



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



Order of Worship for
July 19, 2026 10:00 am

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ROOTED: HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY CHURCH
WEEK 8: SERVANT LEADERSHIP

JULY 19, 2026 – ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

PRELUDE Make Me a Servant

K. Willard

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *†

Please remember to take a prayer card and write down 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

Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

Based on Isaiah 55: 1-3

One: Our gracious God calls us to worship:

**All: “Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!**

One: Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.

**All: Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?**

One: Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.

**All: Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.**

*OPENING HYMN NCH 448 Take my Life and Let it Be

VIENNA

*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 John 3: 1-17
 Philippians 2: 3-8

SERMON The Holy Act of Stacking Chairs

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. Whose work in this congregation do we rarely see or think about?*
- 2. Paul says Jesus didn't lose his divinity by taking the form of a servant — he revealed it. Where in your own life have you experienced power or status as something to hold loosely rather than protect? What made that possible?*
- 3. What are some ways you wash other's feet (metaphorically) in your own life? It doesn't have to be church related.*

MUSICAL RESPONSE NCH 539 Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

SERVANT SONG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

OFFERTORY Woman at the Well

Lane, Fee and Reeves

Andrea Olson

*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...

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

*CLOSING HYMN NCH (*insert, next page*) Here I Am, Lord

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG POSTLUDE Here I Am, Lord (*refrain*)

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

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Here I Am, Lord

*Unison*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo- ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo- ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro- vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

WORDS: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981

MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. James Snyder, 1994

HERE I AM, LORD

77.74 w. refrain

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Harmony

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your peo-ple in my heart. heart.
 heart, in my heart.
 heart,in my heart.