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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 17, 2026
10 o'clock

*Rev. Fredd Ward, Senior Pastor
Jim Boratko, Director of Worship Arts
Amanda Bethune, Director of Faith Formation*

PRELUDES *Reverie* LOUIS VIERNE
Gavotte MATTHEW CAMIDGE
 The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP DAWNE QUINN

One: In these uncertain times, we come together, seeking peace.

Many: **We will be still in God's presence and wait patiently.**

One: Let us open our hearts and minds to God's goodness and mercy.

Many: **When we trust in God, we can do good things and live with one another in harmony and security.**

One: God is our refuge and our strength. In God, we find grace, forgiveness, and unconditional love.

Many: **We will be still in God's presence and wait patiently.**

†HYMN 472 [We are Living, We are Dwelling](#) EBENEZER

†OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God, we come together to pause; to pray; and to offer our praise. Be with us in this place, that we may experience your tender mercies. Help us receive the power of your love this morning and every morning. Help us heap grace in generous measure; and blend it with forgiveness; and offer these to the world, asking nothing in return. This, we pray, is your will. Amen.

INVITATION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL AMANDA BETHUNE

ANTHEM *A Simple Dance* MICHAEL J. GLASGOW
 The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director
 Jacob Dziubec, violin

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING [Matthew 5: 38-48](#)

†RESPONSE 324 [Your Words to Me Are Life and Health](#) WINCHESTER OLD

† Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

**Your words to me are life and health; pour strength into my soul;
 Enable, guide, and teach my heart to reach its perfect goal!**

SERMON *Love Beyond Fear* Rev. Terry Schmitt

HYMN 490 [Sister Let Me Be Your Servant](#) THE SERVANT SONG

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

God has blessed us abundantly. God calls us to bless others by giving our time, talent and treasure. Let us give willingly and joyfully.

OFFERTORY *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* JOHN RUTTER
 The First Church Choir

†DOXOLOGY 49 [From All That Dwell Below the Skies](#) LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, in every tongue.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

†OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God, we bring this offering of pledges, prayer, and personal effort to advance your work of mercy. We willingly and joyfully respond to your generosity by sharing our abundance through the church for the benefit of our neighbors nearby and far away. Bless these gifts as they go forth to do good work in the world. Amen.

†HYMN 683 [O For a World](#) AZMON

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Thuma Mina* THUMA MINA

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!