



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



Order of Worship for

October 12, 2025

10:30 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP – OCTOBER 19, 2025
A SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP – WEEK 2: RELEASE

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

PIANO PRELUDE Let My People Go arr. B. Burroughs

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT*†

CALL TO WORSHIP *Landon Preston*

One: Through Moses, God said,

All: “Let my people go.” (Ex.9:1)

One: In scripture, the law declares:

All: “In the seventh year, you must cancel all debts.” (Deut.15:1)

One: With grace, Jesus said:

All: “Give one coat away.” (Luke 3:11)

One: With honesty, Jesus taught:

All: “Sell what you have, give that money to the poor.” (Matt. 19:21)

One: Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free,
Dropping our nets, giving to others, and following.

All: So in this hour of worship, may we release that which binds us.

**May we worship with open, untamed, and porous hearts, so that we can walk freely
with God.**

One: Let it be so.

All: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NCH 436 God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Ms. Ioanna Kyrkou

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR All Night, All Day & I've Got the Joy

Children are dismissed to classrooms as the congregation sings...

***Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 15:1-11 – *The Year of Jubilee*
Matthew 19:16-22 – *A Wealthy Man Seeks Eternal Life*

SERMON Our Money Story: Release

The Rev. Liza Arulampalam

RITUAL OF RELEASE

MUSICAL RESPONSE Change My Heart, O God

E. Espinosa

*Change my heart, Oh God, make it ever true,
Change my heart, Oh God, may I be like You.
You are the potter, I am the clay;
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Change my heart, Oh God, make it ever true,
Change my heart, Oh God, may I be like You.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY I Need Thee Every Hour
Center Church Choir; Ian Duncan, Soloist

Hawks/Lowry

*DOXOLOGY NCH 780

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.***

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Holy God,
It is not always easy to give what we have.

**All: We count pennies.
We weigh the pros and cons.**

One: We calculate what we have given before,
And we remind ourselves what we are giving to now.
We all have our money stories.
And yet,
Even though it can take work for us to practice release,
We trust that you can take these gifts—
However freely or reluctantly given—
And use them to build a more beautiful world.

**All: For that is who you are.
You are forever building castles out of sand,
Disciples out of people, and new life out of cautious gifts.
We believe; help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen**

***CLOSING HYMN NCH 2 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!**

GLORY, GLORY
African American Spiritual
arr. J. F. Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE Trumpet Voluntary

J. Stanley

Thank you to everyone who participated in worship. Go in Peace!