

September 13, 2026: 16th Sunday after Pentecost

~~ *GATHERING BEFORE GOD* ~~

**GREETINGS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ JOYS ~ CONCERNS
~ GOD MOMENTS ~**

† **HYMN** "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" TFWS #2234
The Light of Christ Enters

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Compassionate Lord of mercy and grace,
Open our ears to Your word, awaken our hearts to
Your love, and renew our spirits with Your presence,
That we may understand boundaries needed for healthy
living and possibilities available through nurturing
forgiveness. Amen.

~~ *PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD* ~~

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 14:19-31

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 114 UMH #835

CHORAL HYMN "Freely, Freely" UMH #557

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 14:1-12

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 18:21-35

INTERACTIVE/CHILDREN'S TIME

† **HYMN** "God, How Can We Forgive" TFWS #2169

MESSAGE "Grace"

~~ *RESPONDING IN THE SPIRIT* ~~

**A STATEMENT OF FAITH OF THE KOREAN METHODIST
CHURCH** UMH #884

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

† **Doxology** UMH #95

OFFERTORY / PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH #895

"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16

~~ SENDING FORTH ~~

† **HYMN** “O Spirit of the Living God” **TFWS #539**
The Light of Christ Leads Us into the World

† **BENEDICTION**

† Postlude “Go Forth for God” **UMH #670**

† *Standing as you are able to the glory of God*

Lectionary for Sept 20, 2026 (17th Sun after Pentecost):
Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30;
Matthew 20:1-16

Thank you for joining us for worship.

~~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~~

TODAY:

9:00 am Worship – Georgetown UMC
10:30 am Worship – South Otselic UMC
11:45(ish) South Otselic UMC SPPRC meeting
3:00 pm *Weekly Worship – Oxford Veterans Home*

WEEKLY / BIWEEKLY / MONTHLY:

† **Pastor in the office** – Wed 11 am to 2 pm, Thurs 1-4 pm
† **Administrative Board** – Georgetown, 3rd Sunday 8:15 am;
South Otselic, 4th Sunday 11:45(ish) am
† **Food Pantry** – 3rd Thursday each month 3-6 pm
Special requests call Kevin Grewe 607-337-8941
† **Sunshine Shop** Thu & Fri 10-4; Sat 9-noon
– Next open Sep 17-19, Oct 1-3, Oct 15-17
– For emergency clothing, call 315-653-7490.
† **Community Lunch** – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, noon, South
Otselic UMC; Sep 17 with loom weaving demo to follow

UPCOMING EVENTS:

† **Laity Sunday** – October 18
† **Trunk or Treat** – TBD
† **Daylight Savings ENDS** – November 1, 2 am
† **Charge Conference** – Nov 1, 7 pm, Norwich (Broad St)

PRAYER LIST: (Short Term):

From 9/6 – Lonnie Hakes, Neda & Frank Kay, Carrie Perry, school staff/students/families

From 8/31 – Adrian Spear, college students/parents/faculty, Nepal avalanche/flood victims

From 8/23 – family of Lenora Hite

From 8/16 – Colleen Law-Tefft, Donna Chuddley & family, Colombian earthquake victims

(Long Term): Jonna Bartlett, Richard Bishop, David Boyer, Ron Colasudo, Kaity Davis, Doug Evans, Linda Excell, Ted Gargas, Kevin Grewe, Roger Hakes, Chuck Hathaway, Fran Knickerbocker, Patti Lamandia, Diane MacGregor, Cassandra & Christopher Marquard, Chris Marquard, Maverick Mesko, Aaron Miller, Phil Mudge, Mitch Mullenax, Jenny Naber, Elaine Perkins, John & Carole Roalef, Kate Robinson, Justin Sheldon, Matt & Annette Sheldon, Cathy Silver, Jim Slocum, Harvey Stalker, Normajean Stark, Kenneth Sullivan, Angela (Graves) Szlamczynski, David Wentworth

Travel mercies for family and friends

Our men and women in the military

World leaders, our country, & the need for peace

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

September: 20-Cal Hite; 24-Elva White; 25-Heidi Newton

October: 7-Laura Davis, Denise Gavin, Emily Spear;
23-Trevor Newton; 28-Madelynne Newton



A chalkboard with the word "GRACE" written in white chalk. Two blue chalk sticks are lying on the wooden surface in front of the chalkboard.

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Psalm 114

UMH #835

- 1 When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- 2 **Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel God's dominion.**
- 3 The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.
- 4 **The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.**
- 5 What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?
- 6 **O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?**
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 **who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.**

Exodus 14:19-31

NRSV

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.

²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea

after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.

²⁴ At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.

²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers."

²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.

²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

³¹ Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Romans 14:1-12

NRSV

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18:21-35

NRSV

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;

²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'

²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'

³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."