You, we are reminded of Your call to step out into the world and make a difference. Give us courage and wisdom as we engage with the world around us, sharing Your love and truth with others. Bless these offerings, that they may support ministries and missions that reach out to those in need. Empower us to be Your hands and feet in the world, shining Your light wherever we go. We ask this in the name of Christ Who taught us to pray:

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.

GO FORTH WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† RECESSIONAL HYMN 605

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

Arr. by Don Hustad

Music and Streaming Licenses: CCLI #2501769 | OneLicense #A-735406

Scripture readings are New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE) unless otherwise noted.

IN WORSHIP TODAY

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Kathy and Rick Huff in honor of their wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Markus Wegenast, *Senior Pastor*

Mary Stapleton, *Acolyte*

Evan Capozza, Rebekah Travis, *Lay Readers*

Joe Galyon, *Director of Worship and Arts*

Covenant Choir, *Musicians*

David Eberhardt, *Director of Contemporary Worship*

Joy Delker, *Video Mixer*

TELL US YOU'RE HERE

Thank you for worshiping with us. Please use the yellow communication sheet or this QR code to tell us you are here and to share prayer requests. If worshiping online, use [this link](#).



See www.cos-umc.org for more information about our ministries.