

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 30, 2026, 9:00 a. m.

Worship Leader - Pastor Jeffrey Brace

Liturgist - – Accompanist – Barb Cropp

Ushers – Sue Koepke & Sandy Roach

Fellowship Host – Jim & Sherrie Cottrell

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting

L: The Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: The risen Christ is with us.

P: Praise the Lord!

Greeting One Another

Gathering Hymn - UMH 110 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Call to Worship

L: In a world where powerful people make decisions to lift themselves up and cast others aside, how does God teach us to use our power?

P: God teaches us to protect the vulnerable, resist the oppressors, and persist in doing good.

L: In a world where power means might, how does God show us what power means?

P: God shows us through the midwives' daring, Peter's truth-telling, and Jesus' humility.

L: In a world where power is held over people's heads, how does God exercise power?

P: God exercises power with—with the oppressed, with the outcasts, with the poor and downtrodden.

L: Beloved, we gather to recognize our world as it is and to grow as disciples and imitators of Christ. So, how will you use your power today?

P: We will side with the vulnerable, build community in the margins, and love all of our neighbors with the exuberant and all-encompassing love of Christ. Amen.

Opening Hymn - UMH 140 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading – Matthew 16:13-20

Message – Lessons in Leadership: Power

Prayer of Confession – *in unison*

L: While we may yearn to be like Jesus, we know that in our hotheaded choices, our frantic lives, our impetuous words, we are too often like Peter. But like him, we can confess Christ as our Lord, speaking of our need for your saving presence in our lives.

P: We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost, and wonder why we cannot find you. We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place. In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks. Silent prayers of confession

Words of Assurance

Time of Sharing

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology - UMH 95

Offertory Prayer

Closing Hymn - UMH 467 Trust and Obey

Benediction

Dismissal Hymn TFWS 2166 Christ Beside Me

News and Announcements

-Say a prayer for the all the students, teachers, administrators, support staff, bus drivers, and others as the school year begin.

This Week:

SU 30 –

MO 31 –

TU 1 – First Day of School, Coffee w/Pastor, Quilting Ministry

WE 2 – United Women of Faith 1pm, Men's Small Group 11:30am

TH 3 –

FR 4 – Pastor's Sabbath Day

SA 5 -

Next Week:

SU 6 – Communion Sunday, Women's Small Group 10am

MO 7 – Labor Day - Office Closed

TU 8 –

WE 9 – Prayer Shawl Group 1:30pm

TH 10 -

FR 11 – Pastor's Sabbath Day

SA 12 -

Notes:

Tech Team Volunteers Needed!

Interested in joining our Tech Team? We'd love to have you!

If you'd like to help with the audio, visual, or livestream ministry, please contact Emrick, Pastor Jeff, or the church office for more information and to sign up.

Volunteers Needed: Ushers, Readers, and Fellowship Hosts are needed. Please sign up on the volunteer sheets in the church entryway. Thank you for sharing your gifts and serving our church community!

Sunday School Leaders – We are praying for our children's ministry and with that are looking to increase leaders. Must go through Safe Gatherings online training and a background check. Let Pastor Jeff or Debi Towns know if you can help with this.



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August 30, 2026

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP

POWER

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Matthew 16:15-16 NIV