Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
November 8, 2026 Proper 27

Prayer written by Kim Jaynes.

PRELUDE "Prelude of Thanksgiving" Charles Callahan Ashlee Glaspy, flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We worship God, who rules the earth and everything in it.

People: God has overcome the evil of this world; no matter what happens, God will prevail.

Pastor: Praise God, our hope, both now and forever.

HYMN #370 "This Is My Father's World"

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Guide: God, we see your hand all around us: in colored leaves against bright blue skies, in water flowing over ancient stones, in acorns and berries that provide winter food for your hungry creatures.

People: These signs remind us of your authority, but our trust in you still sometimes wavers. When evil seems to have the upper hand, we forget that your Son conquered death so we may live in hope.

Guide: Forgive us, Lord, for living as if we are powerless. Forgive us for acting as if you don't matter. Hear our individual confessions as we lay them before you.

- *Silent Confessions* -

Guide: Keep us focused on the hope of your promises according to the prayer your Son taught us: ***"Our Father…" p. 35 in hymnal (debts/debtors)***

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: Through the life and death of Jesus, we are not bound by the darkness in this world because we know God's love will triumph in the end. Praise be to God!

CHORAL RESPONSE ***(in unison)***

#582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

ANTHEM "Lead Me, Lord" by Becker/Hayes w/Ashlee Glaspy, flute

FAMILY SERMON Joy Bornhoeft

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Fill our minds with your thoughts, Lord, so we may understand and live in your truth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 Brothers and sisters, we want you to know about people who have died so that you won't mourn like others who don't have any hope.
14 Since we believe that Jesus died and rose, so we also believe that God will bring with him those who have died in Jesus.
15 What we are saying is a message from the Lord: we who are alive and still around at the Lord's coming definitely won't go ahead of those who have died.
16 This is because the Lord himself will come down from heaven with the signal of a shout by the head angel and a blast on God's trumpet. First, those who are dead in Christ will rise.
17-18 Then, we who are living and still around will be taken up together with them in the clouds to meet with the Lord in the air. That way we will always be with the Lord. So encourage each other with these words.
All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Matthew 25:1-13

1-2 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten young bridesmaids who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. Now five of them were wise, and the other five were foolish.

3-4 The foolish ones took their lamps but didn't bring oil for them. But the wise ones took their lamps and also brought containers of oil.
5-6 "When the groom was late in coming, they all became drowsy and went to sleep. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Look, the groom! Come out to meet him.'
7-8 "Then all those bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. But the foolish bridesmaids said to the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps have gone out.'
9 "But the wise bridesmaids replied, 'No, because if we share with you, there won't be enough for our lamps and yours. We have a better idea. You go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'
10 But while they were gone to buy oil, the groom came. Those who were ready went with him into the wedding. Then the door was shut.
11-13 "Later the other bridesmaids came and said, 'Lord, lord, open the door for us.' "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' "Therefore, keep alert, because you don't know the day or the hour.
All: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

SERMON **"Hopeful Preparation" Pastor Joseph**

HYMN #353 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

MINUTE FOR MISSION Angel Tree - Erin McCallum

OFFERTORY "My Hope is Built On Nothing Less" David Johnson

***OFFERING** (*in unison*) "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door;
Open wide our hands in sharing as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

DEDICATION (unison)
Father God, may we share generously out of what we have, confident that you will cover all of our needs. Amen.

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF ELDER CLASS OF 2029

Statement on Ordination

Affirmation of Faith (Composed by the Elder Class of 2029)

Constitutional Questions for the Elders-Elect

Constitutional Questions for the Congregation
Elder: Do we, the members of the church, accept Philip Watkins, Cynthia House, and David Snodgrass as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? If so, say "we do."
People: We do.
Elder: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? If so, say "we do."
People: We do.

Prayer of Ordination

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

CLOSING HYMN #819 "Be Still My Soul"

BENEDICTION Pastor Joseph

DOXOLOGY (*in unison*) #606

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.

POSTLUDE "A Joyous Acclamation" Lani Smith

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

God is free to work through anyone regardless of whether they "belong" to a church. As a community of faith, we have the opportunity to watch and witness what God is doing, and to participate in it as well. How have you seen God at

work in our church? Where have you seen God at work outside of our church? How can you use your gifts to respond to God?

Monday I Corinthians 14:20-25

Tuesday Jeremiah 31:31-34

Wednesday Proverbs 11:1-20

Thursday Psalm 90:1-8, 12

Friday Judges 2:16-23

Saturday Esther 4:10-14

Sunday Matthew 25:14-30