



Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
September 27, 2026 - 9:45 AM

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"
Robert Lowry, setting Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP

*SONG OF WORSHIP

#548 "Come, Great God of All the Ages"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who chooses to be with us,
we confess that our lives are busy:
hurried, harried, and haphazard.
We fail to slow down.
To pay attention.
To notice those around us.
We choose avoidance rather than engagement,
superficial conversation rather than deeper connection,
apathy rather than intentionality.

Led by sanctuary choir:

Kyrie. **Kyrie.** Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Christe. **Christe.** Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Kyrie. **Kyrie.** Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Kyrie. **Kyrie.** Eleison. **Eleison.**

Please use this period of silence for personal reflection.

By your Spirit,
empower us to live with purpose in our interactions with others.
Give us the strength to seek connection,
the diligence to work for community,
and the endurance to stick with it
even when engaging with others is challenging.
In Christ we pray. Amen.

CHORAL ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

"The Love of God"
Natalie Sleeth

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Indeed, it is true:

**"There's not a thing that can be found;
there's nothing anywhere around to keep us from the love of
God."**

Friends, know that in Christ you are kept in the love of God,
and go forth to live in that peace.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Congregation, bless your children.

You are God's beloved child. With you, God is well pleased.

*SONG OF PREPARATION

"Bind Us Together"

Isaac Wardell | Kate Bluett | Leslie Jordan | Nick Chambers | Paul Zach

**Bind us together within your love
Bind us together within your holy love
As we shared in our sorrows
We will share in your joy
Bind us together in love**

**Bind us together and be our peace
Bind us together and be our perfect peace
Though the tempest may rage
We will rest in your joy
Bind us together in peace**

**Bind us together and give us hope
Bind us together and give us endless hope
Though our tears were our bread
We will feast in your joy
Bind us together in hope**

**Bind us together and make us one
Bind us together and make us truly one
In your love in your peace
In your hope in your joy
Bind us together as one**

SCRIPTURE & SERMON

Luke 10:38-42

Choosing Connection: Intentionality

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from Our World Belongs to God, 34

**In our world,
where many journey alone,
nameless in the bustling crowd,
evil forces seek to scatter and isolate;
but God, by his gracious choosing in Christ,
gathers a new community—
those who by God's gift
put their trust in Christ.
In the new community
all are welcome:
the homeless come home,
the broken find healing,
the sinner makes a new start,
the despised are esteemed,
the least are honored,
and the last are first.
Here the Spirit guides and grace abounds.
So let it be. Amen.**

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, whose image we all bear;
Praise Christ, whose mercy we all share;
Praise Spirit, making justice grow—
One God from whom all blessings flow! Amen.**

Tithes/offerings placed in the baskets at the entrance of the sanctuary are brought forward as a sign of our response to God's call on our lives.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Our Father 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.**

*SONG OF RESPONSE #477 "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

*ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace"

*The congregation is invited to stand and turn toward
the center aisle, blessing one another in song.*

**My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of our Lord, and Savior.**

**My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.**

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

*POSTLUDE Trumpet Recessional on "Hanover" by Croft

548 Come, Great God of All the Ages

C $\frac{Em}{G}$ Am $\frac{Em}{G}$ F $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C Am Dm $\frac{G9}{D}$

1 Come, great God of all the a - ges, make your earth - ly
 2 Come, Christ Je - sus, flesh and spir - it, sure foun - da - tion,
 3 Come, great Spir - it, in and with us, tune our ears to the
 4 Come, O come, in cel - e - bra - tion, house - hold of the

$\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{Dm}{F}$ Fmaj7 Gsus G $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{Em}{G}$ Am $\frac{Em}{G}$ F $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C

mis - sion known; speak through ev - ery deed and per - son,
 cor - ner - stone, help us form the church e - ter - nal,
 hear your call; through the mov - ing of your pres - ence,
 one true God, in com - mit - ment and re - joic - ing

Am Dm $\frac{G9}{D}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{Dm}{F}$ Fmaj7 G B $\flat$ Gm6 Dm

let your way and will be shown. Guide the church to
 may your vi - sion be our own. Send a mes - sage
 let re - deem - ing love re - call min - is - try in
 let us go where Christ has trod; as we act in

B $\flat$ 6 Gm7 C7 F $\sharp$ F G $\frac{Am7}{E}$ $\frac{Bdim}{D}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ Bm7(b5) $\frac{Am}{C}$ Dm7 E7 Am

true com - mit - ment, give di - rec - tion now, we ask;
 to each fol - lower, lead all peo - ple to your way;
 ded - i - ca - tion, love em - bod - ied in our deeds;
 faith and rev - erence, let us, Lord, the fu - ture see,

WORDS: Mary Jackson Cathey (1926-)
 MUSIC: Cyril V. Taylor (1907-1991)

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 Music © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH
 8.7.8.7.D.

NATURE & FOUNDATION

C E Em G Am C Bb D C E Am G Dm F A7 E Dm C E F C G G7 C

fit us for the work of build-ing, ded - i - cate us to the task.
 urge us to strong faith and ac - tion as we build the church to - day.
 chal-lenge us to do your bid - ding, see your pur - pose, fill all needs.
 place us in the church tri - um - phant, now and for e - ter - ni - ty.

477 Come and Find the Quiet Center

F $\frac{Gm}{F}$ F Dm B $\flat$ $\frac{C}{B\flat}$ B $\flat$ F

1 Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed life we lead,
2 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
3 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's pain,

F $\frac{Gm}{F}$ F Dm $\frac{Dm}{C}$ B $\flat$ $\frac{C}{B\flat}$ B $\flat$ F

find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed:
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our be - ing, touch - es base,
let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:

F $\frac{C}{E}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm Am $\frac{F}{A}$ B $\flat$

clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see
mak - ing space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun,
there's a place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care,

C Dm $\frac{Dm}{C}$ B $\flat$ $\frac{F}{A}$ Gm7 Am $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ F

all the things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
rais - ing cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
in the Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-)

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. Ronald A. Nelson (1927-)

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BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.