

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

Prelude

Allegretto from Charles Villiers Stanford
Six Short Preludes and Postludes, Opus 101 (1852-1924)

Greeting and Announcements

Opening Sentences

***Doxology** - all to sing

No. 592

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Praise**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come Jesus, come.

People: We welcome your presence.

Leader: God speaks peace to the faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

People: Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear God.

Leader: Where God dwells, steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

People: Faithfulness springs up from the ground and righteousness looks down from the sky. God gives what is good and we respond with abundant praise!

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn**

["How Great Thou Art"](#)

***Call to Confession**

Leader: Let us confess our sins to the Lord of all, who is generous to all who call upon him.

***Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

Lord Jesus, we call upon you. Save us! We are intimidated by our circumstances, distracted from your purposes, drowning in doubts and fears. We are presumptuous about your will, belittling others and

magnifying ourselves. We envy the blessings of others, secretly despising their dreams. We have hardened our hearts to the suffering of our brothers and sisters, feeding ourselves in face of the injustice that holds them captive. Lord Jesus, who searches our hearts, lift us from sin and help us to walk with you in faith, humility, and brotherly-sisterly love.

A Time of Silent Prayer

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all, restores all through our Lord Jesus Christ. No one who believes in him will be put to shame, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***Response of Praise**-all to sing

"Gloria Patri"

No. 579

*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.*

***We Share God's Peace**

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

(You are invited to share God's peace as you greet those around you.)

Special Music

Give Me Jesus

Mark Hayes, arr.
(born 1953)

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

[Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 \(NRSV\)](#)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

[Matthew 14:22-33 \(NRSV\)](#)

Sermon

"Mountain by Himself"
the family story

The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People...The Lord's Prayer ('debts' and debtors)

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn ["My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"](#)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Fughetta* John Stainer
 From *Book One of Twelve Pieces for Organ* (1840-1901)

(We invite you to remain seated through the Postlude.)

*Indicates that those who are able may stand.

Lectionary readings for August 16, 2026

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a; 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28