every boundary, giving you humility to listen, grace to receive, and courage to be changed.

All people: ***Amen.***

POSTLUDE & CANDLE EXTINGUISHING **Mr. Kevin Crone & Acolyte**

SENDING WORDS

Leader: Go now into the world to discover the living Christ already present among God's people.

All people: ***Amen.***

September 13, 2026
15th Sunday after Pentecost
United in Christ Worship Series – *Across Borders, Beside Our Neighbors*

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Leader: We now light the candles as a reminder that Christ is present among us.

All people: ***We will cross boundaries with humility, listen for the Spirit, and receive the gifts of our neighbors.***

PRELUDE & CANDLELIGHTING **Mr. Kevin Crone & Acolyte**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God gathers people from every nation and culture.

Congregation: **We are many peoples and one human family.**

Leader: Christ meets us in familiar places.

Congregation: **Christ also meets us beyond the boundaries we know.**

Leader: The Spirit speaks through languages, stories, and experiences different from our own.

Congregation: **We come ready to listen, learn, and receive.**

Leader: God asks, "Who is my neighbor?"

Congregation: **We will draw near with compassion and discover Christ beside us.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose love crosses every border.

All people: ***Let us worship God together!***

HYMN ***This is My Song*** **BLUE Hymnal #722**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Beloved of God, Christ calls us to love our neighbors, yet we often allow fear, assistance, and assumption to prevent genuine relationship. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our need for grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Gracious and righteous God, you call us to be people of justice, mercy, and peace. You desire that your love take flesh in the way we live, the way we speak, and the way we treat one another.

Congregation: **We confess that we have not always answered that call. When injustice benefits us, we are slow to question it. When mercy costs us**

something, we hesitate. When conflict arises, we choose sides instead of seeking peace.

Leader: Forgive us for the ways we have ignored suffering, for the times we have judged instead of listened, and for the moments we have chosen comfort over courage. Forgive us when our prayers for peace are not matched by our actions for reconciliation.

Congregation: **Create in us clean hearts, O God. Teach us to love mercy as deeply as you do. Give us courage to pursue justice with humility. Make us instruments of your peace in our homes, our communities, and our world.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the Good News. God's grace crosses every border we create. In Jesus Christ, strangers become neighbors, divisions are overcome, and we are invited to begin again.

All people: ***We are forgiven, loved, and drawn into God's wide embrace. Thanks be to God! Amen.***

PRAISE HYMN ***Gloria Patri*** **Blue Hymnal #35**

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ belongs to no single nation, language, culture, or people. The peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: **And, also with you.**

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME"

HYMN ***Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*** **Blue Hymnal #600**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All people: ***God of every language, speak to us through your Word. Open our minds beyond what is familiar. Open our hearts beyond what is comfortable. Open our lives beyond the boundaries we have learned to accept. Through these scriptures, help us recognize our neighbors, receive the gifts of others, and meet Christ already present among them. Amen.***

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING **Romans 15:5-8**
SECOND SCRIPTURE READING **Micah 6:1-8**
THIRD SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 10:26-37**

SERMON & CROSS-CULTURAL PRESENTATION **Mr. Andrew Boyer**

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All people: ***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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

ANTHEM ***Bless the Lord O My Soul*** (Ippolitof/Ivanov) **Chancel Choir**

An Offering Collection Box is located on the table between the sanctuary & overflow area

OFFERING INVITATION

Leader: We have been called to lives of justice, love, and truth. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved worldwide community of love, justice, truth, and blessing.

DOXOLOGY ***Praise God*** **Blue Hymnal #46**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: ***God of every people, receive these gifts and join them with the gifts of neighbors near and far. Use them to build relationships, strengthen communities, nurture learning, relieve suffering, and encourage the shared ministry of Christ's worldwide Church. Keep us generous in giving, gracious in receiving, and humble in every relationship. May all we offer serve your work of reconciliation, justice, and peace. Amen.***

HYMN ***Let There be Peace on Earth*** **Blue Hymnal #677**

COMMISSION

Leader: Christ is present beyond every boundary.

Congregation: **We will go expecting to meet Christ in our neighbors.**

Leader: The Spirit is already at work before we arrive.

Congregation: **We will listen, learn, and receive.**

Leader: God has made us members of one worldwide family.

Congregation: **We will share our gifts and honor the gifts of others.**

Leader: Go across borders and beside your neighbors with humility and love.

Congregation: **We go to become neighbors and recognize Christ already there.**

BENEDICTION

Leader: May the God of every nation enlarge your vision. May Jesus Christ meet you in neighbor and stranger. May the Holy Spirit go before you across