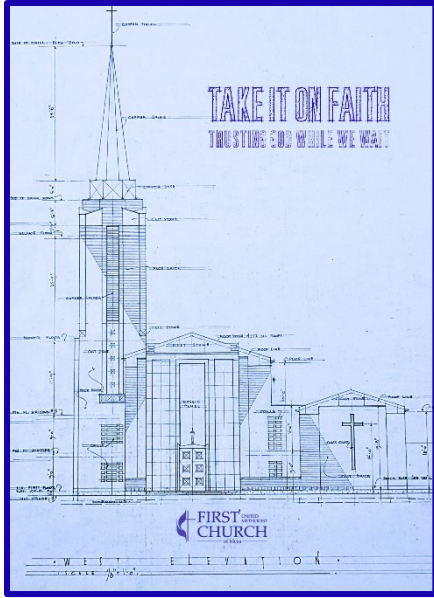




TAKE IT ON FAITH - TRUSTING GOD WHILE WE WAIT

SEPTEMBER 14. 2025 NINE A.M.

*We kindly ask that you silence your cellphones and electronic devices
as we create a sacred space for contemplation and prayer.*

† - Please rise in body or in spirit.

Chiming the Hour/Welcome & Announcements

GOD GATHERS THE SCATTERED

Prelude

Dessus de Tierce

Jacques Boyvin

† Call to Worship

One: If we look with spiritual eyes, we will see them! We have a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us!

Many: Witnesses in the Bible; witnesses SINCE the Bible; and witnesses all around us, our family and friends, and our community of faith.

One: They speak with one voice: Let us lay aside everything that hinders us and the sin that entangles us.

Many: Fear of the unknown, a loss of control, or whatever holds us back, holds us down and pulls us apart.

ALL: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus who pioneers our path and perfects us in faith!

† Hymn

I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath

RED 60

1. I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life, and thought, and being last,
or immortality endures.

2. Happy are they whose hopes rely
on Israel's God, who made the sky
and earth and seas, with all their train;
whose truth for ever stands secure,
who saves th'oppressed and feeds the poor,
for none shall find God's promise vain.

3. The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;
the Lord supports the fainting mind
and sends the laboring conscience peace.
God helps the stranger in distress,
the widow and the fatherless,
and grants the prisoner sweet release.

4. I'll praise my God who lends me breath;
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life, and thought, and being last,
or immortality endures.

† Opening Prayer

**At the starting line of this day,
we call on your name, God of grace.
As we run the race you have set before us,
help us to keep our eyes on your goals, not our own.
When we falter, give us fresh strength and courage.
When we are fleet-footed, let us give you the glory.
Keep us from wanting to win at other's expense
or to count ourselves better than those at our side.
All runners are your children.
In the race You imagine, each one is a winner. Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS THE WORD TO US

Children's Moment		Dr. Parkes
The Baptismal Covenant		RED 33
A Reading from the Epistles		Hebrews 11:29-12:2
One: Word of God, Word of Life! Many: Thanks be to God!		
Anthem	<i>This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made</i>	Mark Hayes
Sermon	<i>Faith As Endurance</i>	Dr. Parkes

GOD INSPIRES US TO RESPOND

Hymn	<i>O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be</i>	RED 727
1. O what their joy and their glory must be, those endless sabbaths the blessed ones see; crown for the valiant, to weary ones rest; God shall be all, and in all ever blest.		
2. Truly, "Jerusalem" name we that shore, city of peace that brings joy evermore; wish and fulfillment are not severed there, nor do things prayed for come short of the prayer.		

3. There, where no troubles distraction can bring, we the sweet anthems of Zion shall sing;
while for thy grace, Lord, their voices of praise thy blessed people eternally raise.
4. Now, in the meanwhile, with hearts raised on high, we for that country must yearn & must sigh;
seeking Jerusalem, dear native land, through our long exile on Babylon's strand.
5. Low before him with our praises we fall, of whom, and in whom, and through whom are all;
of whom, the Father; and in whom, the Son, through whom, the Spirit, with them ever One.

† The Peace

One: The Peace of the Lord Jesus be always with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

The Offering

Offertory

Come, Thou Almighty King

arr. Healey Willan

† Doxology

RED 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the
Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

† Prayer of Gratitude

GOD SENDS US TO THE WORLD

† Hymn

I Am Thine, O Lord

RED 419

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice,
and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith
and be closer drawn to thee.</p> | <p>2. Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord,
by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
and my will be lost in thine. (Refrain)</p> |
| <p>Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.</p> | <p>3. O the pure delight of a single hour
that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend! (Refrain)</p> |
| <p>4. There are depths of love that I cannot know
till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach
till I rest in peace with thee. (Refrain)</p> | |

† Dismissal with Blessing

One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

We Praise You and Acknowledge You arr. M. Machemer