



September 7, 2025
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

I've Found a Friend

Stebbins

Call to Worship

Carolyn Nash

Did you hear the whisper of God calling us to worship?

God, help us listen as you call.

Do you sense the beautiful people

God is creating us to become?

God, help us to see your image within.

Are we ready to listen, learn, and grow?

God, open our hearts and minds

to your loving and challenging guidance.

Opening Prayer

Creator God, you have crafted us in your image

and created us for greatness,

as we share your love, justice, and compassion.

Help us to live into this creation.

Strengthen us, as we seek to answer your call.

When we go astray,

guide us back to your ways.

When we fall apart, put us back together again.

When we shrink in fear, lift our heads,

that we may see your love and grace

welcoming us home. Amen.

Hymn

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

View words on last page

Passing the Peace of Christ

Carolyn Nash

Let's welcome one another, not as strangers or even friends, but as beloved sisters and brothers in Christ. Let us pass the peace of Christ to our brothers and sisters.

Children's Message

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

Try Jesus, Man of Galilee

Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Introduction to God's Word

God's plans may be incomprehensible, but God's word is not. Okay, sometimes it seems like it is. But let's give it a try. Let's open our hearts and minds to what God may be offering us today, trusting that God will speak the truths we most need to hear.

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

15 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **2** By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. **6** After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. **7** Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, **8** and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. **10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. **11** Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Response to the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

***Hymn**

View words on last page

Thy Word is a Lamp

UMH 601

Sermon

"Back to Basics"

Pastor Larry

Invitation to the Offering

Carolyn Nash

Created by God to give and to share, let's give and share with love and generosity, not just in this time of offering, but in the days and weeks ahead.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Morning Hymn

Zea

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* Prayer of Dedication

Carolyn Nash

Gracious God, you have blessed us beyond measure;

you have entrusted us as partners

to care for your world.

Bless these gifts and our very lives.

Transform everything we are in this life

into offerings that bring your love to the world.

Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor Larry

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING with Music Response

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us, 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,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
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 blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**

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.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymn

View words on last page

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396

Prayer of Thanksgiving (All Praying)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GOING FORTH WITH JOY

***Closing Hymn**

Here I am, Lord

UMH 593

View last page for words

***Benediction**

Pastor Larry

***Choral Benediction**

Shalom to You

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.

May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,

Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Webb

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

*O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!*

*2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.*

*3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.*

*4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.*

THY WORD IS A LAMP

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

*When I feel afraid
Think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end*

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

*I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to your side
I will love you to the end*

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

*O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.*

*2. O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.*

*3. O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.*

*4. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.*

HERE I AM, LORD

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.*

*I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them.
Whom shall I send?*

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.*

*I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?*

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?*

***Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.***