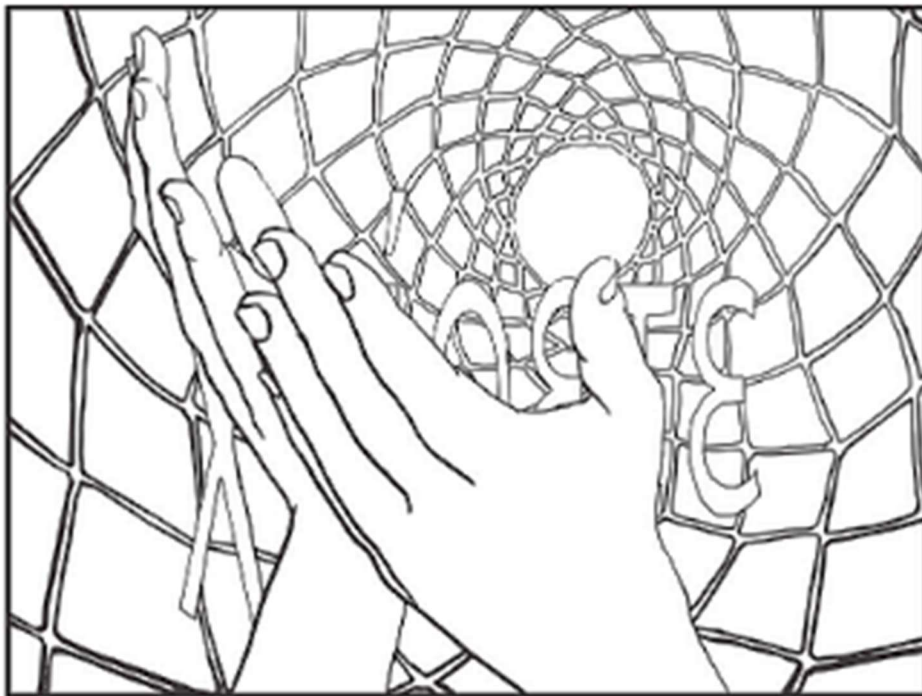




*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



Order of Worship for
October 11, 2026 10:30 am

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 11, 2026 – ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Cover Art: "Thread of Creation" by Lauren Wright Pittman
A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.com*

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC Amazing Grace

arr. D. Reynolds

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *†

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 55:16-22 & Philippians 4:1-9)

One: Morning, noon, and night, we call upon God.

Many: And the Holy One hears our voices.

One: When our hearts are heavy and our burdens too great to bear,

Many: we lay them before God, who holds us up.

One: When trust is broken and the world is loud with conflict,

Many: God's love makes room for healing and peace.

One: Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Many: We gather as one community, rejoicing in God's extravagant love.

One: Set aside your worry. Bring every need to God with gratitude.

Many: May the peace of God, deeper than all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ.

All: Come, let us worship the God of peace, who is still speaking!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*OPENING 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.*

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

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

*PASSING OF PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Psalm 55: 16-22
 Philippians 4:1-9

SERMON *Keep Moving Forward: Navigating Confusing Times &
 Seasons of Life with the Promise of God's Peace*

Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

MUSICAL RESPONSE

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*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Hymn to Freedom

O. Peterson

David Reynolds, piano

*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**

Generous God, you have carried us through every season, and we are grateful. Receive these gifts, and the lives of those who give them. Use them to lift burdens, heal wounds, and build a world where all may know your peace. Help us to live what is true, just, lovely, and good, in the name of Jesus, who gave himself in love.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG Shine Jesus Shine

G. Kendrick

V1.

*Lord, the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me*

[Chorus]

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord,
and let there be light*

V2.

*Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood, I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me (To Chorus)*

V3.

*As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me (To Chorus)*

BENEDICTION (*Responsive*)

One: Go out into the world, beloved, and stand firm in God's love.

Many: We go rejoicing, for God is near.

One: When worries rise and burdens grow heavy, cast them on the Holy One.

Many: God will hold us up and never let us go.

One: Let your gentleness be known to all, and set your hearts on whatever is true, just, lovely, and good.

Many: We will live God's justice and share God's peace.

One: And may the peace of God, deeper than all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

All: The God of peace goes with us. Amen!

SENDING FORTH Shine Jesus Shine (reprise)

1

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord,
and let there be light!*

*Thank you to Dan Theriault and David Reynolds, from Center Church's Worship Band,
for leading today's music. Go in Peace!*