



Order of Worship

Sunday, October 18, 2026

“Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy.”

—Henri J. M. Nouwen, *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*

Order of Worship — 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Notes: Worshipers are asked to join in the sections marked in **bold**. The *asterisk invites all who are able to stand. And, as always, please silence your cell phones.

Prelude

Laurel Sanders, organ

The Swan

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Gathering Around the Word

Concerns of the Church

Rev. Dr. Mike Morgan

Pulpit Pitch

Kate Ellis

Introit

WPC Chancel Choir

Come, Everyone

Laurel Sanders (b. 1984)

*Call to Worship

Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care

"You have found favor in my sight," says the Lord; "I know you by name."

Show us your glory.

"My presence will go with you and I will give you rest."

Where you are is our rest!

*Hymn 756

Verses 1 & 4

O God of Every Nation

[LLANGLOFFAN]

*Confessions of the Body of Christ

Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries

God of extravagant love, you have welcomed us into your family and called us to welcome others.

Yet too often, we place boundaries where you have made room.

Forgive us when we stand in the way of your welcome.

Open our hearts, challenge our assumptions, and help us extend the hospitality we have received through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Silent Individual Confession**

***Declaration of Pardon**

***Gloria Patri**

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.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Let us extend God's peace to one another with these ancient words:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclaiming the Word

Children and Youth are dismissed to Sunday School

***Hymn 722**

Verses 1 & 3

**Lord, Speak to Me,
That I May Speak**
[CANONBURY]

First Lesson

Stephen Dawson

Galatians 3:23-29; O.T., page 177

Anthem

Three Shaker Songs

Arr. Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)

Choral Call to Prayer

Verse 1: Choir

*Verse 2: Congregation
may join*

Hear Our Prayer

Music: Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)

Lyrics: Christina Harding &
John Gabriel Koladziej

**Lord above us hear our plea:
from our sorrows set us free.
This we humbly ask of thee –
grant us peace, oh Lord.**

**Lord above us hear our plea:
from our sorrows set us free.
This we humbly ask of thee –
grant us peace, Lord, hear our prayer.
Amen**

Prayers of the People

Rev. Paula Mann

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem

Thy Word

Words & Music: Amy Grant (b. 1960) & Michael W. Smith (b. 1957)
Arr. Jack Schrader (b. 1942)

Second Lesson

Acts 8:26-40; N.T., page 118

Meditation

What is to Prevent Me?

Bearing the Word Into the World

*Hymn 722

Verses 2, 4, & 5

**Lord, Speak to Me,
That I May Speak**
[CANONBURY]

*Benediction

Response

Amen

Paul Mealor (b. 1975)

Postlude

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the contributions of:

Greeter	Katie Mahler
Ushers	Tracy Cluss-Harmeyer and Matthew Thompson
Elder Host	Tracy Cluss-Harmeyer
Deacon Host	M.C. Haslett
AV Team	Nick Pelayo and Logan Eiselt



Coffee Fellowship

Following worship, please join us for fellowship on the Side Porch for refreshments. We invite you to take a turn sponsoring the fellowship hour! You can select your sponsorship date on the Bulletin Board after worship or on our website at westwoodpres.org.



Parking

*Parking is available in the church lot as well as next door at the AVCO/iPic theater parking garage. Following worship, pick up a **FREE** validation card from an usher before returning to the parking structure.*