GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Welcome and Announcements

Visitors, please fill out the connection card in the pew so we can send you a note

Opening Prayer Sandra Rowe

O God of this and every morning, as I begin this day, call my name; as I step into this day, guide my feet; as I live this day, care for those I love; as I learn this day, teach me your ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Prelude *Softly and Tenderly* arr. Lloyd Larson

Choral Introit *You Belong to Christ* Robert Hobby

***Call to Worship (Responsive)** Sandra Rowe

Praise the Lord!
Sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful, for the Lord takes pleasure in the people.
Let the faithful sing for joy.

***Hymn** *Give Praise to the Lord* #550

Prayer for New Beginnings (Unison) Sandra Rowe

God of grace and steadfast love, we thank you for your commandments, which order our life together. We thank you for calling us to live honorably with one another and pray for your grace as we try to do all that you require of us. Increase in us, we pray, the capacity to love you and our neighbors without reserve and to love even those who harm us. Not halfheartedly, but with our whole hearts. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace (Responsive)**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

***Congregational Response** *In My Life* #468 v.1,4

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today,
In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination Sandra Rowe

Awaken our hearts and minds to your Word, O God. Give us understanding so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we are able to do all that you command for love's sake. Gathered in Christ's name, gathered around the Word, we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Psalm 149: 1-5 Sandra Rowe

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful. Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre. For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Word in Music *As We Come Together* Stan Pethel

Epistle Reading Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Jeff Sockwell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn** *Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun* #663

***Affirmation of Faith (Unison)** *from a Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Responsive)

We bring before you, Creator God, the cares, the concerns, and the joys that occupy us.
We remember before you those who are at odds with one another in families, in neighborhoods or offices, and even in the church. We pray for nations in the midst of internal or external struggles and conflict. Teach us, O God, to seek nonviolent ways toward resolution. Help us to speak the truth and to listen with understanding when perspectives are far apart. We pray for love to bring peace into every troubled heart and place.

We remember before you those who have physical needs today. People who are hungry and thirsty; people who are exhausted by the demands of work or caregiving; people who are sick, or undergoing surgery; and people who live with chronic pain. Bring relief and rest, we pray.

We remember those weighed down with needs of heart and soul. A worry that keeps us awake at night, grief that accompanies us everywhere we go, depression that clouds us, or an addiction that grips us. Lift all of these heavy burdens with the light and peace of your presence, we pray. Sustain us over the long journey toward health and give us trust in you, ourselves, and those who love us.

We remember before you not only our cares, but also our joys— a birthday celebrated, an anniversary enjoyed; new beginnings— a baby born, a new school year begun, a new job, a new relationship.

We thank you, O God, for the gift of laughter, for enduring friendships, and for cherished memories. We give thanks that with you there is always a new beginning, a way where this is no way, hope beyond hope, and life beyond death. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

We ask this in Jesus' name and join our voices in the prayer that he taught us, saying,

"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. "

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Prelude in G* Henry Coleman

***Doxology** #606

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***Hymn** *Arise, Your Light is Come!* #744

***Blessing**

May the Creator who made the light, the Christ who is the light, and the Spirit who ignites the light within abide with you and all creation now and always. Amen.

Postlude *Allegro Energico* Christian Cappelen

Those Serving Today
Rev. Jeff Sockwell, Pastor
Sandra Rowe, Liturgist
Rodney Pence, Greeter
Paul Vincent, Technology
Jay Smith, Guest Musician

Those Serving 09/13/26
Rev. Jeff Sockwell, Pastor
Vikki Smith, Liturgist
Deb Kuntzelman, Greeter
Paul Vincent, Technology
Rachel Gragson, Organist and Choir Director

Prayer Concerns

Dawn Kidd, Joe Medlin, Deb Kuntzelman, Julie Foster, Tom and Kathy Traywick, Charles Gregg, Larry and Dianne Roby, Dylan DeVries, Brad and Kathy Post, Mary Midgett, Bette Lou Campbell, Joe Gibbs and Sam Gibbs, Norman Lawrence.

This Week

Sunday – Shepherd Training following worship (in the parlor)
Wednesday - Tai Chi/Qigong 9:00 am (in fellowship hall)
Wednesday – Celtic Spirituality 10:30 am (in the parlor)
Thursday - Painting Pals 1:00-4:00 pm (in fellowship hall)

Announcements

Welcome – We are glad you are here.

Noisy Coin – Today is our Noisy Coin collection. This collection goes to support feeding programs at Food Bank of the Albemarle.

Celtic Spirituality – Jeff will continue the course on Celtic Spirituality on Wednesday September 9, 16 at 10:30 am in the parlor.

New Member Sunday – We will receive new members Sunday August 20. If you would like to talk about joining Cann, please contact Jeff to set up a time to talk.

Blessing Box – This month we celebrate 3 years of supporting our neighbors with items in the Blessing Box. The most needed items for September are canned soup, peanut butter, and canned chicken.
We are collecting any calendars and utensil packets from any carry-out meals you do not need. A basket is in the fellowship hall by the outside door to collect these.

August Financial information:

Offering received	Offering needed:
August: $5005	August: $10,514

September Birthdays

September 8 – Elissa Myers
September 9 – Ife Berry
September 11 – Lativia Allen
September 13 – Deb Kuntzelman
September 26 – Bette Lou Campbell
September 29 – Amy Morris
September 29 – Vikki Smith

Cann Memorial Presbyterian Church

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 2026
11:30 am



A Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
and the Presbytery of New Hope

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