



ST. JOHN'S  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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Richmond † Texas

**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 7, 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**

**INVITATION**

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

*"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"* #160

Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing  
Your glorious banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your King

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.  
Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud;  
Whilst answering echoes upward float,

Like wreaths of incense cloud.

Yes, on through life's long path,  
Still chanting as ye go;  
From youth to age, by night and day,  
In gladness and in woe.

At last the march shall end;  
The wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their Father's house  
The pilgrims find their home, Jerusalem the blest.

Praise God who reigns on high,  
The Lord whom we adore,  
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
One God forevermore.

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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**

*Jeremiah 18:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:

<sup>2</sup>Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will

let you hear my words.’ <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. <sup>4</sup>The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. <sup>5</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>6</sup>Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE 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 trespass 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

*“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”* #382

Have Thine own way Lord! Have Thine own way  
Thou art the Potter; I am the clay  
Mold me and make me after Thy will  
While I am waiting, yielded and still

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way  
Search me and try me, Savior today  
Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,  
As in Thy presence humbly I bow

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way  
Wounded and weary, help me I pray  
Power, all power, surely is Thine  
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way  
Hold o’er my being absolute sway  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me

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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.)

## OFFERTORY

*“Come, Expecting Jesus”*

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

*Luke 14:25-33*

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

## SERMON

*“Count the Cost”*

Rev. Richard Luna

## COMMUNION CONSECRATION

## SHARING HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

### COMMUNION SONGS (first and last verses)

*“Spirit of the Living God”* #393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*"Take Time to Be Holy" #395*

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;  
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.  
Make friends with God's children,  
Help those who are weak,  
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,  
Each tho't and each motive beneath His control.  
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,  
Thou soon shall be fitted for service above.

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*"Change My Heart Oh God"*

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true  
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You

You are the potter. I am the clay  
Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.

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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**

*"Are Ye Able"* #530

"Are ye able," said the Master,  
"to be crucified with me?"  
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered  
"to the death we follow Thee."

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.

Are ye able to remember,  
When a thief lifts up his eyes,  
That his pardoned soul is worthy  
Of a place in paradise?

Are ye able when the shadows  
Close around you with the sod,  
To believe that spirit triumphs,  
To commend your soul to God?

"Are ye able?" Still the Master  
Whispers down eternity,  
And heroic spirits answer  
Now, as then, in Galilee

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**SENDING FORTH**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

*"Are Ye Able"* #530

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.

**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 to the Glory of God by  
Stephanie & Andrew Phillips in celebration of their  
upcoming 20th wedding anniversary on September  
17th.*

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

