



first community

September 13, 2026

11 am NORTH

GREETING – John

PRELUDE – Tracy Qian, organist

Prelude in C major, BWV 531

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

CALL TO WORSHIP - Sarah

One: When the way is uncertain and the answers are not easy,

Many: God meets us with wisdom for the journey.

One: When trials test our faith and challenge our courage,

Many: God calls us to persevere with hope.

One: When we do not know which way to turn,

Many: We will ask, seek, listen, and trust.

One: Come, let us open our hearts to the wisdom of God.

Many: Come, let us worship together.

OPENING HYMN

*God of Grace and God of Glory #464 Chalice
CWM RHONDDA verses 1, 4, and 5*

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Set our feet on lofty places;
fill our lives that we may be
strengthened with all Christ-like graces
pledges to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail our call from thee,
lest we fail our call from thee.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation

**be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

WELCOME – John

CHILDREN’S MOMENT– Sarah

ANTHEM- Chancel Choir

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Stephen Chatman

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE
LORD’S PRAYER – Sarah**

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Giving—John

Receiving the People's Gifts

ANTHEM – Chancel Choir

Foundation arr. John Ness Beck

Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication
- John

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

All: Gracious God, thank you for meeting us in every season of life. Receive these gifts and use them to bring hope, compassion, and love to our community and world. Guide us with your wisdom as we seek to serve you and one another. 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

James 1:2-5

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face various trials, consider it all joy, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance complete its work, so that you may be complete and whole, lacking in nothing.

⁵ If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.

SERMON – Glen

Grant Us Wisdom

Part 1: “The Beginning of Wisdom”

HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other #388

New Century AURELIA verses 1-3

**Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us,
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted
and meant to love and live.**

**Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may become.**

**Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance,
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness
and laughter's healing art.**

BENEDICTION– Glen

POSTLUDE –Tracy Qian, organist

Toccata

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)