

September 13, 2026
16th Sunday after Pentecost



Leading Worship Today:

Preacher: Brian Entz

Lay Leader: Eric Ellwoods

Accompanist: Ralph Johansen

*Please read along with all **Bold** text
All are invited to stand when there is an **

Larger Print: Please see an usher if you would like larger print hymns.

PRELUDE/CHORAL INTROIT

Shout to the Lord

arr. Raney

Pat Olsen, piano Ralph Johansen, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*I have taken in the light
that quickened eye and leaf.
May my brain be bright with praise
of what I eat, in the brief blaze
of motion and of thought.
May I be worthy of my meat.
-Prayer after Eating, by Wendell Berry*

GATHERING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 115

Not for our sake, God, no, not for our sake,

but for your name's sake, show your glory.

Do it on account of your merciful love,

do it on account of your faithful ways.

Do it so none of the nations can say,

"Where now, oh where is their God?"

***OPENING HYMN**

#503 Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. Trusting in God's grace let us make our confession.

Holy One, our Creator, you have called all things into being and called all people to faith. We confess that we have held other gods as the principle devotion of our lives and other values as the motivation for our actions. Too often we have judged those who are different from us, too often we treated others with less than the dignity they deserve.

Have mercy on us, O God, and renew in us a right relationship with you and with all our neighbors. Set us again on the way of Jesus, our shepherd and friend. Amen.

As water is poured into the font remember your baptism and that in these waters your sins are forgiven and you are named as one of God's beloved and joined to Christ forever.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the waters of baptism, God pours out mercy and blessing. Know that we are forgiven, and be at peace. **Thanks be to God, Alleluia!**

***RESPONSE**

#581 The Gloria Patri

**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.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*The people may exchange with their neighbors, by words or gesture,
signs of peace and reconciliation.*

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Awaken us to your glory this morning, O God, as we open the scriptures again. May we know you in the reading of the word and be refreshed by your presence in its preaching. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

#822 When We Are Living

THIRD READING

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who

eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Brian Entz

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Be Still and Know

McCormick



*“Let us present ourselves to God
as those who have been delivered from death to life.”
To contribute to our mission and ministry online, please scan the QR code.*

*DOXOLOGY

#606 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

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

*OFFERING PRAYER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

#552

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Now as Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

People: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is for the hungry and thirsty. It's a feast for those seeking God, in Christ, to be nourished for the life of love to which God calls us all. So come, eat, drink, and meet our Lord Jesus.

*Please come forward to receive the elements. As you are served the bread you may eat it and as you are served the cup you may drink it. Please place your empty cup in the container provided. After you have been served you may return to your seat. **All bread is gluten/top 8 allergen free and all cups contain grape juice**, so that all people may eat the same loaf and drink from the same cup. Those unable to come forward to receive the elements will be served in their seat. We trust that as we are gathered around Christ's table in faith we are also gathered in the Spirit with Christ and surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.*

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN

#65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BLESSING SONG

A Benediction of Peace

Sorenson

Ashton Olsen soprano sax Ralph Johansen, piano

*Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus*WORSHIP NOTES

The Call to Worship is taken from Psalm 115, The Message.

All other liturgy comes/is adapted from the Book of Common Worship (2018) or is written in house.

Shout to the Lord Words and Music by Darlene Zschech Arranged by Joel Raney *Shout to the Lord* ©1993 and this Arr. ©2007 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing *Lord I Lift Your Name on High* ©1989 and this arr. 2007 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Sole selling agent of this 2007 arrangement: Hope Publishing Company

#503 Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation | Fred Pratt Green, 1977, alt., Paris Antiphoner, 1681; harm. La Feillée's Méthode du plain-chant, 1808, Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

#822 When We Are Living | Stanza 1, anon; English trans. Elise S. Eslinger, 1983; stanzas 2–4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983; English trans. George Lockwood, 1987, Spanish melody; arr. Barbara C. Mink, 1988, English Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company) || Spanish Text Sts. 2–4 © 1983 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company) Music Arr. © 1988 Barbara C. Mink (admin. Community of Christ)

Be Still and Know Clifford McCormick ©1959, SHAWNEE PRESS, Inc.

