



*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



Order of Worship for
August 31, 2025 10:00 am

Welcome to Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are with us today.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – AUGUST 31, 2025
THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC Blessings

L. Singerman

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *from Jeremiah 3:22-25*

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: We will be glad and rejoice in it.

This is the year that the Lord has begun.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning.

Great is your faithfulness.

The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to those who seek him.

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.

*OPENING SONG *Shout to the Lord*

D. Zschech

*My Jesus, my Savior,
Lord there is none like You;
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love;
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength:
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship You.*

*Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing,
Power and majesty, praise to the King!
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name;
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand!
Nothing compares to the promise I have
In You*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

What National Parks have you visited?

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

**Congregation Sings:*

***This land is your land,
This land is my land;
From California to the New York island,
From the redwood forests to the Gulf Stream waters,
This land was made for you and me.***

W. Guthrie

Children leave for Sunday School Classrooms

SCRIPTURE Revelations 21:1-5

SERMON “*Looking towards the Eschatological Horizon
(and other words I say to make me sound smart)*”

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE *Hallelujah*

L. Cohen

Arunan Arulampalam

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *God of Wonders*

Chris Tomlin

Logan Singerman, guitar and vocals

Verse 1

***Lord of all creation
Of water, Earth and sky
The Heavens are your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on High***

Verse 2

***Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
And as I stumble through the darkness
I will call your name by night (to Chorus)***

Chorus

***God of wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy;
The universe declares Your Majesty,
You are holy, holy;
Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth***

***Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth***

Verse 3

*God of wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
Precious Lord, reveal your heart to me
Father hold me, hold me
The universe declares Your Majesty
You are holy, holy, holy, holy...*

*Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of Heaven and Earth...*

***DOXOLOGY**

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.*

*And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us, Give Thanks!*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)**

Dear God who makes all things new, we praise you! You direct our paths, even when we do not recognize your presence. As we set out on the journey of this new school year, we wonder what challenges we may face. Send your Holy Spirit, so that we may trust you completely. Direct our gifts and resources to fulfill your will for us individually and as a community of faith. Amen.

*SENDING SONG *God Our Creator*

K. Dearman/J. Mills

Verse 1

***God our Creator, You are the Potter,
We are the work of your hands.
Mold us and make us, make us like Jesus,
We are the work of Your hands.***

Chorus

***Be glorified, God of our lives, be glorified in us,
Be glorified, God of our lives, be glorified in us.***

Verse 2

***All of creation in celebration,
Praising the God of all life.
Blessing their Maker, Loving Creator,
Praising the God of all Life. (to Chorus)***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION (*Printed Next Page*)

SENDING FORTH *God of Wonders (reprise)*

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's service. Go in peace!