

**Rio Terrace Church
Order of Worship
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026**

Rio Terrace Church is an inclusive, community-oriented church in the Moravian tradition. Our mission is to be “a community of spiritual journeyers who are experiencing, growing in, and living the love of God as shown in Jesus Christ.”

We humbly gather on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of diverse Indigenous peoples including Cree, Dene, Nakota Sioux, and Metis. We honour their enduring connection to this land and commit to respecting and learning from their histories and cultures.

Theme: What does God ask of us?

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

***Call to Worship (adapted portions of Psalm 85)**

Show us your unfailing love, O God,

and grant us your salvation.

Let us listen carefully to what God is saying,

for God is speaking peace to all who turn their hearts to God.

Unfailing love and truth have met together;

righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth,

and righteousness smiles down from heaven.

Show us your unfailing love, O God,

and grant us your salvation.

***Hymn of Gathering: Lift Up Your Hearts**

Chorus

Lift up your hearts, praise the Creator, the Spirit, the Son,
Raising our hands in devotion to God who is one!

1. Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one.....
2. Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one.....
3. Called to be partners with God in creation,
looking to Christ for each day's inspiration,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one.....
4. Now in response to the life you are giving,
help us, Creator, to offer our living,
seeking a just and a healing society,
worship and work must be one.

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Centering

Poem:

This week's poem reminds me of Jesus' call to follow that we will hear read in the gospel today – reminding us that following is hard work.

Pilgrim Path by Joy Lenton

Follow hard after God's heart
Follow through dark valleys, rocky paths
Keep your mind aligned to Mine
Keep going though the Way seems blind

Yield yourself willingly
Surrender each day to Me
Watch where I am leading you
No matter where others are going to

My path is hard; My path is long
But I keep you steady and make you strong
Listen above all to My gentle voice
Quieten yourself away from life's noise

Be an example; be a shining light
Show My love, My power and might
Reveal the world's great need of Me
and how it's seen in dependency

Come, My pilgrim child, take My hand
As you follow Me your life will expand

Musical Meditation

Listening

Scripture readings

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-15

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

Message: Rev. Rob Key

Responding

***Hymn of Response: The Servant Song**

1. Sister, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk
the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey thro'.
5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

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Sharing Together – Blessings, Concerns, Spirit Sightings

Praying Together

Sending

***Sending Forth Hymn: Arise, Your Light is Come**

1. Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.
2. Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

3. Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.
4. Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

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***Benediction**

Postlude

*Please stand as able