



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Welcome! Everything you need to follow along with today's service can be found in this liturgy guide.

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Hymn

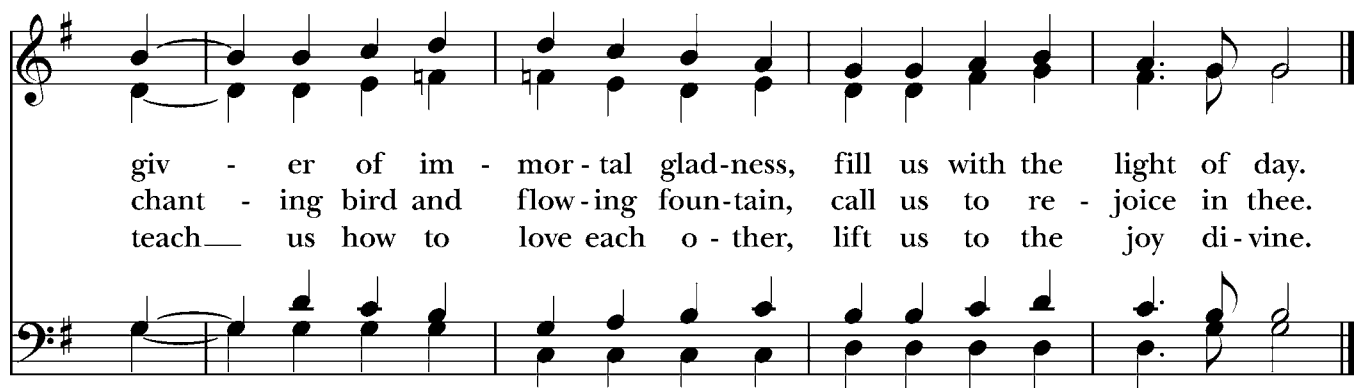
Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

Hymnal 376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Presider prays the Collect for Purity, and the People respond, 'Amen.'

Song of Praise

People of God, gather together

Voices Fount 109



Peo ple of God, ga ther to ge - ther, come, let us
Hear - ing God's word, heed - ing the mes - sage, come and re -
Bear - ing your gifts, en - ter God's pre - sence; come, let us
All gen - ders now, har - mo - ny blend - ing, come, swell the
sing on this gl - rious day. Shout - ing a - broad praise to the
joy as we an - swer the call. With one ac - cord, made in God's
share in the hea - ven - ly feast. Mend - ing all rifts, heal - ing di -
cho - rus in lov - ing ac - cord. Rais - ing a - gain thanks ne - ver
Mak - er, come and with bo - dy and soul let us pray. Come, let us
im - age, come in com - mu - ni - ty, we - com - ing all.
vi - sions, come and from sor - rows and hurts be re - leased.
end - ing, come to the God who is Wis - dom and Word.
join in the hea - ven - ly dance, prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

Words: Patricia B. Clark © 2003 Selah Publishing Company, Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3306.

www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music: *Earth and All Stars*, David N. Johnson © Augsburg Fortress Publishers.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The Presider prays the Collect of the Day, and the People respond, 'Amen.'

Please be seated for the readings.

The First Reading

After the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8-13

The Lector leads the reading of the Psalm.

⁸ You are full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

⁹ You will not always accuse us, *
nor will you keep your anger for ever.

¹⁰ You have not dealt with us according to our sins *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is your mercy great upon those who fear you.

¹² As far as the east is from the west, *
so far have you removed our sins from us.

¹³ As a parent cares for a child, *
so do you care for those who fear you.

The Second Reading

After the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo-ple go;
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;
3 They jour-neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;
4 Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

op - pressed so hard they — could not stand, let my peo-ple go.
to lead the chil-dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.
and came at length to — Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.
and let us all in — Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

Refrain
Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land;

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Go Down, Moses*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935).
Arrangement Copyright © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer.

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel is processed around the assembly. You may touch, kiss, or reverence the Gospel as it passes.

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to _____.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel is proclaimed:

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

All stand, as able.



*We believe / in one God,
The Father, / the Almighty,
Maker of heaven / and earth,
Of all that is, / seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, / Jesus Christ,
The only / Son of God,
Eternally begotten of / the Father,
God from God, / Light from Light,*

*True God / from true God,
Begot / ten, not made,
Of one Being with / the Father.
Through him all / things were made.*

*For us and for / our salvation
He came / down from heaven:
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
Vir/gin Mary,
And became / truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under / Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death / and was buried.
On the third day he rose / again
In accordance / with the scriptures.*

*He ascended / into heaven
And is seated at the right hand / of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and / the dead,
And his kingdom will / have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the gi/ver of life,
Who proceeds / from the Father.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped / and glorified.
Who has spoken / through the Prophets.*

*We believe in one holy catholic and apo/stolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgive / ness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of / the dead,
and the life of the world to / come. Amen.*

Nicene Creed Tone 1 © 1991 St. Meinrad Archabbey. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Prayers of the People

After each petition:

Intercessor Lord, in your goodness;
People **Hear our prayer.**

The Presider prays a concluding Collect, and the People respond, 'Amen.'

The Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
People **God of all mercy,**
 we confess that we have sinned against you,
 opposing your will in our lives.
 We have denied your goodness in each other,
 in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
 We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
 the evil we have done,
 and the evil done on our behalf.
 Forgive, restore, and strengthen us,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ,
 that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Presider pronounces the Absolution, and the People respond, 'Amen.'

The Peace

Presider The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The People share a sign of God's peace with one another.

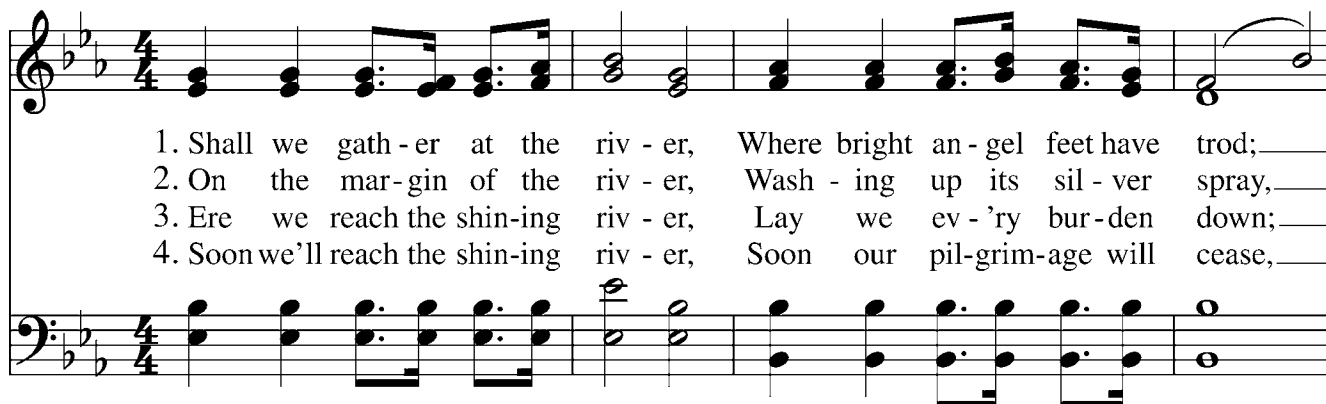
Offertory Hymn & Procession

Shall we gather at the river

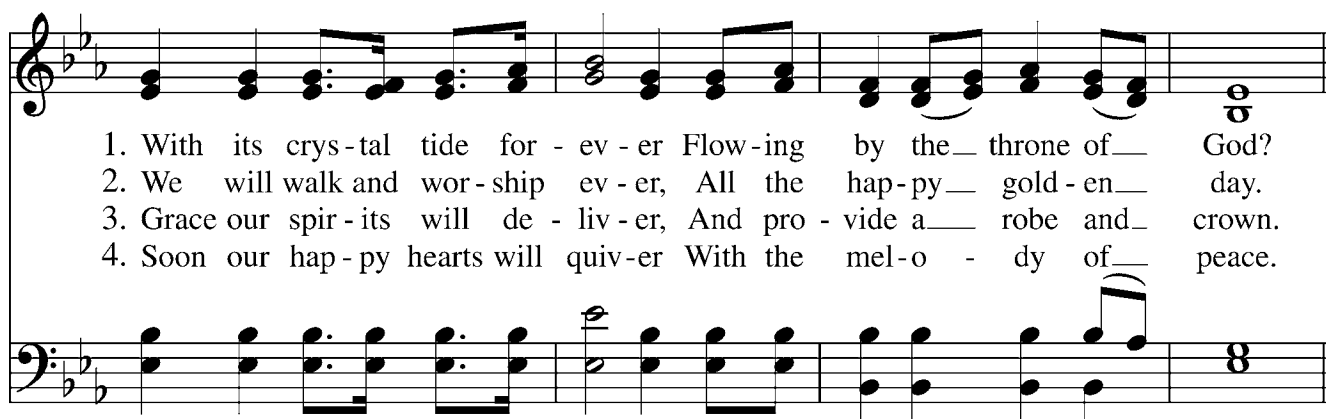
Lift Every Voice & Sing II 141

All are invited to come forward as we offer not only ourselves, but the gifts from our lives: bread and wine, funds, and other food that supports the Inter-Faith Council's food bank. This presentation is in the form of a procession towards the altar, where you may offer your gifts to God, including yourselves.

