



ST. JOHN'S  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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Richmond † Texas

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**NOVEMBER 16, 2025**  
**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** (*Isaiah 12*)

Leader: “Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid,

**People**: **for the LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.”**

Leader: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**People**: **And we will say on that day: “Give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Leader: Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

**All**: **Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

*“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”* #133

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

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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**

*Isaiah 65:17-19, 21-25*

<sup>17</sup>For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. <sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

<sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well.

<sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer, while they are yet

speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

## 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

*"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"* #430

O Master, let me walk with Thee  
In lowly paths of service free;  
Tell me Thy secret;  
Help me bear the strain of toil  
The fret of care

Help me the slow of heart to move  
By some clear, winning word of love;  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay  
And guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee  
In closer, dearer company,  
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray  
Far down the future's broad'ning way,  
In peace that only Thou canst give,  
With Thee, O Master, let me live.

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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

*"Find Us Faithful"*

Chancel Choir

## 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

*2 Thessalonians 3:6-13*

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

## SERMON

*"Are We There Yet?"*

Rev. Richard Luna

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

## SONG OF INVITATION

*"It Is Well With My Soul"*

#377

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul  
It is well, It is well with my soul

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

My sin, O the bliss of this glorious tho't.  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul

And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend  
Even so, it is well with my soul

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## SENDING FORTH

### CHORAL RESPONSE

*"He Leadeth Me"*

#128

He leadeth me He leadeth me  
By His own hand He leadeth me  
His faithful follower I would be  
For by His hand He leadeth me

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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.

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*The altar flowers are given by Klip and Vona Morefield  
to the glory of God and in honor of all in our  
congregation who have led or served on committees  
this year!*

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

