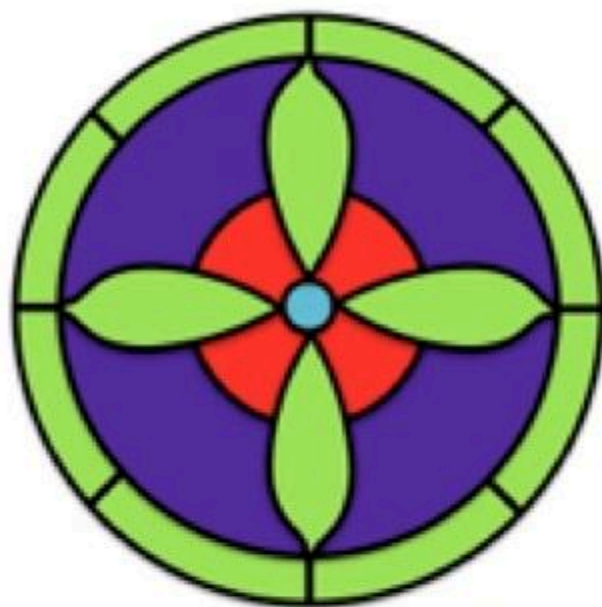




ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Richmond † Texas

ORDER OF WORSHIP
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENECCOST
SEPTEMBER 27, 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 25*)

Leader: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

People: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

People: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Leader: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

People: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

Leader: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

All: He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

#139

Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to His temple draw near
Join me in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord who o'er all things
So wondrously reigning
Bears thee on eagle's wings
E'er in His keeping maintaining
God's care enfolds all, whose true good He upholds.
Hast thou not known His sustaining?

Praise to the Lord who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
Who with His love doth befriend thee

Praise to the Lord
Who doth nourish thy life and restore thee
Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that hath life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him

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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 2:1-13

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

“Come Ye Sinners Poor And Needy” #340
Come ye sinners poor and needy
Weak and wounded sick and sore
Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity love and power

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
O there are ten thousand charms

Come ye thirsty come and welcome
God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance
Every grace that brings you nigh

Come ye weary heavy laden
Lost and ruined by the fall
If you tarry till you're better
You will never come at all

Let not conscience make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him
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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
8:30 *“At the Name of Jesus”* Chancel Choir
11:00 *“Jubilance”* Ringing Saints

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 21:23-32
²³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’
²⁴Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’
And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?” ²⁶But if we say, “Of human origin”, we

are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

SERMON

"Keeping it Together"

Rev. Richard Luna

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

SONG OF INVITATION

"Trust And Obey"

#467

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, not a frown nor a cross,
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows, find the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go
Never fear only trust and obey.

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SENDING FORTH

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Come Ye Sinner, Poor and Needy"

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
O there are ten thousand charms

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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 Pam & Davis
Scarborough in memory of our friend from the Music
Box, Pat Southard.*

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