Give to the Advocate online: <https://tinyurl.com/GiveToAdvocate>



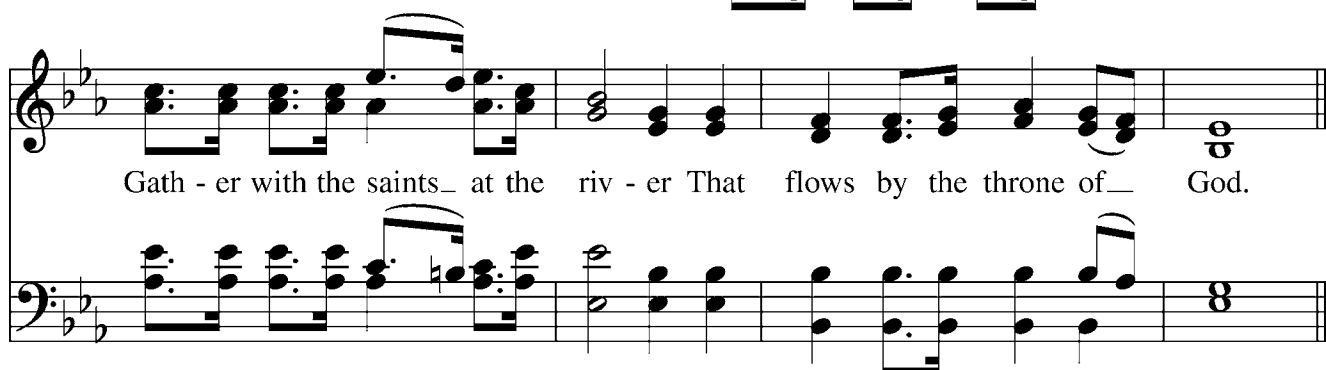
1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; —
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, —
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; —
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, —



1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?
2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.
3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a robe and crown.
4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

Words: Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Music: Robert Lowry.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

All stand, as able. Children are invited to gather around the altar.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider prays a Proper Preface, then continues.

Presider Therefore we praise you, joining with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Santo, santo, santo

Wonder, Love, and Praise 785

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text. Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).

The Presider recalls God's work in creation, humanity's fall away from God, and the redemption of the world by Christ. After recalling Christ's Last Supper, the Presider and People pray:

Presider Therefore we proclaim the Mystery of Faith:

People **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

The Presider prays that the gifts and People may be sanctified by God. After the Presider has completed the Eucharistic Prayer, the People respond in a loud voice, '**AMEN!**'

Celebrant: As our Sa-vior Christ has taught us we now pray, Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name, —

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for -

give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the king - dom, the power and the glo - ry are yours, now and for e - ver. A - men.

Music: Nikolai Kedrov, Sr. (1871-1940)

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence follows.

Presider Behold what you are.

People **May we become what we receive.**

The Presider invites the People to receive the Communion of our Lord. All we welcome to come forward.

Those gathered at home are invited to pray the following prayer as those in person receive:

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered this day, we offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. We believe that you are truly present in Word and Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, souls, and minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to unending peace in your glorious kingdom. Amen.

Communion Hymn

Bless the Lord, my soul

Advocate Songbook 95

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, featuring a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

Words: Psalm 103

Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Post-Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Going-Forth Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Hymnal 690

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble staff for the Soprano part and a bass staff for the Alto and Tenor/Bass parts. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicating different verses. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass line.

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

Dismissal

The Dismissal is given, and the People respond in a loud voice, 'Thanks be to God!'



Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Advocate

We're glad you chose to worship with us today.

At the Advocate, we welcome you—just as you are. We believe that all of us are made in God's image, and it is our work to see and celebrate that image in each other. So we welcome all ages and stages of life and faith to worship together, trusting that God's love is bigger than anything that may appear to divide us.

Our work looks like: gathering for worship, joyfully praising God, singing, praying, and sharing the bread and wine that makes Jesus present to us. It looks like everyone gathering for lunch after the later service, and getting to know one another well. And once we are fed and inspired, it looks like going out into the world as people transformed, with compassion, to work for justice and to share a vision of what community can be.

We encourage you to participate fully in our worship today, in the way that is right for you: singing, praying, and being present together. Worshippers of all ages need to move around sometimes, and we welcome that. If caregivers need to leave the Chapel to help someone become re-centered, please return when you're ready. If you have something to say, please say it with respect for those around you who may be listening or praying. The best time to speak is when everyone is speaking. The best time to be quiet is when only one person is speaking. If your need today is to be silent, please know that response is also welcome.

We encourage parents and caregivers to help young children engage in the service. You might point out what is going on ("She's reading a story from the Bible," or "Here's the hymn we're singing now"). You might hold the Liturgy Guide or Hymnal so your child may follow along, or even move your finger under the lines. Most importantly, sing, pray and respond yourself: your child will learn to participate by following your example.

We encourage all adults to affirm our children, and anyone who may worship differently from you, with comments such as, "It was wonderful to worship with you today," or, "I'm so glad to see you today." This honors the personhood, rather than the behavior, of the individual. Children often can't distinguish between being laughed "at" or laughed "with," so we try to accept their contributions for what they are: an integral part of our common life and work.

We have an interesting story to tell, and we want to share it with you. You may discover more about our history, our worship, our property and our mission to the community on our website and our social media pages.



Scan to join the email list



facebook.com/theadvocatechurch



youtube.com/@advocatechurch2517



theadvocatechurch@gmail.com

8410 Merin Road Chapel Hill, NC, 27516 • 984-999-1819

www.TheAdvocateChurch.org