



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



Order of Worship for
June 28, 2026 10:00 am

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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ROOTED: HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY CHURCH
WEEK 5: TRUSTED LEADERSHIP

JUNE 28, 2026 – ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT^{*†}

Please remember to take a prayer card and write down and prayers you would like to share with the congregation today. The cards will be collected and re-distributed during today's service.

CALL TO WORSHIP

written by Susan Brecht

Leader: Creating Spirit, we gather this morning enveloped in the beauty of your creation. We come to release the stress, the anxiety, the burdens, the worries, the struggles of our lives. We come to open ourselves to your Spirit moving in us and through us. We come to celebrate. We come to give thanks.

Leader: Open our eyes:

People: that we may see your presence in each leaf, each rock, each sunset, each creature and person we encounter.

Leader: Open our ears:

People: that we may hear your voice in the rushing of the wind and the flutter of wings, in the laughter of children and the cries of those in pain.

Leader: Open our minds:

People: that we may know your wisdom, to make right decisions, to follow your path.

Leader: Open our hearts:

People: that we may feel your love as a constant presence in our lives, filling us in times of joy and nurturing us in times of need.

All: We walk hand and hand with you, Creating Spirit, for our work is not yet done. You are the ground of our being. We are standing on Holy Ground.

*OPENING SONG Come, Now is the Time to Worship

B. Doerksen

*Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come...*

*One day every tongue will confess You are God,
One day every knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now.*

*PASSING OF PEACE

The children are dismissed to their classrooms as the congregation sings.

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah,
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah,
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!*

Traditional Caribbean Melody

SCRIPTURE Nehemiah 2: 11-18
 2 Corinthians 4: 1-2, 5-7

SERMON Rooted, Week 5: Clay Jars & Broken Walls

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE Your Labor is not in Vain

Kimbrough, Wardell & Zach

Verse 1

*Your labor is not in vain
though the ground underneath
you is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are
never the same
But your labor is not in vain.*

Vs. 2

*Your labor is not unknown
though the rocks they cry out
and the sea it may groan.
The place of your toil may
not seem like a home
but your labor is not unknown.*

Refrain

*For I am with you, I am with you.
I am with you, I am with you
For I have called you,
called you by name
Your labor is not in vain.*

Vs. 3

*The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
the fields will sing out and
rejoice with the truth,
for all that is old will at last be made new:
the vineyards you plant will bear fruit.
(to refrain)*

Vs. 4

*The houses you labored to build
will finally with laughter and joy be filled.
The serpent that hurts and
destroys shall be killed
and all that is broken be healed.
(to refrain)*

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY You Say

L. Daigle

Carrie Howe, soloist

*DOXOLOGY Give Thanks

D. Moen

*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

*CLOSING HYMN Build Your Kingdom

Rend Collective

Verse 1

*Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit, come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your power in us*

Chorus

*Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here
We pray*

Vs. 2

*We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth*

Vs. 3

*Unleash Your kingdom's power
Reaching the near and far
No force of Hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth (to Chorus)*

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH Build Your Kingdom (Chorus)

Rend Collective

*Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here
We pray*

Thank you to everyone who participated in worship today, Go in Peace!

*Be sure to join us after worship in the (air-conditioned) second-floor parlor at 60 Gold Street for
a special second hour presentation by historian and activist
Kim Silva: “Deaf History and Center Church.”
Light snacks and childcare will be provided.*