#65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah | William Williams, 1762; stanza 1, trans. Peter Williams, 1771; stanzas 2–3, trans. William Williams, 1772, John Hughes, 1907, Public domain

A Benediction of Peace Words and Music by Heather Sorenson ©2018 by HAL LEONARD LLC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women of Faith: We are taking a break and are tentatively resuming September 17th.

Watercolor Event: Join us for a fun and relaxing afternoon of watercolor painting and fellowship! Please sign up outside the BPC office.

Date: September 19th

Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Love INC Fundraiser: The annual fundraiser for Love INC will be held on Saturday October 10th from 6-8pm at the St. Francis Xavier School in Buffalo. The event is free to attend and dinner is included. If you are interested in going please talk to Pastor Brian in order to get a ticket.

Immigration Aid Collection: Thank you for your on-going support for our immigrant neighbors. Now, we have an opportunity to support our neighbors who are able to return to work, but are in need of assistance with food. We are looking for **donations of vegetable / cooking oil and Maseca corn flour**. Donations can be dropped off in the bin outside Fellowship Hall. Thank you for being a blessing to so many in our community!

Today September 13	9:30am: Worship with Communion 10:30am: CCC Field Notes for Wilderness Conversation
Monday September 14	5:00pm: Fellowship Committee
Tuesday September 15	9:00am: Crafty Ladies 9:00am: Guy's Breakfast 6:30pm: Session Meeting

Wednesday September 16	7:00pm: Choir
Thursday September 17	7:30am: People of Faith 10:00am: Women of Faith 5:30pm: Racial Justice Reading Group 7:30pm: Communication Committee
Saturday September 19	1:00pm: Watercolor Event
Sunday September 20	9:30am: Worship 10:30am: CCC Vanderheidens share on Australia trip 11:30am: Faith Formation Committee

How Can We Pray for You?

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests:



Along with the blue prayer request cards found in the pews you can also submit prayer requests on the BPC website. Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to be taken directly to the prayer request form. All prayer requests go directly to Pastor Brian.

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests.

BPC Prayer List:

- Rich Dahl
- Christy Wood
- Dennis Stanley, fighting cancer
- Anne Marie Wille, Bonnie Morek's daughter
- Dennis Sletten, friend of Diane
- Sherry Sletten, friend of Diane
- Lois Lindstrom
- Madree
- Jim, Elaine Thole's brother, following a diagnosis
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter

- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins
- Cassie & Bryce Taylor, grandson of Lanny and Shirley Taylor
- Louise Markve
- Don Eddy
- Joseph Wille, Bonnie Morek's grandson
- Windi Willette
- Tony
- Allen, father of Jennifer Glauvitz
- The Grady Family (friends of Theresa) upon the loss of their father
- Dennis, Kate, Alicia, & Dan Vanderheiden (Del's family)
- Gloria & Daniel Elliott (Bonnie Moreks brother's wife)
- Nancy Grittman
- Sandy Anderson and family following Steve Anderson's death
- Marcy, Peggy Hunter's sister-in-law
- James Doth

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

503

1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,
 2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion;
 3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing,

cho - sen by you, to be count - ed your friends;
 give it your seal of for - give - ness and grace;
 vows are re - newed and our cour - age re - stored,

yours is the strength that sus - tains ded - i - ca - tion;
 teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,
 may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing

ours, a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.
 Lord, in your king - dom, what - ev - er our place.
 all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as "the repeatable part of baptism," and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord's Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

When We Are Living

822

Pues si vivimos

1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,*
 2 *En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar*
 3 *En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,*
 4 *En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá*



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em-brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

