



Service of Worship August 17, 2025 9:30am  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Change My Heart, Oh God”

by Eddie Espinosa

All

**Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, oh God. May I be like you. (2x)**

**You are the potter. I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.  
Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, of God. May I be like you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Deuteronomy 6:4–9)

ONE: Hear, O people of God: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**ALL: We will love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, and  
with all our strength.**

ONE: We will keep these words in our hearts.

**ALL: We will teach them to our children, and speak of them in our daily lives.**

ONE: When we are at home and when we are away, when we lie down and  
when we rise —

**ALL: We will remember and live God’s Word, written on our hearts and in our  
homes. Let us worship the Lord!**

**\*SONG TO PRAISE**

**"The Way"**

by Bashta, Smith, & Barrett

**All**

**Through every battle, through every heartbreak,  
through every circumstance,  
I believe that you are my fortress. You are my portion.  
You are my hiding place.**

**Oh, I believe you are the way, the truth, the life.  
I believe you are the way, the truth, the life.**

**I believe through every blessing, through every promise, through every breath I take,  
I believe that you are provider. You are protector. You are the one I love.**

**I believe you are the way, the truth, the life.  
I believe you are the way, the truth, the life.**

**It's a new horizon, and I'm set on you.  
And you meet me here today with mercies that are new.  
All my fears and doubts, they can all come, too,  
Because they can't stay long when I'm here with you.**

**It's a new horizon, and I'm set on you.  
And you meet me here today with mercies that are new.  
All my fears and doubts, they can all come, too,  
Because they can't stay long when I believe...**

**You are the way, the truth, the life.  
I believe you are the way, the truth, the life. I believe you are.**

#### **A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

*(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Yet we often choose our own way, ignoring the wisdom God freely offers. Let us return to the One who teaches, corrects, and equips us for every good work, as we come together in confession.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and Holy God, You have given us Your Word to guide, teach, and shape us — but we confess we have not always cherished that gift. We study many things but neglect the wisdom of Scripture. We listen to voices that echo our own desires, rather than letting Your Word search and stretch our hearts. Forgive us for treating Your truth lightly, for closing our ears to challenge, and for forgetting that all Scripture is inspired by You and useful for training in righteousness. Renew in us a hunger to know You more deeply and a commitment to walk by the light of Your Word. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God's Word is not meant to condemn, but to restore. In Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, we are forgiven, equipped for every good work, and invited to live in grace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**ONE:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you and all others!

## \*SONG OF PEACE

"Thy Word"

by Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith

All

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,**

**Still you're there right beside me.**

**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.**

**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.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

## Equipping

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 119:97–112 (NRSVue)

Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney

Oh, how I love your law!  
It is my meditation all day long.  
Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,  
for it is always with me.  
I have more understanding than all my teachers,  
for your decrees are my meditation.  
I understand more than the aged,  
for I keep your precepts.  
I hold back my feet from every evil way,  
in order to keep your word.  
I do not turn away from your ordinances,  
for you have taught me.  
How sweet are your words to my taste,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!  
Through your precepts I get understanding;  
therefore I hate every false way.  
Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.  
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,  
to observe your righteous ordinances.  
I am severely afflicted;  
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.  
Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,  
and teach me your ordinances.  
I hold my life in my hand continually,  
but I do not forget your law.  
The wicked have laid a snare for me,  
but I do not stray from your precepts.  
Your decrees are my heritage forever;  
they are the joy of my heart.  
I incline my heart to perform your statutes  
forever, to the end.

SONG TO REFLECT

“Your Words are Wonderful (Psalm 119)”

by Zimmer, Still & Shive

Praise Team

*Your words are wonderful. Unfolding like the dawn,  
a well-spring and the rock we rest upon.*

*We trust your promises that keep our hope alive.  
They steady us throughout life's weary climb.*

*Where else can we go, where else can we go?  
You have the words of life, the words of life.*

*Come write your holy truth upon our longing hearts  
and strengthen us to shine against the dark.  
Lord, guard us from the lies the enemy will speak.  
No guilt remains for those you have redeemed.*

*Where else can we go, where else can we go?  
You have the words of life, the words of life.  
Make your glory known, make your glory known,  
Through all your words of life, your words of life.*

*Give us ears to hear and eyes to see.  
Help us in our doubt and unbelief.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Timothy 3:14–4:5 (NRSVue)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

**Thanks be to God!**

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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.**

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

“Simple Kingdom”

by Carnes, Torwalt, & Duncan

All

**Your kingdom is simple, as simple as love.  
You welcomed the children, you stopped for the one.  
We want to see people the way Jesus does.  
Your kingdom is simple, Lord, teach it to us.**

**Your kingdom is humble, as humble as death.  
His king is a savior who gave his last breath,  
So may we die daily, our pride laid to rest.  
His kingdom is humble and the broken are blessed.**

**Hallelujah, hallowed be your name,  
May we live and breathe your praise.  
Hallelujah, let all creation say,  
“Oh, the King of heaven reigns.”**

**Your kingdom is coming, your kingdom is here,  
Alive in our waiting, at work in our tears.  
So come to us quickly, forever our prayer.  
Your kingdom is coming, Lord Jesus come near.**

**Hallelujah, hallowed be your name,  
May we live and breathe your praise.  
Hallelujah, let all creation say,  
“Oh, the King of heaven reigns.”**

**Your kingdom is backwards, it flows in reverse.  
What you call a treasure, this world calls a curse.  
The small become great and the last become first.  
Your kingdom is backwards, Lord, teach us to serve.  
As it is with your kingdom, let it be with your church.**

**Hallelujah, hallowed be your name,  
May we live and breathe your praise.  
Hallelujah, let all creation say,  
“Oh, the King of heaven reigns.”**

### **Sending**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**Rev. Karen Wright**

**\*SONG TO SEND**

**“Lord, I Need You”**

**as recorded by Matt Maher**

**All**

**Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.  
And without you, I fall apart.  
You’re the one that guides my heart.**

**Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Ev’ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness; O, God, how I need you.**

**Where sin runs deep, your grace is more.  
Where grace is found is where you are.  
And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.  
Where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.**

**Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Ev’ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness; O, God, how I need you.**

**So, teach my song to rise to you when temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand, I’ll fall on you. Jesus, you’re my hope and stay.  
And when I cannot stand, I’ll fall on you. Jesus, you’re my hope and stay.**

**Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Ev’ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness; O, God, how I need you.**

*\*Stand in body or spirit*

## GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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