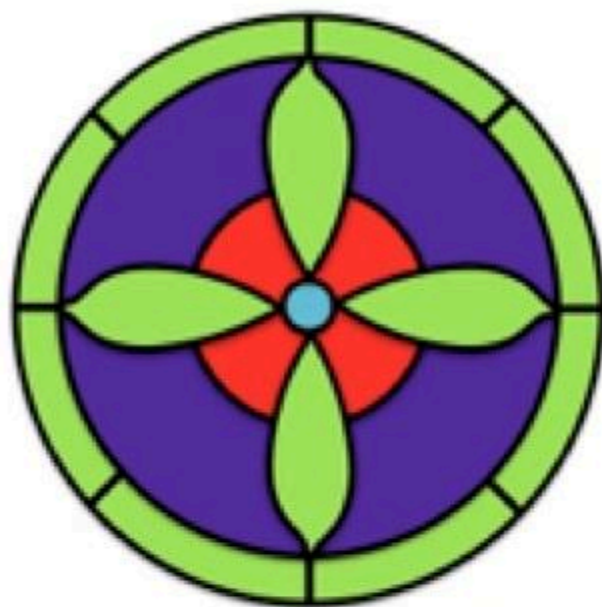




ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Richmond † Texas

ORDER OF WORSHIP
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 4, 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

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sins and seek to live in
peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one
another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved
you with our whole heart.**

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(All pray in silence.)

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were
yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the
name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

"O Worship the King"

#73

O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

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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

Philippians 3:4b-14

⁴If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh,
I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a
member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of
Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a
Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to
righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

¹³ Beloved I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 Come and Dwell in Me" #388

O come and dwell in me, Spirit of power within,
And bring the glorious liberty from sorrow, fear and sin.

Hasten the joyful day which shall my sins consume
When old things shall be done away
And all things new become.

I want the witness, Lord, that all I do is right,
According to Thy mind and Word,
Well pleasing in Thy sight.

I ask no higher state; indulge me but in this,
And soon or later then translate to Thine eternal bliss.

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PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS and TITHES

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

SHARING OUR GIFTS

"In Christ Alone"

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

Matthew 21:33-46

³³ 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' ⁴¹ They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.' ⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?' ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

SERMON

"It's Not Your Table"

Rev. Richard Luna

COMMUNION CONSECRATION

SHARING HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

COMMUNION SONGS (first and last verses)

"One Bread, One Body"

#620

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many through the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
Woman or man, no more.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
Gathered to one, for all.

"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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"More Precious Than Silver"

Lord You are more precious than silver
Lord You are more costly than gold
Lord You are more beautiful than diamonds
And nothing I desire compares with You

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"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

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.

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PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

SONG OF INVITATION

"The Church's One Foundation"

#545

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is His new creation by water and the Word
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation, one Lord one faith one birth
One holy name she blesses partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued

Though with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed
Yet saints their watch are keeping
Their cry goes up how long
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy, Lord give us grace that we
Like them the meek and lowly
On high may dwell with Thee

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SENDING FORTH

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Are Ye Able

Lord, we are able. Our spirits are Thine.
Remold them, make us, like Thee divine.
Thy guiding radiance above us shall be
A beacon to God, to love and loyalty.

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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 to the Glory of God by
Carol Edwards in loving memory of Charles Edwards.*

*The rose on piano is in celebration of John & Sue
Mealus' 60th wedding anniversary.*

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

