

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP • 10 AM



AUGUST 31

# WHAT WAS I MADE FOR?

*MATTHEW 25:14-30*



A welcoming community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Gracie H. Payne  
*Associate Pastor for Engagement*

Rev. Michael M. Samson  
*Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation*

John Johnson  
*Liturgist*

Sanctuary Choir Section Leaders

Dr. Michelle Louer  
*Director of Music and Fine Arts*

Dr. John Allegar  
*Organist and Assistant Director  
of Music and Fine Arts*

All music in this service used by permission:  
CCLI License #719352; OneLicense #A-715008; or public domain.

### WELCOME FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Following today's *Word with the Children*, children are invited to return to the pews and worship with their families. Childcare is available on the second floor for infants through age 3. Beginning next week, children ages 4 through grade 5 will be invited to attend new Sunday Mornings for Children following the *Word with Children*.

### VISUAL AND HEARING ASSISTANCE

Please speak to an usher if you need a large print bulletin, large print hymnal, or an assistive listening device.



# August 31, 2025

## TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

---

### We Come Together as God's People

#### Prelude

*Variations on ORA LABORA*  
Dr. John Allegar, organ

Gerre Hancock  
(1934-2012)

#### Welcome

Rev. Gracie H. Payne

#### Choral Call to Worship

*O Come, Thou Wisdom*  
Sanctuary Choir Section Leaders; Dr. Michelle Louer, conductor

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: Latin, 9th century

#### \* Call to Worship

Rev. Michael M. Samson

One: From the first light of morning to the setting of the sun,

**All: God's grace meets us.**

One: From our first waking breath to our last sigh of the day,

**All: God's mercy holds us.**

One: God gives before we ask,  
and keeps giving when we have nothing left to offer.

**All: We receive not because we are worthy,  
but because God's love never runs dry.**

One: These gifts are not given to be hidden,  
but to be lived with courage and trust.

**All: We follow not for perfection,  
but for the joy of walking in God's ways.**

One: Come, rest in this goodness and rise in risky faith.

**All: We come to remember who we are and whose we are.  
We come to worship the One who will not let us go.**

#### \* Prayer of Adoration

**Invitation to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

God of calling and courage, you gift us with life, time, and talents  
but too often we bury the gift and hide our light.  
We cling to safety instead of stepping out in faith.  
We chase success that the world can measure,  
forgetting the deeper work of love, justice, and joy.  
When we have confused our worth with our wages,  
or our purpose with our productivity,  
forgive us.  
When we doubt your abundance,  
or hoard what we were meant to share,  
forgive us.  
When we look at others' gifts with envy or fear,  
instead of celebrating your image in each of us,  
forgive us.

Remind us what we are made for:  
worship, witness, and wonder.  
May we live not in fear of failing you—  
but in faith that your grace is enough. (Silent Prayer)

**Assurance of God's Grace**

\* Response of Praise

*Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises*

South African  
arr. Utryck

*Refrain (sing twice)*

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais-es; all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais-es; all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

\* Passing the Peace of Christ

\* Hymn #339

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE (Irish)

**We Experience God's Word**

**The Word with Children**

**Prayer for Illumination**

John Johnson

**First Scripture Lesson**

Proverbs 8:1-11

(p. 579)

**Anthem**

*Sing Joyfully*

William Byrd  
(1540-1623)

Sing joyfully to God our strength; sing loud unto the God of Jacob!  
Take the song, bring forth the timbrel, the pleasant harp, and the viol.  
Blow the trumpet in the new moon, even in the time appointed, and at our feast day.  
For this is a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

Text: Psalm 81:1-4 (Geneva Bible)

**Second Scripture Lesson**

Matthew 25:14-30

(p. 904)

**Sermon**

Rev. Gracie H. Payne

## **What Was I Made For?**

*"After a long absence, the master of those three servants came back and settled up with them."*  
(Matthew 25:19, *The Message*)

**Moment of Silent Meditation**

## **We Give Thanks to God**

### **\* Affirmation of Faith**

**One:** When asked, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?"  
Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ said:

**All:** "You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind and with all your strength.  
This is the first and greatest commandment.  
And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

**Prayers of the People and The 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.

**Invitation to Discipleship and Generosity**

## Offertory

## The Call of Wisdom

Will Todd  
(b. 1970)

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy;  
Walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.  
Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,  
Entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?

I am here, I am here. I am with you.

Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,  
Jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?

I am here, I am here. I am with you.

Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.

Those who know me know my love, those who seek me find their answer.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?

I am here, I am here. I am with you.

God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal.

Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.

