



August 23, 2026
Time after Pentecost
The Reverend Jenny Anderson

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

**All who are able, standing*

ENTRANCE

GATHERING

After the gathering, a bell will ring to signal the beginning of worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

A Peal of Bells

* HYMN

731 Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Austria

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near!
Thus deriving from our banner
light by night and shade by day,

safe we feed upon the manna
which God gives us when we pray.

Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in our Redeemer's blood;
Jesus, whom our souls rely on,
makes us monarchs, priests to God.
Us, by his great love, he raises,
rulers over self to reign,
and as priests his solemn praises
we for thankful offering bring.

* GREETING

Blessed be the Lord!

**Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.**

* OPENING PRAYER

God of Miriam and Moses,
you are our help from age to age.
Accept our worship, our living sacrifice,
and transform us by your Spirit,
that, being many members of one true body,
we may dare to pray together
in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

* THE PEACE

* ACT OF PRAISE

70 Glory Be to the Father

Meineke

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Open wide the window of our spirits, O Lord,
and fill us full of light;
open wide the door of our hearts,
that we may receive and entertain thee
with all our powers of adoration and love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Old Testament p. 61

PSALM

Psalm 124

*No Response**UMH* p. 846

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side-
 let Israel now say-
if it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when foes rose up against us,
then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;
 then the flood would have swept us away,
 the torrent would have gone over us;
then the raging waters
would have gone over us.
 Blessed be the Lord,
 who has not given us
 as prey to their teeth!
We have escaped as a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;
 the snare is broken,
 and we have escaped!
Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

* HYMN

559 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today!
With thy faithful loving-kindness
hear thy people as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,

and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father,
laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

New Testament p. 22

SERMON

Who Do You Say I Am?

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Modern Affirmation

UMH p. 885

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

My God is a Rock

spiritual, arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

* DOXOLOGY

95 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old 100th

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.

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN

368 My Hope is Built

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
 than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
 I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
 but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

*On Christ the solid rock I stand,
 all other ground is sinking sand;
 all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face,
 I rest on his unchanging grace.
 In every high and stormy gale,
 my anchor holds within the veil.

Refrain

His oath, his covenant, his blood
supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!
Refrain

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

* POSTLUDE

Festive Scherzo

Malcom Archer

Ministry of Worship

Preacher	Reverend Jenny Anderson
Liturgist	Lee Herndon
Lay Reader	Alison Wright
Greeters	Paula Matson, Joan Piercy
Ushers	Chip Matson, Warren Spooner
Acolyte	Micah Quattlebaum
Crucifer	Josh Scraper
Organist and Director of Music	Jamie Council Garvey
Soloist	Jamal Bogan
Offering Counter	Mary Ottinger
Worship Technicians	Donald Tilton, Adam Kuehl

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Weekly Stewardship	
2026 Budget	\$631,305
Weekly Giving	\$7,704
YTD Giving	\$277,409
YTD Other Income	\$70,876
YTD Expenses	\$386,477
Attendance 8/16	Sanctuary: 115 Online: 27

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St. John United Methodist Church

St. John is a welcoming and affirming congregation.

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