Outdoor Worship at John Rudy Park
September 27, 2026

18th Sunday after Pentecost

PASTORS: The Rev. Debbie Mahady, The Rev. Amy Northridge
MUSICIANS: This Way Up

Today we celebrate Holy Communion: Christ's Presence!

Please place your pot luck on the food table. Do NOT eat the fruit placed at your seat! It is there for a purpose.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS BEFORE THE SERVICE

PD: PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

PRELUDE "Glorious Day"

I was buried beneath my shame, Who could carry that kind of weight?
It was my tomb 'Til I met You

I was breathing, but not alive, All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'Til I met You

You called my name, Then I ran out of that grave. Out of the darkness,
Into Your glorious day. You called my name, And I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness, Into Your glorious day

Now Your mercy has saved my soul, Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new, Jesus, when I met You, whoa, what a day

When you called my name, And I ran out of that grave. Out of the darkness,
Into Your glorious day. You called my name, Then I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness, Into Your glorious day

I needed rescue, My sin was heavy.
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter, I was an orphan, But You call me a citizen of Heaven
When I was broken, You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing, I have a future, My eyes are open

'Cause when you called my name, I ran out of that grave, Out of the darkness,
Into Your glorious day. You called my name, And I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness, Into Your glorious day.

Songwriters: Jason Ingram / Jonathan Smith / Kristian Stanfill / Sean Curran
Glorious Day lyrics © Capitol CMG Publishing, Essential Music Publishing

GOD, THE CREATOR

CREATION LITANY

PA: This is the day the Lord has made,
C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
PA: The heavens declare the glory of God –
C: not in words but in a glorious technicolor light show,
Every day shouts in wordless language that God,
Almighty God, made it all.
PA: "Morning has broken, like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
praise for them springing, fresh from above." (Eleanor Farjeon)
C: Blackbird has spoken and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in the land.
PA: Look at the birds of the heaven, Jesus says in his Sermon,
take a lesson from them.
C: Consider the stork, God says to Job.
When she spreads her feathers to run, she laughs at horse and rider.
PA: An old confession tells us that "the universe lies before our eyes like a beautiful book in which all creatures, great and small, are as letters to make us ponder the invisible things of God." (Belgic Confession)

C: Jesus says, "Consider the lilies," to make us ponder the invisible things of God – his providential care and his love of beautiful things.

PA: When Jesus walked the earth,

C: he walked the earth!

PA: His feet were dirty with the dust of the earth.
His sermon illustrations were about flowers and trees and seeds and vineyards and birds and fish and sheep and goats and pigs.

C: The Psalmist lies down in green pastures beside still waters and he finds peace

PA: He imagines God dressed up in sunshine
with all heaven stretched out for his tent.

C: He imagines God laughing as his pet dragon, the leviathan frolics in the sea.

PA: And he exclaims, "What a wildly wonderful world, God!
The glory of the Lord, let it last forever."

C: We are gathered here this morning, on the green pasture
With the tent of the sky stretched above us,
To worship the Creator of the universe.

PA: The Lord is in his holy temple

C: and that temple is the whole blooming creation.

PA: The Lord is in his holy temple,

C: let all the earth keep silence before him.

PA: Let's say it together:

C: The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

GATHERING HYMN: "Indescribable" by Chris Tomlin

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creations revealing Your majesty
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring, Every creature unique in the song that it sings All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable. You placed the stars in the sky, And You know them by name. You are amazing, God, All powerful, untamable, Awestruck, we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim, You are amazing, God

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go? Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light?
Yet, conceals it to bring us the coolness of night, None can fathom

Indescribable, uncontainable. You placed the stars in the sky, And You know them by name, You are amazing, God

All powerful, untamable, Awestruck, we fall to our knees, As we humbly proclaim, You are amazing, God. You are amazing, God

Indescribable, uncontainable, You placed the stars in the sky,
And You know them by name, You are amazing, God

Incomparable, unchangeable. You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same. You are amazing, God, You are amazing, God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PD: Made in God's image to live in loving communion with our Maker,
we are appointed earth keepers and caretakers
to tend the earth, enjoy it, and love our neighbors.

