

**Rio Terrace Church
Order of Worship
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 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: Guard your Heart

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

***Call to Worship (adapted portions of Psalm 105)**

Give thanks to God and call upon God's name;

Make known God's deed among the peoples.

Sing to God, sing praises to God,

And speak of all God's marvelous works.

Glory in God's holy Name;

Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.

Search for God and God's strength;

Continually seek God's face.

Remember the marvels God has done,

Praise God forever and ever.

***Hymn of Gathering: All Creatures of Our God**

1. All creatures of our God and light,
lift up your voice with all your might:
Sing praises, Alleluia!
You burning sun with golden beam,
you silver moon with softer gleam.
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

2. Earth, ever fertile, day by day
bring forth rich blessings on our way:
Sing praises, Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show.
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
3. And all forgiven tender hearts,
forgiving others, take you part,
Sing praises, Alleluia!
You who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God, who knows your ev'ry care.
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Centering

Poem:

There is a seeming paradox in our life with God – we need to open our hearts to experience God while somehow protecting them as well. How we do these two things will determine how our journey in life flows.

Guard Your Heart by Neema Joseph Kelya

Let go of worry, let it drift away,
Ignore the shadows, the things they say.
Their words, mere whispers, fleeting and light,
Focus on your path, your dreams in sight.

Work with purpose, heart in the task,
Live your life, no need to ask.
In all you do, let faith be near,
Place God first, and cast out fear.

Your joy, your peace, they are your right,
Guard your heart with all your might.
For from its depths, life's rivers flow,
You are worth more than you'll ever know.

Musical Meditation

Listening

Scripture readings

First Reading: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

Message: Rev. Rob Key

Responding

***Hymn of Response: Make Me a Channel**

1. Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life,
let me bring hope; where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
3. O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
4. Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Sharing Together – Blessings, Concerns, Spirit Sightings

Praying Together

Sending

***Sending Forth Hymn: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies**

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true and loving light,
Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near, daystar, in my heart appear.
2. Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by you;
joyless is the day's return till your mercy's beams I view;
till they inward light impart, glad my eyes and warm my heart.
3. Visit, then, this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of pain and grief;
fill me, radiance divine; scatter all my unbelief;
more and more yourself display, shining to the perfect day!

***Benediction**

Postlude

*Please stand as able