

Order of Worship

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude

Creator of the Stars of Night

Gregorian Chant

***Call to Worship** (Responsive)
At every age and stage of life,
God calls us to follow, and be a blessing.
In every situation, whether celebration or grief,
God calls us to follow, and be a blessing.
Just as we are, with our whole life story,
God calls us to follow, and be a blessing. Let us worship God!

*Hymn 49

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

Call to Prayer

Prayer for Forgiveness (Unison)
You call, God, and you promise. You invite us into partnership, and we confess that we have mostly tried to do things ourselves. We spend our energy making something of ourselves, securing our future, keeping up, defending our way of life. And when you call us to a new thing, we admit we sometimes think “we’ve done our bit, can you send someone else?”
Forgive us for hearing your word and still believing we had to take matters into our own hands. Forgive us for acting as if you have only a finite amount of blessing to go around. Forgive us for putting a time and age limit on your calling. Speak to us once again, and give us ears to hear and feet ready to go to be a blessing to your world in need of good news. We ask in Jesus’ name...
(silent time for your reflection and personal confessions)

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Word & Wonder – A Time for the Young & the Young at Heart

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 12:1-9

OT, p. 10

Sermon

Are We There Yet?

Rev. Christie Ashton

*Hymn 51

To Abraham and Sarah

Llanfyllin

***Affirmation of Faith** (Unison) The Iona Community
With the whole church, we affirm that we are made in God’s image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit. With people everywhere, we affirm God’s goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong. With all creation, we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and this world. Amen.

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Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer
As we pray together the prayer Christ taught us:
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn 742

We Will Walk with God

Sizohamba Naye

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Watts/Croft

*You are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are comfortable doing so.

Worship Leader This Week: Susan Terry
Worship Leader Next Week: Travis Williams



Mt. Sinai, Egypt
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We Will Walk with God
English Translation: © 2002 and Music Arr. 2008 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #736250-A.

What’s Happening at Hope?

Playschool Open House & Food Truck: The Playschool Open House is this Thursday, September 24 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Blitz BBQ Food Truck will be on site and 10% of the proceeds go to the Playschool ministry. Invite your friends and family to stop by between 5 and 6 p.m. and pick up dinner to help support this important ministry.

Church Calendar at a Glance

September 20	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Choir Practice Session Meeting
September 24	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Playschool Open House & Food Truck
September 27	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Choir Practice

The Elder on Call for September is Susan Terry. She may be contacted at any time for information, emergencies, or concerns at **256-975-9847** .

Prayer Concerns

Members: Rev. Traci Loveman Holly Lowe Andy Young Shelby Albert	Family: Jane Davis (Christie Ashton) Richard Davis (Christie Ashton) Kelley Waldron (Christie Ashton) Jimmy Marshall (Peter Loveman) Lys Howdle (Susan Terry) Parker Lord (Candy & Bob Lord) Marcia Loveman (Peter Loveman) Fred Jones (Bill Jones)
Friends: The family of Tommy Glynn Dan Hahs Tracy Fletcher Luke & Crystal Allen (Joanna Sterling-Clutts) Barbara Dennis Suzanne Minga (Traci Loveman) Dr. Jon Wongsurawat (Traci Loveman) Bob Harriger (Joanna Sterling-Clutts) Melissa Altice (Angie Wester) Mary Neikirk (Angie Wester)	Those serving in our military. Those affected by natural disasters and war around the world.

Prayer Family of the Week:
Our prayer family of the week is Susan and Rob Terry. This week we ask the congregation to remember Susan, Rob, and their family, asking God to strengthen and bless them.