

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude *Come, Thou Almighty King* arr. John Innes
Mark David Jackson, Guest Organist

Welcome Eric Clark

Opening Hymn No. 634 *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY
[Hymn sheet on page 3](#)

Call to Worship Evan Folkestad

One: People of God, open your eyes! Look around!

All: The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here among us and within us.

One: God's salvation is close at hand,

All: Nearer than we know.

One: So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit,

All: And let's worship God together!

Prayer of Invocation Cindy Goodwin

Hymn No. 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADER'S HYMN
[Hymn sheet on page 4](#)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Sermon on the Steps Eric Clark

Hymn No. 465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* CONVERSE
[Hymn sheet on page 5](#)

Gospel Reading Matthew 18:15-20 Cindy Goodwin

One: 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.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer Evan Folkestad

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.

Epistle Reading Romans 13:8-14 Chuck Poole

One: For the Word of God for the people of God,

All: We give thanks to God.

Anthem *His Eye Is on the Sparrow* SPARROW
Tim Liptak, Baritone

Sermon

Concerning What Matters Most

Chuck Poole

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Call to the Table

Eric Clark

Celebration of Communion

All are welcome to God’s table.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eric Clark

Invitation to Christian Commitment

Eric Clark

Hymn of Response No. 203

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

[Hymn sheet on page 6](#)

CHERE PON

Words of Dedication

Jarret Stinnett

Reception of the Offering

Ushers

Giving sacrificially of our money is one tangible expression of a wholehearted self-giving stewardship of all of life.
Monetary offerings may be given online at baptistchurchofthecovenant.org/giving.

