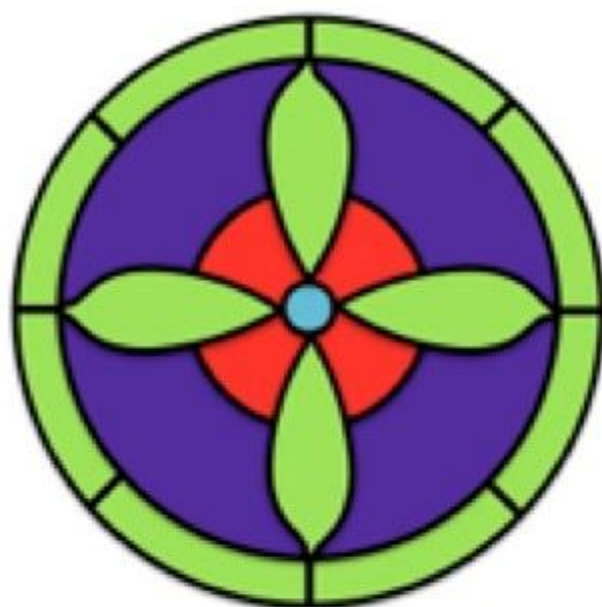




ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Richmond † Texas

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENEOST
JULY 12, 2026
8:30 & 11:00AM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIVE WORSHIP

You are invited to use this bulletin during our live worship service at 11:00am on Sunday morning. To access our live worship, please [click here](#).

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalms 119*)

Leader: Your word is a lamp to my feet

People: and a light to my path.

Leader: I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,

People: to observe your righteous ordinances.

Leader: I am severely afflicted;

People: give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

All: Accept our offerings of praise, O LORD, and teach us your ordinances.

SONG OF PRAISE

'Wonderful Words of Life' #600

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see,
wonderful words of life
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.

Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all
Wonderful words of life,
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life,
All so freely given, wooing us to Heaven.

Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life.
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever,

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;*

The third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy ghost! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:9-11

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG OF REFLECTION

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk let me walk close to Thee

Just a closer walk with thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be dear Lord let it be

Through this world of toil and snares
If I falter Lord who cares
Who with me my burden shares
None but Thee dear Lord none but Thee

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PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OFFERING OUR GIFTS and TITHES

(Thank you for your generosity! To contribute electronically, please see the QR code.)

SHARING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 13:1-9

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

SERMON

"Soil Matters"

Rev. Richard Luna

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

SONG OF INVITATION

"Hymn of Promise"

#707

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see

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SENDING FORTH

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Precious Name"

Take the name of Jesus with you,
Child of sorrow and of woe;
It will joy and comfort give you;
Take it the, where'er you go.

Precious name, O how Sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

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GOING FORTH

Blessed by God's love and strengthened by God's Grace, let us be the church to the people we are with. Amen.

The altar flowers are given by Frank & Sandy Hayward to the Glory of God in remembrance of their loving parents, Frank & Lois Hayward and Bill & Frances Autwell.

*QR Code provided for your tithes and offerings.
Thank you.*



*Shiloh Flores
William Hillis
Triniti James
Cady Langford
Aubrey Ostertag
Barrett Walker
Audrey Ryburn
Jennifer Pratorius*

UM ARMY Participants