

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome

Bringing of the Light and the Bell of Mindfulness
(Please use this time for quiet reflection.)

Prelude

Rev. Chris Michael

Ann Jeannette Pierce, piano

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Conrad Kocher

Arr. Joel Raney

*Call to Worship

One: Gathered as God's people, we come to worship together:

All: singing praises to the One who loves us, opening our hearts to the One who calls us.

One: Called to be followers of Jesus, we come to share our lives together:

All: to celebrate the joys of our hearts, to mingle our tears with God's.

One: Challenged to become partners with the Spirit, we will seek peace and hope:

All: offering our food to our enemies, giving a drink of water to those who have drained our souls.

Pam Woodward

*Hymn #622

“Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah” (vs. 1 & 3)

*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

(using “debts” and “debtors”)

Pam Woodward

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 33:1-9

Pam Woodward

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Blessing

Ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited forward for a blessing, then will be escorted to Worship and Wonder (located at the end of the first floor education wing)

Rev. Chris Michael

Pastoral Prayer

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Choral Anthem

“One Song in Praise”

Words and Music by Mary McDonald

Rev. Chris Michael

FCC Choir

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 9:9-13

Rev. Chris Michael

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Mercy, Not Sacrifice”

Rev. Chris Michael

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Chris Michael

*Hymn #452

“Here I Am, Lord” (vs. 1 & 3)

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

Preparation for the Offering

Offertory

Rev. Chris Michael

Ann Jeannette Pierce, piano

"Grace Greater than Our Sin"

Daniel B. Towner

Arr. Bill Wolaver

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts (Page 46)

*Dedication Prayer

Rev. Chris Michael

RENEWING THE COVENANT IN THE LORD’S SUPPER

We are one in Christ, let everyone share in this communion without regard for denominational affiliation.

You are invited to take the cup and bread after your prayers.

Invitation to Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Aloma Dew & Anne Carlisle

Communion Music

"Nearer, Still Nearer"

Lelia N. Morris

Arr. Heather Sorenson

Ann Jeannette Pierce, piano

GOING IN PEACE TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

*Benediction

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Rev. Chris Michael

*Please stand if you are able.

Scripture Reading

First Reading - Psalm 33:1-9

¹ Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.
Praise befits the upright.

² Praise the Lord with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

³ Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

⁴ For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.

⁵ He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

⁶ By the word of the Lord the heavens were made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

⁷ He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.

⁸ Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,

⁹ for he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.

Second Reading - Matthew 9:9-13

⁹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners.”