



first community

August 30, 2026

11 am NORTH

GREETING – John

PRELUDE – Tracy Qian, organist

God Leadeth Me

William B. Bradbury/arr. Terry Kirkland

CALL TO WORSHIP - John

One: We love because God first loved us.

**Many: God's love calls us beyond judgment
and into grace.**

One: We cannot love God while turning away
from one another.

**Many: Teach us to see each other with
compassion, humility, and love.**

One: Let us release the need to prove
ourselves right and open our hearts to the
way of Christ.

Many: May God's love shape our words, our actions, and our lives.

One: Come, let us worship the God who is love.

Many: Let us worship together in love and grace.

OPENING HYMN

*For the Beauty of the Earth #56 Chalice DIX
verses 1, 2, and 4*

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,

**for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**

WELCOME – John

CHILDREN'S MOMENT– John

ANTHEM- Jack Bell, tenor

The Summons arr. John L. Bell and Gary Daigle

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

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Giving—John

Receiving the People's Gifts

ANTHEM – Jack Bell, tenor

His Eye is On the Sparrow arr. Mark Hayes

Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication
- John

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

All: Loving God, receive these gifts with our gratitude. Free us from judgment and shape us into people of humility, generosity, and grace. Use what we offer, and use our lives, to make your love known in our community and our 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!**

BAPTISMS – Glen and John

Gregory Walter Payne

Wells Holden Payne

Arden Eleanor-Colette Payne

EPISTLE LESSON -Deacon

1 John 4: 19-21

¹⁹ We love because God first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not

seen. ²¹ The commandment we have is this:
those who love God must love their brothers
and sisters also.

SERMON – Glen

Self-Righteousness is the Enemy of Love

HYMN

***I Have Decided to Follow Jesus #344 Chalice
ASSAM verses 1-3***

**I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus--
no turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me--
no turning back, no turning back.**

**Though none go with me, I still will follow,
though none go with me, I still will follow,
though none go with me, I still will follow,
no turning back, no turning back.**

BENEDICTION– Glen

POSTLUDE – Tracy Qian, organist

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)/arr.

Harvey Grace