



first community

August 23, 2026

10 am SOUTH

GREETING - Glen

PRELUDE – Robert, organ

*Sarabande ("Baroques" Suite)*

Seth Bingham (1882-1972)

CALL TO WORSHIP - Seth

**One:** We come to worship not simply to watch, but to take part in what God is doing.

**Many: We are one body, with many members and many gifts.**

**One:** Each of us has something to offer—our time, our talents, our compassion, our service.

**Many: Together, we are the Body of Christ.**

**One:** Let us bring our whole selves to God and use our gifts for the good of all.

**Many: Let us worship God and live our faith together.**

## **OPENING HYMN**

***Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer***

**#18 New Century CWM RHONDDA, verses 1-3**

**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 – Glen**

**A MOMENT FOR THE WOMEN'S  
GUILD - Sue Secord**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT– Seth**

**ANTHEM- Leo Wang, tenor**  
*Thee Will I Love*  
*Craig Courtney (b. 1948)*

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

**OFFERTORY**

**Invitation to Giving—Glen**

**Receiving the People's Gifts**

**ANTHEM – Leo Wang, tenor**  
*Consecration*  
*John Ness Beck (1930-1987)/arr. Craig  
Courtney*

Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication  
- Glen

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

**All: Gracious God, you have given each of us gifts to share and a place in your work. Receive these offerings and receive us, too. Use all that we give—our resources, our time, our talents, and our lives—to strengthen the Body of Christ and bring your love to the world. 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!**

**EPISTLE LESSON -Deacon**  
Romans 12:1-8

**12** I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this

age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

## SERMON – Mary Kate

*The Body of Christ Is Not a Spectator Sport*

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Amazing Grace #547 New Century NEW  
BRITAIN verse 4*

**"My God has promised good to me,  
whose word my hope secures;**

**God will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures."**

## **COMMUNION**

Invitation to Communion – Seth

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Seth

## **HYMN**

***Take My Life #609 Chalice HENDON verses  
1, 5, 6***

**Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.**

BENEDICTION– Seth

POSTLUDE – Robert

*Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 553*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)