



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



Order of Worship for
August 30, 2026 10:00 am

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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ROOTED: HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY CHURCH
WEEK 14: KINGDOM ECONOMICS

AUGUST 30, 2026 – ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC Be Glorified in Us

Dearman/Mills

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

Leader: We gather this morning under open sky instead of our usual centuries old roof
People: **Yet the same God who holds up the beams and rafters holds up the clouds.**

Leader: We come with what we have: our time, our talents, our treasure, our whole lives
People: **And all of it, we confess, was never truly ours to begin with**

Leader: The grass under our feet, the shade over our heads, the ground that holds us up —
People: **None of it was built by us. All of it was given.**

Leader: So let us worship not as owners protecting what's ours,
People: **But as stewards, grateful for what we've been lent**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God of old buildings and complicated finances,
 of open sky and sacred ground
People: **Come. Let us worship the God who trusts us with all of it.**
 Let us worship the Lord.

*OPENING SONG Shout to the Lord

D. Zschech

*My Jesus, my Saviour,
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 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 Luke 16: 1-15

SERMON *Kingdom Economics*

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE The Kingdom is Yours
Arunan Arulampalam, soloist

Common Hymnal

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgy written by the artists at Enfleshed Ministry

LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Jesus Draw Me Close
Logan Singerman, soloist

R. Founds

Jesus, draw me close; let the world around me fade away.

*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 SONG Ancient of Days

Sadler/Harvill

*Blessing and honor, glory and power
be unto the Ancient of Days.*

*From every nation, all of creation
bow before the Ancient of Days.*

*Every tongue in Heaven and Earth shall declare your glory,
every knee shall bow at your throne in worship.*

*You will be exalted, O God,
and your kingdom shall not pass away,
O Ancient of Days.*

*Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth:
sing unto the Ancient of Days;
for none can compare to your matchless worth:
sing unto the Ancient of Days.*

BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE

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

The Disciple's Prayer – In Three Versions
Written by enfleshed Ministries

Our Holy Mother,
in your glory, we rise to courage.
Your gentle power uplifts.
Your ferocious care protects.
As empires rise and fall,
your brave love sustains
all the earth, era after era.
Provide for us and all –
let every basic need be met
and all excess be redistributed.
May your graciousness move us
to be gracious with others
in accountability and repair.
We strive to live in alignment
with ourselves, each other, and the land.
Keep us from all that deceives and destroys.
On your paths, we find life abundant.
In your company, we return to ourselves.
Under your wings, we shelter each other.

Weaver of Life, Ancient and Unfolding,
How sacred is your Presence!
We lean on your guidance.
We seek your love.
We open to your transformation.
Provide us bread in body and spirit
to sustain us in faith and solidarity.
Companion us with grace
as we seek to live lives of forgiveness and compassion,
repair and accountability.
We remember those who have supported us
as we seek to support others
in all the mess and glory of this human journey.
Guard our minds and hearts from the temptations of domination
and turn our loyalty away from all systems of evil.
For the whole cosmos hums with your wisdom.
Everything that lives, returns to your care.
Our thanks and honor to you,
Gracious Web of Existence,
Our Source and our Home.

Mother of us all,
who dwells within and beyond,
Sacred is your name.
May your holy vision for collective flourishing
come to fruition among us.
May your dreams of justice, love, compassion, and connection be enfleshed on earth.
Provide us today with what we need to be nourished in body, soul, and heart.
Forgive us for the harm we cause as we seek to forgive those who have harmed us.
Lead us away from everything that destroys and liberate us from the hands of evil.
For you are the ultimate source of hope.
Your power-with exceeds all power-over.
Your presence incites eternal wonder.
All praise to you, our comfort and strength.
Amen.