PD: God uses our skills for the unfolding and well-being of his world
so that creation and all who live in it may flourish.

C: Yet often we neglect our task. Recalling our task leads us to confess our sins and to yearn for God's forgiveness.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

PD: In the name of the Father, and of the ✢ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

PD: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

PD: Most Merciful God,
C: have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have squandered your bountiful gifts.
We have considered the blessings of the harvest our due.
We have been indifferent in planning and planting
for the future needs of your church.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, cause gratitude to ripen in our hearts,
and wisdom to mature in our minds,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PD: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17) Your sins are forgiven.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: "How He Loves" John Mark McMilan

V1: He is jealous for me,
Love's like a hurricane, I am a tree, Bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy.
When all of a sudden, I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory,
And I realize just how beautiful You are, And how great
Your affections are for me.

Chorus1:
And, oh, how He loves us, oh, Oh, how He loves us, How He loves us oh.

V2: And He is jealous for me,
Love's like a hurricane, I am a tree, Bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy.
When all of a sudden I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory.

And I realize just how beautiful You are, And how great
Your affections are for me.

Chorus2:
Yeah, He loves us, Oh, how He loves us, Oh, how He loves us, Oh, how He loves.

Bridge: And we are His portion and He is our prize, Drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes.
If His grace is an ocean, we're all sinking. And Heaven meets earth like an unforeseen kiss,
And my heart turns violently inside of my chest. I don't have time to maintain these regrets When I think about the way...

Chorus1:
And, oh, how He loves us, oh, Oh, how He loves us, How He loves us oh.

Chorus2:
Yeah, He loves us, Oh, how He loves us, Oh, how He loves us, Oh, how He loves.

ACKNOWLEDGE THE CREATOR

PA: When God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus,
most of the world didn't recognize him and therefore, did not worship him.

C: Today we ask for faith that will open our eyes
to see Jesus for who he is, that we might worship him in truth.

PA: People of God, behold your God!
We open our eyes to see his glory (look for 5 things God made)
We open our ears to hear his wisdom (listen for 5 things you hear)
We open our hands to offer him gifts (feel 5 things we can give)
We open our mouths to sing his praise (think of 5 songs to honor God)
We open our hearts to offer him love (tell one person next you when God showed you love)

PA: People of God, behold your God!
C: He is Lord!

PRAYER

PA: Dear Lord, be with us this day. Renew our senses so that we might see, hear, smell, taste, and feel your presence in all we experience.
Help us to respond as you would; with patience, humbleness, joy, and love to all creation around us. In Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

JESUS, OUR REDEEMER

JOURNEY WITH JESUS "Please, Sir, I Want Some"

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Fruit of the Spirit" Uncle Charlie

V1: The fruit of the Spirit's not a COCONUT
The fruit of the Spirit's not a coconut
If you wanna be a coconut
You might as well hear it
You can't be a fruit of the Spirit

Chorus:
Cause the fruit is Love, joy, peace, patience, Kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
Gentleness and self-control, Love, joy, peace, patience,
Kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Gentleness and self-control, oh

V2: The fruit of the Spirit's not a BANANA
The fruit of the Spirit's not a banana. If you wanna be a banana,
You might as well hear it, You can't be a fruit of the Spirit

Chorus:
Cause the fruit is, Love, joy, peace, patience, Kindness, goodness, faithfulness
Gentleness and self-control, Love, joy, peace, patience
Kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Gentleness and self-control, oh

V3: The fruit of the Spirit's not a STARFRUIT
The fruit of the Spirit's not a starfruit. If you wanna be a starfruit,
You might as well hear it, You can't be a fruit of the Spirit

Chorus:
Cause the fruit is, Love, joy, peace, patience, Kindness, goodness, faithfulness
Gentleness and self-control, Love, joy, peace, patience
Kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Gentleness and self-control, oh

V4: The fruit of the Spirit's not a LEMON
The fruit of the Spirit's not a lemon. If you wanna be a lemon,
You might as well hear it, You can't be a fruit of the Spirit

Chorus:
Cause the fruit is, Love, joy, peace, patience, Kindness, goodness, faithfulness
Gentleness and self-control, Love, joy, peace, patience
Kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Gentleness and self-control, oh

PLEASE, SIR, I WANT SOME

OFFERING: PLEASE place your offering in the baskets being passed by the children. Envelopes will go to respective churches. Loose offerings will go to Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen.

