



first community

November 9, 2025

10 am SOUTH

GREETING – Mary Kate

PRELUDE – Robert, organ

Prelude in E-flat

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

CALL TO WORSHIP⁽¹⁾ – Mary Kate

Leader: We gather to praise the God who is
not of the dead, but of the living.

**People: In every ending, God brings new
beginning.**

Leader: In questions that confound and
mysteries that stretch our faith,

**People: God meets us with wisdom and
grace.**

Leader: Let every generation speak of God's
power and sing aloud of God's love.

People: We will lift our voices in awe and trust—for the Holy One holds all life, now and forever.

OPENING HYMN

God Is Truly with Us

**God is truly with us;
sing we and adore now;
praise the One we come before now.
Here within this temple,
here in sound and silence,
worship God in deepest reverence.
You alone, God, we own,
you, our God and Savior;
praise to you forever.**

**God is truly with us;
loud our praise resounding!
Echoes of the saints surrounding!
"Holy, holy, holy,"
hear the hymn ascending,
angels, saints, their voices blending!
Bow your ear to us here;
hear, O Christ, the praises
that your Church now raises.**

**Source of every blessing,
bless the ones who name you,
let our words and deeds proclaim you.**

**Like the saints and angels
praising you in glory,
may your servants sing your story.
And in all, great and small,
may we do most nearly
what you love most dearly.**

WELCOME – Glen

BAPTISM – Mary Kate

Eli James Corbett

**ALL: We affirm that this community of faith
is filled with love for Eli. Our homes are his
homes; our resources are his resources.
Together we covenant to walk beside Eli,
to teach him to accept God's grace for
himself, and to show him the many faces of
God. We pray that together we will fulfill
our commitment to Eli and to God.**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT – Mary
Kate**

ANTHEM- Cambridge Choir

Ave Verum Corpus

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER – Mary Kate

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Vision – Mary Kate

Receiving the People's Gifts

Anthem – Cambridge Choir

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

**Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of
Dedication⁽¹⁾– Mary Kate**

ONE: As the gifts are presented, will all rise in
body or spirit?

**Living God, you breathe life where others
see only dust, and hope where the world
whispers despair. Bless these gifts, that
they might carry resurrection into weary
places. Bless us, that our lives may tell the
truth of your enduring love—from
generation to generation, through Christ,
who makes all things new. Amen.**

Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN - verse 1
**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!

GOSPEL LESSON–Deacon

Mark 5:1-20

They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. ² And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. ³ He lived among the tombs, and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain, ⁴ for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces, and no one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. ⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him, ⁷ and he shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” ⁸ For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” ⁹ Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.” ¹⁰ He begged him earnestly not to

send them out of the region. ¹¹ Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding, ¹² and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." ¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, stampeded down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea. ¹⁴ The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the man possessed by demons sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion, and they became frightened. ¹⁶ Those who had seen what had happened to the man possessed by demons and to the swine reported it. ¹⁷ Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. ¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. ¹⁹ But Jesus refused and said to him, "Go home to your own people, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and what mercy he has shown you." ²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

SERMON – Sarah

Exorcism and You!

HYMN OF PREPARATION

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

**O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.**

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion – Mary Kate

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Mary Kate

CLOSING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith
confessing, the people of God from this
dwelling take leave. The service is ended,
O now be extended the fruits of our
worship in all who believe. The seed of the
teaching, receptive hearts reaching, shall
blossom in action for God and for all. God's
grace did invite us, and love shall unite us**

to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

BENEDICTION – Mary Kate

POSTLUDE – Robert, organ

*Von Gott will ich nicht lassen ("From God I
Never Will Turn"), BuxWV221*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)