Offertory

More Love to Thee, O Christ

Mark David Jackson, Guest Organist

arr. Mark Hayes

Offertory Response

Doxology

OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Life of the Church

Eric Clark

Benediction

Chuck Poole

Postlude

Song of Praise

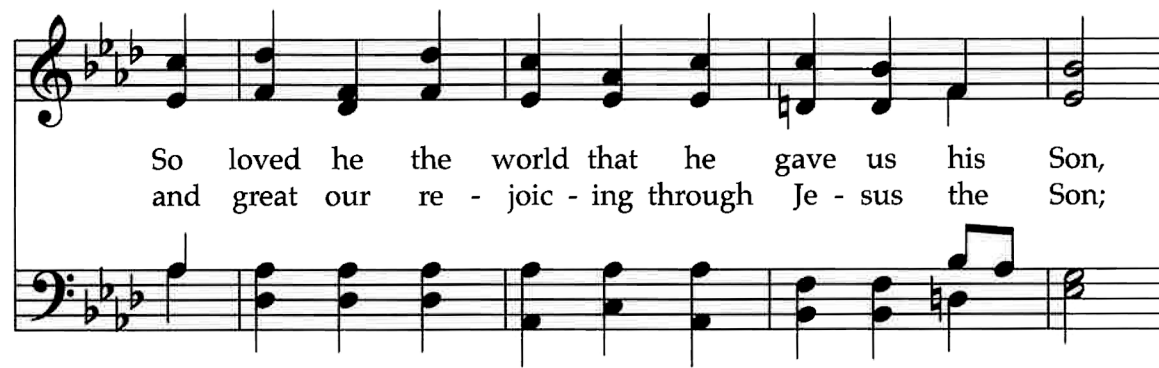
Mark David Jackson, Guest Organist

Mary Ellen Kerrick

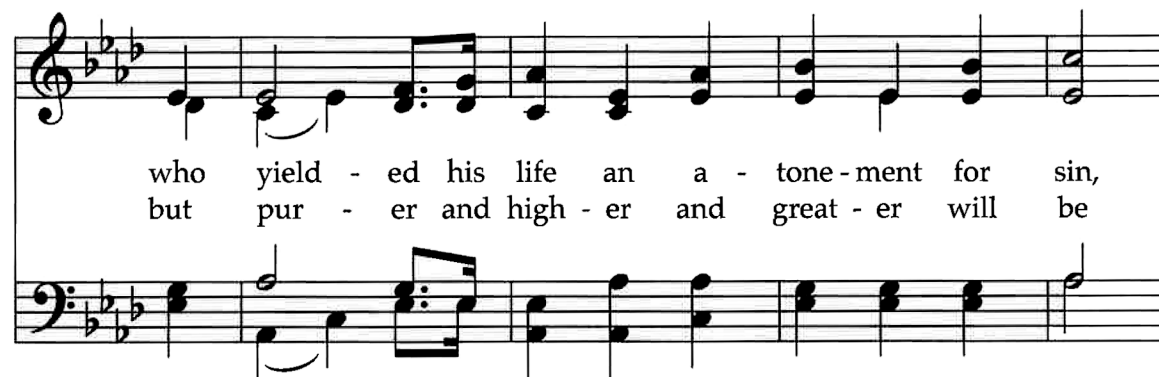
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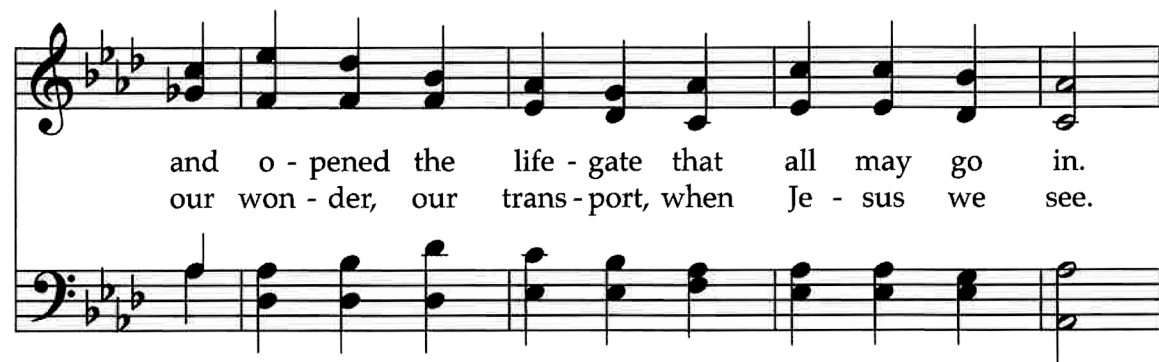
1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,



So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

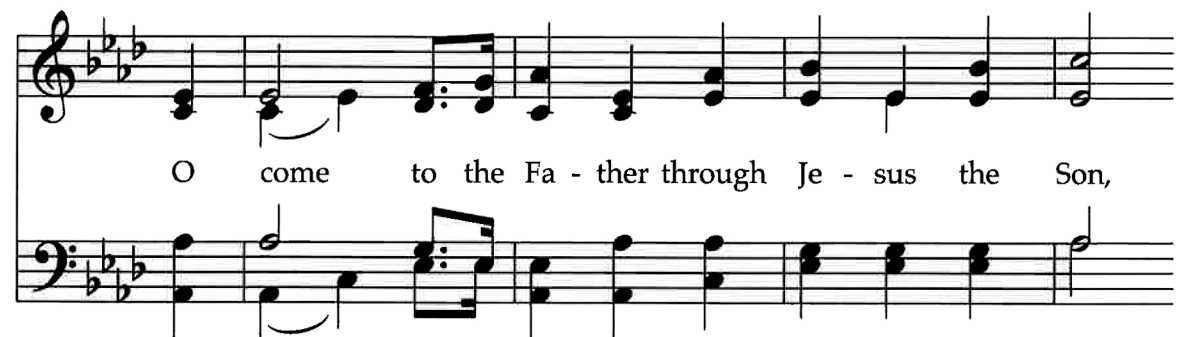
Refrain



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!



O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,



and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

630

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

죄 짐 맡은 우리구주



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bere'd with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith-ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so-lace there.



203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain Capo 3: (D) (A7)
F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)
F F/A Gm7 C7 F *Fine*

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)
F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and
3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should
4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)
F Dm Gm7 C7 F *to Refrain*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.
love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
feet; this is the way we should live like you.



Cover art by Steve Erspamer for *Clip Art for Year A* (1992).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE CLOSED **Monday, September 7**

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day. Eric Clark will be on call for pastoral emergencies.

2026 SOUTHERN EXPOSURE FILMS **Friday, September 25**

The Creation Care Team hopes you will join us again on Friday, September 25 at the Altamont School Theatre for the premiere of the 2026 Southern Exposure Films. A Mix & Mingle with environmentally-conscious vendors, food, and drink will begin at 5:00 pm. The films will begin at 6:30 pm with a Q&A to follow.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP **September 2**

This week Creation Care Team will host a screening of one of the 2025 Southern Exposure films: *Hyperscaled*. The film will give us insight into the building of data centers in Alabama. It will serve as a springboard for a faith-based discussion centered on why this matters to us as people of faith and how we are called to respond.

Our mid-week fellowship meal is in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. You can make a reservation online. Reservations must be in by Monday at noon.