



THE VOICE IN THE NIGHT

October 12, 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

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October 12, 2025

Order of Worship

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — Variation on “Endless Song” (“How Can I Keep from Singing”)

— Emma Lou Diemer

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“Jesus Calls Us” — Emma Lou Diemer

© 1979 The Sacred Music Press

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE — “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” — Paul Manz

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, and dwell within us.

People: Come down with your peace, and subdue our spirits with your love,
shaping us according to your Divine Will.

Leader: Come down from heaven, where you shape ordinary things with your
celestial glory.

People: Come now and abide with us on this earthly globe where you
transform the ordinary into things most glorious for God's praise.

Leader: Come now and bathe us with the brilliance of your holy light,

People: And let our souls be illumined by the word of your voice divine!

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #403 — “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”** (8:30 vv. 1 and 3)

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Leader: “God so loved the world, that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in
him may not perish but have eternal life.”

People: “Indeed, God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world, but in
order that the world might be saved through him.”

Leader: Let us pray in the name of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

**Holy One, we confess that we have often sinned against you and one another by failing to love
you with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. We have shut out your voice that reminds
us this means we are also to love our neighbors as ourselves. Lord God, we find this hard
because voices have told us we are not lovable. We are told so often that we are the frail and**

fallen children of Adam and Eve, and we have believed the voices of this world. Open our ears to your greater truth, that by your love revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, you have made us your beloved children. Forgive us for muffling your loving voice. Attune us to your call to be your loving presence and people in this world you love so much.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #518 (refrain only)

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!

O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: My sisters and brothers, if we are in Christ, we become new people!

P: The past is dead and gone. Everything and everyone is fresh and new in Christ.

L: Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

P: And you, too, are forgiven.

L: Then let us lift our hearts to the Lord.

P: We lift them up unto the Lord.

L: O Lord, open now our mouths,

P: And we shall sing forth your praise.

L: Praise the Lord!

P: The Lord's name be praised!

***GLORIA — #583**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC — "Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi" — David Childs

© 1999 Santa Barbara Music Publishing

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — 1 Samuel 3:1-9 — pg. 247 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — 1 Samuel 3:10-18 — pg. 247 in OT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE — “When Deep Calls to Deep” — Rev. William G. Nottage-Tacey

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN #698 — “Take, O Take Me as I Am” (10:30 only; sing 5 times)**

First and Second: ALL Third: WOMEN Fourth: MEN Fifth: ALL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “Take, O Take Me as I Am” — John L. Bell

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(10:30) — “The Call” — Ralph Vaughn Williams

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***Doxology — #607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #720 — “Jesus Calls Us” (8:30 vv. 1, 3, and 4)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION — “Amen” — Gordon McQuere**

By permission

POSTLUDE — Fanfare — William Mathias

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Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: Melanie McQuere

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Jessica Crowder

Fellowship Host: Lee Cook

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Family Ministries Coordinator: Herman Jones

Financial Secretary: Penny Allton

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen