



FIRSTCHURCH

UNITED METHODIST

August 16, 2026

Order of Worship

Worship Assistants: (8) Ronda Coats (10:30) Tom Bernhardt

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Centering Hymn

“These Alone are Enough”

by Dan Schuette

Take my heart, O Lord, take my hopes and dreams
Take my mind with all its plans and schemes
Give me nothing more than Your love and grace
These alone, O God, are enough for me

Take my thoughts, O Lord, and my memory
Take my tears, my joys, my liberty
Give me nothing more than Your love and grace
These alone, O God, are enough for me

I surrender, Lord, all I have and hold
I return to You Your gifts untold
Give me nothing more than Your love and grace
These alone, O God, are enough for me

When the darkness falls on my final days
Take the very breath that sang Your praise
Give me nothing more than Your love and grace
These alone, O God, are enough for me

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Call to Worship

We enter this space with open hands and willing hearts. We pause to notice the gifts of breath, of earth, and of being.

We give thanks for the sacred web of life that sustains us, and for the diverse community that gathers here today.

Even when the world feels heavy and shadowed by injustice, we choose the path of gratitude. We look for grace in unexpected places.

We choose to see this planet as our shared home and our shared trust.

Let us worship the Spirit of Love that heals our isolation and inspires our compassion.

With courageous hearts, let us make our thanks, and let our praise be lived out in action and peace.

Amen

Hymn

“Now Thank We All Our God”

UMH 102

1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Children's Message (10:30)

Lighting of the Prayer Candle of Peace, Hope and Justice

Scripture

1 Thessalonians 5.16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Psalm 107.1-9

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to an inhabited town;
hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;
he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.

For he satisfies the thirsty,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Message

“The Examen: Giving Thanks (Gratitude)”

1. Give thanksgiving (Relish).
2. Ask for the Spirit (Request).
3. Review and recognize failures (Review).
4. Ask for forgiveness and healing (Repent).
5. Pray about the next day (Resolve).

Prayers**Offering****Hymn**

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy one,

Give thanks because He's given,
Jesus Christ His Son.

And now,
Let the weak say I am strong.
Let the poor say I am rich.
Because of what,
The Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy one,
Give thanks because He's given,
Jesus Christ His Son.

And now,
Let the weak say I am strong.
Let the poor say I am rich.
Because of what,
The Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.

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Benediction

Postlude