

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 11 a.m.

16th Sunday of Pentecost

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

#### PRELUDE

*Balm in Gilead*  
by Joe Utterback

Jack Miller,  
organ

#### INTROIT

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*  
by Hugh Livingston Jr.

Chancel Choir,  
Janet Matranga, Dir.

*Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found. Brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound. Let us recall that here with us dwells Christ, God's holy Son. As members of each body joined, in Him we are made one. We now forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness. Amen.*

#### ▲CALL TO WORSHIP

Janet

We come carrying questions, burdens, and fears.  
**We gather anyway.**  
Sometimes, we are silent. Sometimes God feels silent.  
**We come to find our voice together.**  
No voice stands alone here.  
**We lift our voices in worship.**

#### ▲HYMN #214

*You Are My Refuge, Faithful God*

#### ▲CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Greg Rapier

**God of truth,**  
**we confess how fear closes our mouths.**  
**We stay quiet when truth is costly.**  
**We protect our comfort and call it peace.**

**Forgive us.**

**Give us courage to resist what harms,**  
**speak with honesty,**  
**and bear witness to your love.**

**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

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Phillip Reese

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 12:1-6
(New Testament, pg. 252)

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

ANTHEM

Draw the Circle Wide
by Mark Miller

Chancel Choir,
Janet Matranga, Dir.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle. Draw the circle wide. No one stands alone, we stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone. Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 12:7-12
(New Testament, pg. 252)

SERMON

How to Slay a Dragon

Rev. Greg

HYMN #718

Take Up Your Cross the Savior Said

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

PRAYERS FOR WESTMINSTER & THE WORLD

Phillip

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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Greg

OFFERTORY

*Have Mercy on Me, O Lord, God*  
by J.S. Bach

Jack Miller,  
organ

▲RESPONSE #609 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures high and low. Praise God in Jesus fully known, Creator, Word and Spirit One. Alleluia, alleluia!*  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

▲PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**❧❧❧We Are Sent Into God's World ❧❧❧**

▲HYMN #403

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

▲BENEDICTION

Rev. Greg

▲CHARGE

Phillip

POSTLUDE

*Jesus, My Sure Defense*  
by Paul Manz

Jack Miller,  
organ

