



August 23, 2026

Whether you are joining us in person or on-line,
know that we are here to journey along with you as we live into our mission: to follow and invite others to follow
Jesus Christ.

Prelude

Lifesong

Remembering our Baptism

***Call to Worship**

New every morning is your love, great God of light,
and all day long you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us desire to serve you,
to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.

***Song O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

***Song You Are My King (Amazing Love)**

First Lesson 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength because he considered me faithful. So he appointed me to ministry even though I used to speak against him, attack his people, and I was proud. But I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and without faith. Our Lord's favor poured all over me along with the faithfulness and love that are in Christ Jesus.

This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I'm the biggest sinner of all. But this is why I was shown mercy, so that Christ Jesus could show his endless patience to me first of all. So I'm an example for those who are going to believe in him for eternal life.

Now to the king of the ages, to the immortal, invisible, and only God, may honor and glory be given to him forever and always! Amen.

Word for Children

Second Lesson Matthew 16:13-20

Message for the Lord's Day Reverend Deborah Coble

Special Music Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Prayers of the People

After each petition is shared, we pause for silent prayer, then the pastor will say: Lord in Your Mercy. The congregation responds: Hear our Prayers.

Together, let us pray for
the people of this congregation...
for those who are suffering...
for the concerns of our local community...
for those who don't know where their next meal will come
from and those who are looking for shelter ...
for our troops, police, EMTs, firefighters,

and others in harm's way...
for the world, its people and its leaders...
for the earth you have given to our care...
for the Church universal; its leaders, its members, & mission...
for peace and goodwill to all...

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.

Mission and Ministry Moment – Backpack Blessing

Today we join our voices together in prayer for our young people, who are about to go back to school, as well as for the teachers, administrators and school staff who dedicate their lives to educating our young people. Thank you!

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology**

**Blessed be God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be His kingdom now and forever.
Amen, Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Faithful God, you reveal true power not through fear or force, but through love that gives life and builds community. You call us to know who we are because we know whose we are—your people, shaped by Christ and sent for the sake of the world.

Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your way of life over the ways of death, of courage over control, of welcome over exclusion. Use what we offer to strengthen your church as a living witness to your grace, that through our sharing and our serving, others may discover the identity of Christ and the hope found in him. Amen.

***Song Your Ways Better**

***Benediction**

**Life is short and we have too little time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.
So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind,**

**and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always.
Amen.**

Postlude Here is Our King