Text: Michael Hampel (based on Proverbs 8)

## \* Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All crea- tures, your Cre - a - tor bless, And wor- ship God in hum- ble - ness.

O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa- ther, praise the Son,

And praise the Spir - it, Three in One! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## \* Prayer of Dedication

## We Go Forth to Serve

## \* Closing Hymn #412

*Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds*

FOREST GREEN

## \* Charge and Benediction

**\* Choral Benediction**

*Amen (from Mass for 5 Voices: Credo)*

William Byrd

**Postlude**

*Toccata on ORA LABORA*

Gerre Hancock

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

*The Chancel flowers this morning are given  
to the glory of God in loving memory of  
Lois Jeanne Caplinger from her children,  
Mike Caplinger & Susan Mehas*

Would you like one of our pastors to pray with you today? We invite you to come to Milner Chapel immediately following the 10 AM worship service for a short time of communion and prayer. You may also visit [SecondChurch.org/Prayer](https://SecondChurch.org/Prayer) to fill out a Prayer Request Form.

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please contact:  
**Ashley McNamara**, Coordinator of Pastoral Care  
[AMcNamara@SecondChurch.org](mailto:AMcNamara@SecondChurch.org)

## GIVING

[Secondchurch.org/Give](https://Secondchurch.org/Give)

Thanks to your faithful generosity, Second continues to reach thousands each year with the love of Christ. From worship and music, to our community involvement and groups for all ages—we are moving, reaching, inspiring, and loving our Church family and our community. To give today, you may do so through the envelopes in the pews or by texting "Give" to (833) 818-3036. You may also give through the QR code below or through the **Tithe.ly** App on the App Store. Thank you!



## VISITING TODAY?

Thank you for worshipping with Second!  
Our Hospitality Team would love to connect and welcome you more fully into the life of Second.  
Scan this QR code and let us know you were here!



Join us for a  
**PICNIC** on the **LAWN**

September 14  
Immediately following 10 AM service

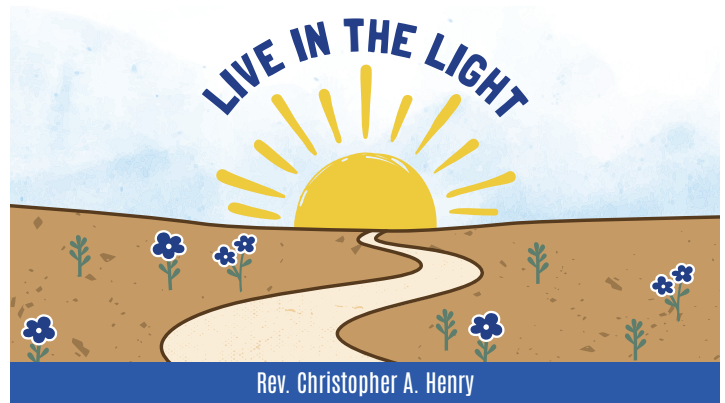


**NEW DAY**  
FOR CHILDREN OF DIVORCE

BEGINNING OCTOBER 14, 2025



## NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 PROGRAM YEAR KICKOFF



Rev. Christopher A. Henry

8:15 AM • Chapel Worship

9 AM • Sunday School for All Ages

10 AM • Sanctuary Worship

11:15 AM • Service of Wholeness and Communion • Milner Chapel

For more details visit

[SecondChurch.org/Worship](https://SecondChurch.org/Worship)

Watch Sunday worship all week long at

[SecondChurch.org/Live](https://SecondChurch.org/Live)

## UPCOMING EVENTS [SecondChurch.org/Events](https://SecondChurch.org/Events)



*Have Faith in Art Exhibit*

Now – October 3 • McFarland Hall

**September 1 • Labor Day • Building Closed**

**Middlers Gathering**

September 2 • 7 – 8:30 PM • Luciana's on North Meridian

**Winter Warmth Coat Collection**

September 2 – October 19 • Atrium Drop-off

**Program Year Kickoff with Festival Brass and Percussion**

September 7 • 8:15 and 10 AM

**Second Treasures Fall Donation Day**

September 7 • 11 AM – 1 PM • Drive-through Drop-Off

**Young Adult Brunch**

September 7 • 11:30 AM

Another Broken Egg Cafe on North Meridian

**Second Act September Gathering**

September 8 • 3 PM • McFarland Hall

**Youth Ministries Kickoff**

September 10 • 6:30 – 8:30 PM • Far North Parking Lot

**Men at Second Pop Up Social**

September 17 • 5:30 PM • 101 Craft Kitchen in Carmel