

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Alan Peters, Worship Leader

MINUTE FOR MISSION WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

PRELUDE *The Master Came to Bring Good News* ICH GLAUB ON GOTT

*UNITY HYMN (**stand as we are able*) AURELIA

In Unity, we gather to worship and rejoice.

From our own faith traditions, we pray with one strong voice:

Lord, help us love each other and serve all those in need,

and live as your disciples – in heart and word and deed.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

**Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ
to forgive and repair the rifts between us.**

The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome,
and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore.
Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

**Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ
to forgive and repair the rifts between us.**

We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions,
reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

**Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ
to forgive and repair the rifts between us.**

In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us
in the places where we want to give up,
where we despair that life-giving change is even possible,
with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

**God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ
to forgive and repair the rifts between us. Amen**

*HYMN – No. 452 UMH *My Faith Looks up to Thee* OLIVET

*PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Liberating God, we worship You.

We praise You for delivering Your people of old from enslavement in Egypt
by opening up a new and unexpected future before them.

They experienced Your grace and mercy in awesome and life-sustaining
ways, which must have been like an impossible dream come true.

**Through these acts, You showed Your compassion
for the weak and powerless of this world.**

**We praise and adore You for opening up a new future for us
when Your love and compassion, Your mercy and grace
became enfleshed in Jesus Christ.**

**He delivered us from the bondage of evil and sin through
His death on the cross.**

**The impossible once more became reality
when love defeated evil once and for all.**

**We pray that this time of worship will be a true offering
of our wonder and praise**

that You should care so deeply and so faithfully.

We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

*HYMN – No. 70 UMH *Gloria Patri* GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always!

And also with you!

(Let us offer each other signs of peace and reconciliation.)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Katy Manck, Reader

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 14:19-31; Romans 14:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN – No. 121 UMH *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* WELLESLEY

*SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 18:21-35 Pastor Stanley Larson
This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand,
and by which we are saved. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER – No. 894 UMH

**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 all Yours
now and forever. Amen**

OFFERTORY

Merciful Deliverer, You part the waters when we feel trapped and forgive debts too great to repay.... Bless these offerings and bless us as stewards of Your kingdom, always seeking to build a world where grace is not rare but abundant. **Amen**

(Please place tithes and offerings in one of the designated offering plates at the entrance to the sanctuary.)

*THE DOXOLOGY – No. 95 UMH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

THANKSGIVING

*HYMN – No. 357 UMH *Just as I Am, Without One Plea*

WOODWORTH

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Improvisation on "Take My Life and Let It Be"*

HENDON

THE LORD'S DAY

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

When the Israelites escaped from Egypt, when the family of Jacob left that foreign land, the land of Judah became God's sanctuary, and Israel became His kingdom. Psalm 114:1-2



St. Andrew

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Community

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Worshipping together, through Christ,
we are made one with God*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome friends! May the welcome you feel here be worthy of the gracious God that we serve. In this service, an asterisk (*) invites you to stand as health allows. Material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say. Let us worship God!

The **Wednesday Night Live** menu on September 16th features **Chicken and Sausage Gumbo**, a side salad, dessert, and a beverage. Adults pay \$10, with reduced prices for children. Please RSVP by 11:30 p.m. Monday on the website, sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex on Sunday, email the office, or call the office by 4:00 p.m. on Monday.

September is Hunger Action Month. Donate to the East Texas Food Bank virtual food drive at <https://www.easttexasfoodbank.org/> and your gift will be matched. You can also donate to Longview Community Ministries online at <https://www.longviewcommunityministries.org/donation-link> and designate Food Box.

Feeding our Firefighters: We feed all three 7-person crews at Station 6 once a month. Our September theme is breakfast, with deliveries on Mon 9/21, Wed 9/23 & Fri 9/25 afternoons. Please contact Rose Briggs (903.238.6463) or Katy Manck (903.918.1154 or katyroo@gmail.com) to sign up or ask questions.

Gilmont Camp is hosting a **Battle of the Bags** on Saturday, October 10, 2026. Go to their website <https://www.gilmont.org/battle-of-the-bags/> to sign up!

Rev. Ted V. Foote Jr. will be joining the East Texas Pastors Cohort for lunch on October 22, 2026 at the Longview United Presbyterian Church, 301 N. Center St., Longview. If you would like to attend, please contact Michele Goff at michele@gracepresbytery.org or call her at 918.232.6422.