



*First United Methodist Church
34 South Main Street
Rochester, NH*

September 27, 2026

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(†) *The congregation is invited to stand or (Sit with Gusto)*
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Silent Prayer and Time for Centering

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP ***

Loving God, Eternal Presence,

you surround us with your Being.

Faithful One, you enfold us in your love.

Tender One,

you dwell within us with healing and beauty.

We thank you. We praise you. We worship you.

We open our hearts to your presence,

that we may become more deeply present for you.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit of Love,

and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

† SONGS OF PRAISE I Sing Praises to your Name

**I sing praises to Your name O Lord, praises to Your name O Lord
for Your name is great and greatly to be praised**

**I sing praises to Your name O Lord, praises to Your name O Lord
For Your name is great and greatly to be praised**

**I give glory to Your name O Lord glory to Your name O Lord
for Your name is great and greatly to be praised**

**I give glory to Your name O Lord glory to Your name O Lord
for Your name is great and greatly to be praised**

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Praise The Name Of Jesus (Sing twice)

**Praise the name of Jesus,
praise the name of Jesus
He's my rock, He's my fortress,
He's my deliverer
in Him will I trust, praise the name of Jesus.**

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HOLY GROUND

**We are standing on holy ground
and I know that there are angels all around;
Let us praise Jesus now
we are standing in His presence on holy ground.**

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† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We would want to be fountains of hope for others,
God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts.
We would like to be transformed people,
but our stubborn pride
prevents us from bending a knee to you.
We long to stand with those who are in need,
but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid in judgment.
Forgive us, God who came down to us.
Humble us, that we might be true servants
to the broken and lost.**

**Split open our frozen hearts,
that compassion might flow freely
to those who are hurting.**

**Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit,
that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Savior,
into that kingdom of grace and hope.**

† WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**In Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished.
You are forgiven, you are made new.**

**We will complete God's joy
by sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope,
with everyone we meet.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Exodus 17: 1-17](#) (Pg. 55) **

ANTHEM Day by Day (Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester) Martin How

Day by day,
dear Lord of these three things I pray,
to see thee more clearly
love thee more dearly,
follow thee more nearly,
day by day.

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TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

† SONGS OF ILLUMINATION

OPEN OUR EYES

Open our eyes Lord
we want to see Jesus
to reach out and touch Him
and say that we love Him.

Open our ears Lord,
and help us to listen.

Open our eyes Lord,
we want to see Jesus

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SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
melt me, mold me, fill me, use me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*CCLI Song #23488; Words: Daniel Iverson © 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music; Music: 1935. Renewed 1963
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† GOSPEL LESSON: [Matthew 21: 23-32](#)

(Pg. 801) **

PRESIDER: For the word of God in Scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us,

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

70

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men. A - men.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on 'A - men'.

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.
MUSIC: Charles Meineke, 1844

MEINEKE
Irr.

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SERMON: Rev. Ho-Soon Han

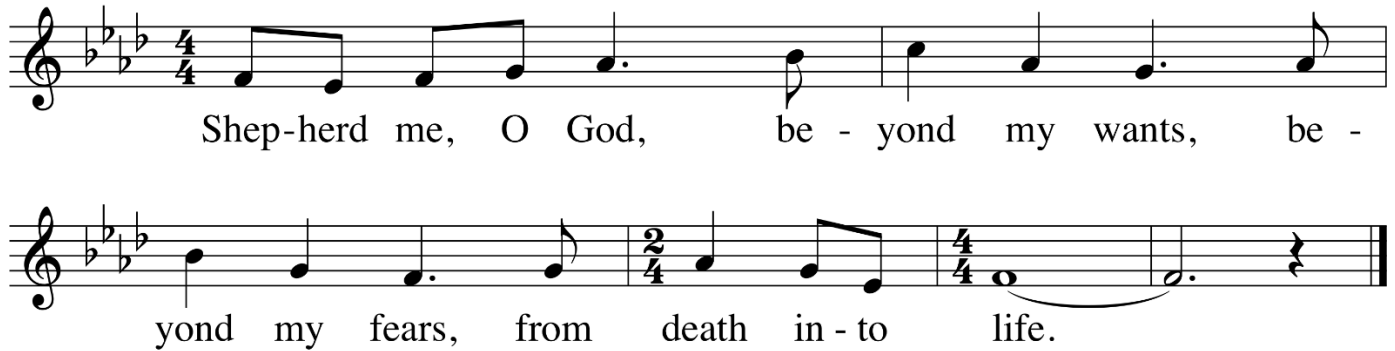
“Is the Lord Among Us?”

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

† HYMN (*Congregations sings the response, Verses = choir.*)

Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain



Verses

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want;
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love;
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul;
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth;
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
3. Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side;
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Text: Psalm 23; Marty Haugen
Music: Marty Haugen
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying /
Dios, oye el ruego de tus hijos

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and melodic, with lyrics in English and Spanish. The lyrics are: Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, Dios, o - ye el rue - go de tus hi - jos; Lord, send your Spir - it in this place; Dios, pon tu Es - pí - ri - tu a - quí; Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, Send us Dios, o - ye el rue - go de tus hi - jas; da - nos love, send us pow'r, send us grace! paz y tu a - mor has-ta el fin.

Text: Ken Medema, b.1943; tr. by María Eugenia Cornou, b.1969
Tune: CHILDREN PRAYING, 9 8 9 9; Ken Medema, b.1943
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SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(UMH p. 895)

PRAYER SONG (See Above)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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OFFERTORY MUSIC

† DOXOLOGY

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Unison



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;



praise God, all creatures here be - low:

Harmony

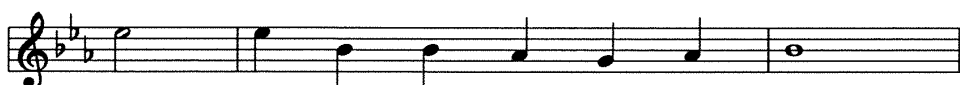


Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison



Praise God, the source of all our gifts!



Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

Refrain (Harmony)



Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

† HYMN SHINE JESUS SHINE

Lord the light of Your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

CHORUS

*Shine Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,
blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire,
flow river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
send forth Your word, Lord and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
from the shadows into Your radiance.
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
search me, try me, consume all my darkness
shine on me shine on me. CHORUS

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell Your story,
shine on me shine on me. CHORUS

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† Benediction

Voluntary

Assisting with Worship today:

Liturgist:

Paul Blackadar

Video and Sound Engineer:

Sam Tweedy

Cover Image:

"parable of the two sons" Mironov, Andreï (Andreï Nikolaevich), 1975-

Parable of the Two Sons, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57607> [retrieved September 26, 2026].

Altar Flowers:

In Loving Memory of Richard "Dick" Parker from Sharon, Kim

Michelle & Jessica Parker

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***Liturgical Elements: "Unfolding Light"

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Looking Ahead

Readings for October 4, 2026

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

[Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 / Psalm 19](#)

[Philippians 3:4b -14 / Acts 4:5-12 / Matthew 21: 33-46](#)



[*First United Methodist Church*](#)

"Feed the Need"

Putting Our Faith into Motion

By Feeding the Body, Mind, and Soul

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