

11th Sunday after Pentecost, Communion
Worship Service at WCUMC and via Zoom

August 9, 2026
9:30 AM

Prelude – “Andante”

Hesse

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Hymn – “We are Called”

Call to Worship

In our everyday living

May our lives reflect our hope and joy in Christ

In a world of division and pain

May God’s light shine through us

Even when we are weary from the journey

May Christian Faith guide our thoughts and actions

Opening Prayer

One True God, be with us as we long for reconciliation in a divided world. Fill us with patience and love. Teach us to listen to others that we might understand. Help us to speak your truth not only with our words, but also with our actions. Amen

Passing of Peace

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Message

Offertory Reflection

Offertory - “Preamble”

Frescobaldi

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication*

Loving God, we thank you for your presence in our lives. Bless these gifts we offer to you. May they be a reflection of your love as we respond to your call in our church, our community, and our world.

Amen

Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:14-16**

Hymn - “Together We Serve”

Epistle Reading – 2 Corinthians 5:17-20**

Message – “Ambassadors”

Lorraine Macpherson

Closing Hymn – “Shine Jesus Shine”

Announcements

Benediction

And God’s people say: **Amen.**

Postlude – “Jesu, Fount of Consolation”

J. S. Bach

~~~~~  
\*\*After the scripture readings, please respond, "Thanks be to God."

We extend a warm greeting to all who are attending our worship service this morning in person, on Zoom, or watching later via a video link.

**The Flowers on the altar** this morning are given to the Glory of God by Larry Estelle, in loving memory of Dotty.

**Today**

Lay Reader – Roberta Stratton

Minister of Music – Karen Leonard

Pastor – Reverend Geisa Matos

Guest Speaker – Lorraine Macpherson

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

**Save the Date** - Our third annual **Blessing of the Animals worship service is on Sunday, August 23, 2026**. Join us as we celebrate God's love for all creation and give thanks for the joy and companionship of animals.

In conjunction with the Blessing of the Animals worship service on Sunday, August 23, 2026, we are sponsoring an in-gathering for the Lowell Humane Society's Pet Food Pantry to help them provide pet food, free of charge, to those in need. If you are able, donations of all types of non-perishable pet food, in sealed packages, will be collected from now until the Blessing of the Animals event. A Pet Food donation Collection box is in the Education Building lobby. All types of non-perishable dog and cat food, wet or dry, bird, and small animal food are welcome. It is helpful if dry dog food comes in 5-lb bags so it can be given to more families.

Also, animal shelters go through an incredible amount of sheets, pillow cases, blankets, and towels in their daily operations. If you would like to recycle any of your old linens, please bring your old but clean linens and items, marked for the Lowell Humane Society. All sizes are welcome, but they must fit into a standard-size washing machine. Look for the "Linens and Things" Collection Bin in the Education Building lobby.

Donations of old newspapers are very helpful to Animal Shelters. If you have any that are no longer needed, please leave them in the box marked "Newspaper" in the lobby of the Education Building.

Boredom for shelter pets is a real problem. Volunteers at the Lowell Humane Society would like to purchase enrichment items to help keep the animals engaged. If you can spare a dollar or two, please place them in the Jar on the Lowell Humane Society Table at the Blessing of the Animals event.

Thank you for your support. Your donations make a big difference! We look forward to seeing you at this year's Blessing of the Animals.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A8AB28AAFF2-64847762-august>

**The sign-up sheet for the St. Paul's Meal** is now online. To volunteer, please click on the link below. The St. Paul's Meal will be served on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**. Thank you for your support of this important mission.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A8AB28AAFF2-64847762-august>

**Lost and Found** – If you are missing a men's flannel shirt, a child's jacket, a sweater, a pair of earrings, a pair of gloves, a single glove, or a toy dinosaur, please pick them up in the church office. Your items miss you.

**Toddler Afternoon Assistant Wanted** – Cottage Montessori for Toddlers (located in the Education Wing) is seeking a part-time afternoon assistant for the 2026-2027 school year, Monday-Wednesday from 12:15 to 3:45 PM. Experience with children is welcome, but not necessary. Training and mentoring provided. Please contact Karen Wagner for more information at 508-397-4581.