



first community

February 8, 2026

11 am NORTH

GREETING – Seth

PRELUDE – May, organ

Improvisation on God of Grace

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

CALL TO WORSHIP – Seth

One: God calls us to a faith that is more than words.

Many: A faith that shows up in how we live and love.

One: God asks us to loosen the bonds of injustice.

Many: To share our bread, welcome the stranger, and care for the vulnerable.

One: This is the worship God desires.

Many: Justice and mercy, held together.

One: Come, worship the God who calls us to give fully.

Many: We come, ready to hold nothing back.

OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

**Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.**

**When I reach the River Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,**

**land me safe on heaven's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.**

WELCOME – Seth

CHILDREN'S MOMENT – Seth

ANTHEM- Chancel Choir

My Song in the Night

arr. Paul J. Christiansen (1914-1997)

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE
LORD'S PRAYER – Seth**

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Dream – Glen

Receiving the People's Gifts

**Anthem – Emily N. Rogers, mezzo-soprano
and Chancel Choir**

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Dolly Parton (b. 1946)/arr. Craig Hella
Johnson (b. 1962)

Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication- Glen

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

ALL: Generous God, All that we have comes from you. As we offer these gifts, we offer ourselves as well. Use what we give to bring justice, to extend mercy, and to meet real needs in the world. Shape our lives to reflect your love, so that our worship does not end here, but continues in how we live. Teach us to hold nothing back. Amen.

Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Glen
Brittany Barenscheer
Tim Barenscheer

SCRIPTURE READINGS - Deacon

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers.

You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to

break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them and
not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the
dawn, and your healing shall spring up
quickly; your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I
am." If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy
the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall
rise in the darkness and your gloom be like
the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually and
satisfy your needs in parched places and make
your bones strong, and you shall be like a
watered garden, like a spring of water whose
waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall
raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Matthew 5: 14-16

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your God in heaven.

SERMON – Glen

When Justice and Mercy Hold Hands

Part 2: “Hold Nothing Back!”

CLOSING HYMN

What Does the Lord Require

What does the Lord require for praise and offering?

What sacrifice, desire, or tribute bid you bring?

**Do justly; love mercy;
walk humbly with your God.**

Rulers of earth, give ear! Should you not justice know?

Will God your pleading hear, while crime and cruelty grow?

**Do justly; love mercy;
walk humbly with your God.**

**All who gain wealth by trade, for whom the
worker toils,
think not to win God's aid, if greed your
commerce soils.
Do justly; love mercy;
walk humbly with your God.**

**How shall our life fulfill God's law so hard
and high?
Let Christ endue our will with grace to
fortify.
Then justly, in mercy,
we'll humbly walk with God.**

BENEDICTION – Glen

POSTLUDE – May, organ

*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God (Psalm
19) Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)*