OFFERING PRAYER:

PA: Let us pray: Gracious God,
C: You bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD:
PD: God of beauty and of justice, we pray for the earth—
for restoration of soil, air, and water.
C: Come, Lord Jesus, send us your spirit, renew the face of the earth.
PD: We pray for all people you have created—
for restoration of dignity and hope.
C: Come, Lord Jesus, send us your spirit renew the face of the earth.
PD: We pray for our nation and community—
for restoration of our sense of responsibility in service.
C: Come, Lord Jesus, send us your spirit, renew the face of the earth.

PD: We pray even for ourselves—
for restoration of our resolve to love you and the world you made,
through Christ, our Lord.

C: Come, Lord Jesus, send us your spirit,
renew the face of the earth. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

PA: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PA: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift the up to the Lord.

PA: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PA: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Through your Son, you taught us that true riches are to be found in loving you rather than earthly treasure.
For your glory, and to give us the fullness of life and salvation,
Christ emptied himself on the cross
and was raised in power to sit at your right hand.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

PD: Please, Sir, I want some, generous and abundant Creator:

C: you scatter abroad and give to the poor;
you provide seed to the sower and bread for food.

PD: Please, Sir, I want some:

C: you called Israel to be your chosen people,
to preserve your word and to scatter it abroad.

PD: Please, Sir, I want some:

C: when the time had ripened, you sent the Word, your Son,
into the world, so that all might have life and have it abundantly.

PD: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; This is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

PA: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

PD: Remembering, therefore, how he fed the hungry
and gave company to outcasts;
how he healed the sick and freed those in bondage;
how he taught and guided those who were seeking you;
how he was handed over and gathered in for our sake;
how he was resurrected as the first fruits of the dead,
and how he promised to return for the great harvest home;
we give you thanks, not as we ought, but as we are able.

PA: Send, we pray, your Spirit to this meal.
Supply our needs, and those of all your saints,
and fill us until we overflow with thanksgivings.
Empowered by this meal, enlivened by your Spirit,
move us to glorify you in faithfulness to the gospel
and in generosity to all in need.

PA: United by your Spirit with all your people,
we pray through your Son, Jesus Christ,
to you, our Source and our Goal,
our Sun and our Shield,
our God now and forever.
C: Amen.

*** LORD'S PRAYER:**

PD: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PA: Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your Church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever.

C: Please, Sir, I want some!

COMMUNION

*** POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

PD: Let us pray. Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Thank you, Sir, you gave me some. Amen.

HOLY SPIRIT, OUR SUSTAINER

SENDING WITH THE SPIRIT

PA: The Spirit who calls us to the park,
C: give peace to us.

PD: The Spirit who calls us to his service,
C: give love to our neighbors.

PA: The Spirit who heals our minds and bodies,
C: give healing to the world.

PD: The Spirit who feeds us with Jesus' body,
C: give unity to his church.

PA: The Spirit who has sustained us for 175 years as a church and who lives in us forever,
C: give hope throughout eternity.

*** SENDING HYMN**: "My Lighthouse" Rend Collective

V1: In my wrestling and in my doubts, In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through, You are the peace in my troubled sea oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

V2: In the silence You won't let go, In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through, You are the peace in my troubled sea oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore

V3: I won't fear what tomorrow brings, With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through, You are the peace in my troubled sea oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, I will trust the promise,
You will carry me safe to shore

Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

Chorus
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My Lighthouse, My Lighthouse, I will trust the promise,
You will carry me safe to shore

POSTLUDE: "Glorious Day"

Thank you to our special guests, This Way Up.
We were blessed by your music today.

Thank you all for coming to outdoor worship today!
Please stay for our potluck picnic.
We will be set up to eat shortly after the service.

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