



September 14, 2025

Traditional Worship

8:15 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Slack



Please use either this QR code or a card in the pew for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

In Christ There is No East or West
arr. Matthew Corl
Dr. Jenny Anderson, piano

*HYMN No. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
BEECHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Reimagining Worship
Rev. Jonathan Jonas

Leader: God of Love, we need you now.

***All:* Teach us to love those we have learned to hate.
Teach us to pray for our enemies,
To love you even in those we despise.**

Leader: God of Peace, we need you now.

***All:* Teach us how to reconcile.
Teach us to speak when we are silenced.
Teach us to give up power when our power renders
others powerless, or mute.**

Leader: God of Joy, we need you now!

***All:* Receive our burdens, they are many.
Lift our spirits, they are weighed down.**

Leader: God of life, we need you now.

***All:* Grant us grace where shame restricts us,
Grant us life where pain takes hold,
Grant us wisdom where we would settle for easy
answers,
Grant us love, rooted in the eternal, the living, in you!
God bless us as we gather, in the name of the Creator,
the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***GLORIA PATRI No. 70**

Glory Be to the Father
MEINEKE

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 READING

Matthew 5:43-48 (NRSV)

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' **44** But I say to you, 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. **46** For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? **47** And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? **48** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'"

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Slack
They're My Neighbor, too?

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Evensong Handbells; Dr. Jenny Anderson, conductor

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 883**

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Blest Be the Tie That Binds
arr. Jeremy J. Bankson

***DOXOLOGY No. 94**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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.

***HYMN No. 566**

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love
EVAN

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

What Wondrous Love is This with Take My Life and Let it Be
arr. Alex-Zsolt

Traditional Worship

10:30 Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Slack



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OPENING PRAYER

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Rachel Sparks, acolyte
Ruth Ann Slack, acolyte

PRELUDE

Where Peace Abides
James Michael Stevens
Dr. Jenny Anderson, organ

INTROIT

How Can We Name a Love
Traditional English melody
Chancel Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,
indwelling all we know or think or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound and God is found hid in the commonplace.

*HYMN No. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
BEECHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Reimagining Worship
Rev. Don Jones

Leader: God of Love, we need you now.

**All: Teach us to love those we have learned to hate.
Teach us to pray for our enemies,
To love you even in those we despise.**

Leader: God of Peace, we need you now.

**All: Teach us how to reconcile.
Teach us to speak when we are silenced.
Teach us to give up power when our power renders
others powerless, or mute.**

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answers,**

continued

***GLORIA Grant us love, rooted in the eternal, the living, in you!
God bless us as we gather, in the name of the Creator,
the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***GLORIA PATRI No. 70**

Glory Be to the Father
MEINEKE

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.

BIBLE PRESENTATION TO KINDERGARTEN AND 3RD GRADE

This is the Bible, the book of God's love (x2)
Written by people, inspired from above
Ahhh....
This is the Bible, the book of God's love

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card in the pew and send with your child to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level following the worship service.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:43-48 (NRSV)

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' **44** But I say to you, 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. **46** For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? **47** And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? **48** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'"

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Slack
They're My Neighbor, too?

ANTHEM

Put Peace into Each Other's Hands
Jane Holstein

Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it;
protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands, like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye: our life is meant for caring.

Give thanks for strong yet tender hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
the heights of love expressing.

Put Christ into each other's hands, he is love's deepest measure;
in love make peace, give peace a chance and share it like a treasure.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Evensong Handbells; Dr. Jenny Anderson, conductor

***DOXOLOGY No. 94**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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.

***HYMN No. 566**

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love
EVAN

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Love to Our Enemies
19th Century USA melody

Swayed by thy dear example, Lord, for enemies we'll pray;
with love their hatred we'll reward with blessings we'll repay.

***POSTLUDE**

Flourish
Alan Bullard

Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

WELCOME MUSIC

The Band

Left It in the Water
We the Kingdom

WELCOME

Ralph Jeffers

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WORSHIP

Fill This Place
Red Rocks Worship

No Longer Slaves
I AM THEY

Good Neighbor
Evan Craft

BIBLE PRESENTATION TO KINDERGARTEN AND 3RD GRADE

DISMISSAL TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our children's ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card and send with them to KOW to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level at the end of the worship service.

TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Jonathan Jonas

OFFERING

Love Like This
Lauren Daigle

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:43-48

SERMON

Rev. Jonas
Growing as Neighbors

CLOSING WORSHIP

Bigger Table
Matthew Maher

BENEDICTION

COLLECTING ITEMS
SEPTEMBER 16th & 23rd
8:00 am to 5:00 pm



UMCOR
FLOOD BUCKET SUPPLIES

- Liquid Laundry Detergent (32 to 64 oz.)
- Pump Spray Air Freshener (4 to 8 oz.)
- Cotton Clothesline (50 feet)



HELP ASSEMBLE



UMCOR
FLOOD BUCKETS



Saturday, September 27th
10:00 am in Wesley Hall

**CELEBRATE
RECOVERY**

**Bernice
Howard**

SEPTEMBER 17th
5:30 Dinner
6:30 Worship
7:40 Share Groups
CRat1st.com

DESSERT

LET US RUIN YOUR DINNER!

MUSIC

**ART,
CAKES &
MORE**

NEXT SUNDAY 9/21
5:00-7:00PM
1ST UMC @
SYCAMORE TREE

TICKETS \$20
OR \$50 FOR A FAMILY

**DESSERT
JAM**



**ORDER
HERE**



CAMP

NOT A LOT OF WOODS!

For grades
3rd-5th

Overnight Event at Church
September 26, 2025
\$15 per child

Register by September 22nd
Space limited!



1stchurch.org/camp



1STCHURCH.ORG

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Maryville, TN 37803
865-982-1273