



first community

August 30, 2026

10 am SOUTH

GREETING – Mary Kate

PRELUDE – Robert, organ

Siciliano Elizabeth Hill

CALL TO WORSHIP - Mary Kate

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 – Seth

CHILDREN'S MOMENT– Seth

ANTHEM- Elizabeth Arteta

Cunningham, soprano

The Summons arr. John L. Bell and Gary Daigle

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE
LORD'S PRAYER – Mary Kate**

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Giving—Seth

Receiving the People's Gifts

**ANTHEM – Elizabeth Arteta Cunningham,
soprano**

His Eye is On the Sparrow arr. Mark Hayes

**Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication
- Seth**

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!**

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 OF PREPARATION

***Let Us Break Bread Together #530 AME LET
US BREAK BREAD verse 1***

**Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion – Mary Kate

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Mary Kate

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– Seth

POSTLUDE – Robert

Te Deum Laudamus

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)