

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 2, 2026 at 11 a.m.

10th Sunday of Pentecost

~~~~~We Gather in God's Name~~~~~

#### PRELUDE

*Prelude & Fugue in E Minor*  
by J.S. Bach

Jack Miller,  
organ

*In our 11 a.m. worship service today, we celebrate the music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). The three hymns in today's worship demonstrate his inventive use of harmony in interpreting texts.*

#### ▲CALL TO WORSHIP

Tim Hawkins

Come as you are —

**rested or restless, sure or unsure.**

Bring your questions. They are welcome here.

**Bring your doubt. It is welcome here.**

Weeping may linger for the night—

**but joy comes with the morning.**

The sun is up.

**Let's worship together.**

#### ▲HYMN #395

*Blessed Jesus, At Your Word*

*Originally conceived to be sung before the sermon, this hymn assumes a congregation that assembles regularly, and it needs to be placed near the beginning rather than the end of worship. The simple repetitive tune reinforces the text's sense of receptivity and expectation.*

#### ▲CONFESSION

Tim

**Holy One,**

**We have learned to be ashamed of our doubt.**

**We hide it in church,**

**where it feels least welcome.**

**We hide it from you,**

**as if you couldn't take it.**

**Help us to be open with our struggles,**

**and to be open with you—**

**to name what is hard,**

**and to trust what is good.**

**Amen.**

▲ WORDS OF ASSURANCE

▲ PASSING CHRIST'S PEACE

God's peace is with, within and among us.  
Let us share this peace with each other saying,  
"The peace of Christ be with you."

**And also with you.**

Let us exchange words and signs of peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Greg Rapier

~~~~~We Listen for God's Word~~~~~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tim

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 30:1-5
(Old Testament, pg. 505)

Words of Holy Scripture; **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen schritten
by J.S. Bach

Katie Thorpe,
& Julia Chapman
Jack Miller, organ

Translation:

We hasten with weak but diligent steps, oh Jesus, oh Master of Salvation, to you. You seek the ailing and erring faithfully. Ah, hear, how we raise our voices to plead for help/salvation. Let your merciful countenance be gladdening to us.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 32:22-31
(Old Testament, pg. 30)

Rev. Greg

SERMON

Wrestling in the Dark

HYMN #679

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Originally this text was more than twice as long as the present version because it followed Psalm 148 in directing additional parts of the created order to praise God. This wide-ranging text is set here to a suitably expansive and well-crafted 17th century chorale melody.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Greg

OFFERTORY

Aria "Be Thou Near"
by J.S. Bach

Jack Miller,
organ

▲ RESPONSE #334

With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring
Verse 1

With grateful heart my thanks I bring, before you, God, your praise I sing. I worship in your holy place and praise you for your truth and grace; for truth and grace together shine in your most holy word divine.

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Greg

~~~~~We Celebrate the Eucharist~~~~~

COMMUNION

MEDITATION

Chorale "Jesu, meine Freude"  
by J.S. Bach

~~~~~We Respond to God's Love~~~~~

PRAYERS FOR WESTMINSTER & THE WORLD

Tim

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

~~~~~We Are Sent Into God's World~~~~~

▲ HYMN #827

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

*The "Queen of Chorales" is often associated with Epiphany because of the star imagery, but the text is really addressed to Christ as the Morning Star, who guides and sustains us in this life and is our hope for the life to come.*

▲ BENEDICTION

Rev. Greg

▲CHARGE

Tim

POSTLUDE

*Concerto in G “Allegro”*  
by J.S. Bach

Jack Miller,

organ

