



first community

October 18, 2026

10 am SOUTH

GREETING – Mary Kate

PRELUDE – Robert Griffith,
organist

*Two Chorale Preludes on Liebester Jesu, wir
sind hier, BWV 730 & 731*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

CALL TO WORSHIP – Seth

**Leader: We are created for connection,
called to see one another with compassion
and love.**

People: We come seeking friendship,
belonging, and community.

**Leader: In every act of kindness, every
listening ear, and every open heart, God's
love is made known.**

People: May we see one another as God sees us, with grace, dignity, and love.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who brings us together.

All: May our faith grow, our friendships deepen, and our community flourish.

OPENING HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #1 New Century ST. DENIO verses 1-4

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious,
your great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
not wanting, not wasting,
but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains
high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.**

Your life is life-giving –

to both great and small;
in all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves and as flowers,
then wither and perish –
but naught dims your powers.

So perfect your glory,
so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you,
all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render
as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor
of light hiding you.

WELCOME – Mary Kate

CHILDREN'S MOMENT – Seth

ANTHEM- Cambridge Choir

Foundation

John Ness Beck

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE
LORD'S PRAYER – Mary Kate

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Giving – Seth

Receiving the People's Gifts

Anthem – Scott King-Owen, piano

Fantasia on Blessed Assurance

arr. Scott King-Owen

Presentation of Gifts and Prayer of

Dedication – Mary Kate

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

ALL: Loving God, you have blessed us with the gift of community and the joy of belonging. Receive these offerings as expressions of our gratitude and love. May they help us build a church where friendships grow, strangers become neighbors, and every person is welcomed and valued. Guide us to use all that we have to share your love with the world. Amen.

Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN - verse 1

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 Thessalonians 1:1–10

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the
Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you
and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3
remembering before our God your work of
faith and labor of love and steadfastness of
hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know,
brothers and sisters beloved by God, that God
has chosen you, 5 because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only but also
in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full
conviction; just as you know what kind of
persons we proved to be among you for your
sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of
the Lord, for in spite of persecution you
received the word with joy from the Holy
Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all
the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8
For the word of the Lord has sounded forth
from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia
but in every place your faith in God has
become known, so that we have no need to

9 speak about it. 9 For they report about us
what kind of welcome we had among you and
how you turned to God from idols to serve a
living and true God 10 and to wait for God's
Son from heaven, whom God raised from the
dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming
wrath.

SERMON – Glen

Seeing Each Other Deeply

Part One: "Building Friendship, Creating
Community"

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Break Now the Bread of Life #321 New Century
BREAD OF LIFE

**Bless now the truth,
dear Christ, to me, to me,
as you once blessed the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease,
all shackles fall,
and I shall find my peace, my all in all!**

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion – Seth

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Seth

CLOSING HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending #606

Chalice NETTLETON verses 1-3

**God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at Your throne.**

**Treasure too you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands, in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.**

BENEDICTION – Mary Kate

POSTLUDE –Robert Griffith,
organist

Prelude and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 554
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)