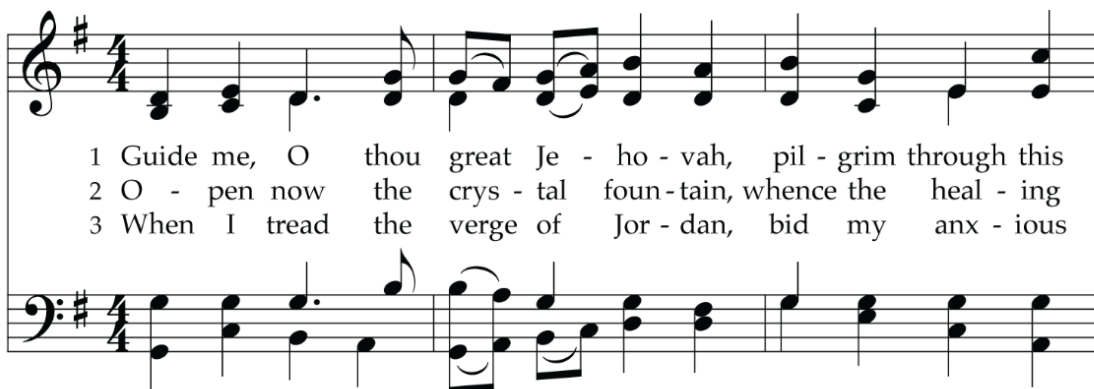
Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



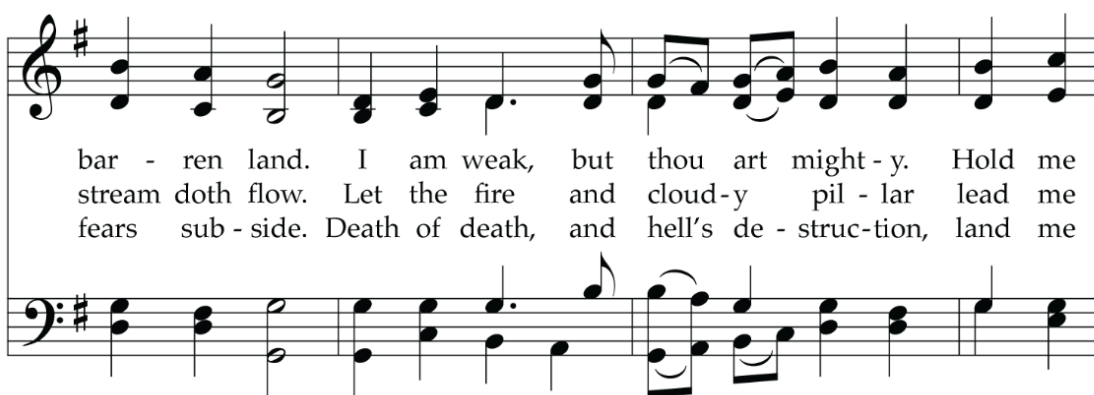
we be-long to God; we be-long to God.
so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7–8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.

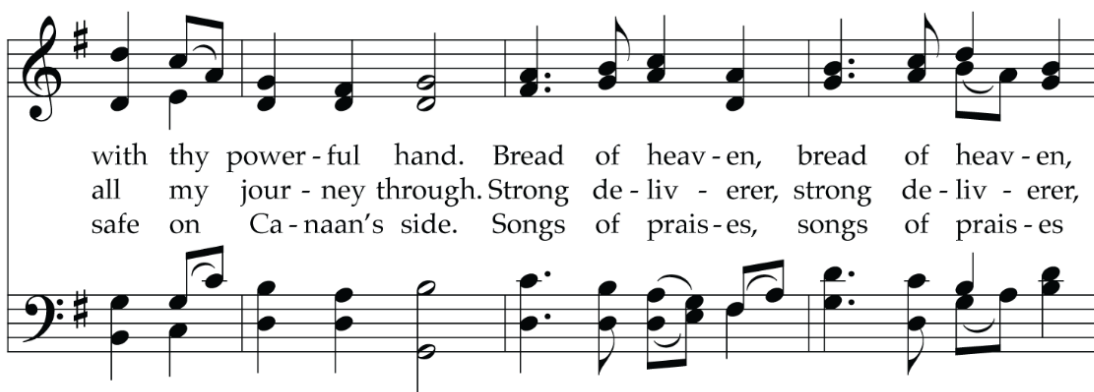
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.