

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

*Congregational responses are in **bold** and • means "please rise in body or spirit."*

OCTOBER 5, 2025 | ORDER OF WORSHIP



Prelude

Oren Varess (they/them)

Welcome

Deacon Megan Sawyer (she/her)

Call to Worship

Led by Deacon Megan Sawyer (she/her)

Your response is the bolded line, "Come, let us worship!"

When we are joyful and jubilant,

Come, let us worship!

When we are weary and worried,

Come, let us worship!

When we are grateful and grinning,

Come, let us worship!

When we are mournful and melancholy,

Come, let us worship!

God sees the fullness of our lives and rejoices as we gather, so:

Come, let us worship!

• Hymn

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

No. 448 in the Black Hymnal

Centering Words

"The Traveling Onion" by Naomi Shihab Nye

Read by Deacon Megan Sawyer (she/her)

When I think how far the onion has traveled
just to enter my stew today, I could kneel and praise
all small forgotten miracles,
crackly paper peeling on the drainboard,
pearly layers in smooth agreement,
the way the knife enters onion
and onion falls apart on the chopping block,
a history revealed
And I would never scold the onion
for causing tears.

It is right that tears fall
for something small and forgotten.
How at meal, we sit to eat,
commenting on texture of meat or herbal aroma
but never on the translucence of onion,
now limp, now divided,
or its traditionally honorable career:
For the sake of others,
disappear.

Celebration of Gratitude

"If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough."

-Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God's extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

We Sound the Bell

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by Deacon Megan Sawyer (she/her)

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

- Luke 17:5-10, 22:24-27

Inclusive Bible Translation

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

A Message for all Children of God

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)



HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Spencer Law Presiding

Our communion table is open to all. We celebrate with gluten free bread or almonds, grape juice or water.

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, we give you thanks for bread and cup, table and community, for Christ and for each other. As this feast becomes part of our bodies, awaken us to the knowledge that we are the body of Christ together. As this blessing becomes part of our lives, awaken us to be Your hands and Your feet in this world.

God who is Love, hear us now as we call out the prayers of our own hearts to You:

(We name our prayers to God, aloud or in our hearts)

Hear our prayers, we humbly pray. And hear us now as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying...

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 sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

An Offering of Love and Promise

Deacon Megan Sawyer (she/her)

Offertory Music

Come to the Table | Mark Alan Schoolmeesters

First Church Senior Choir

• Words of Thanksgiving

Praise God, from whom blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour out Your blessing on this offering today. Guide us in Your way and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:

We call out words like "joyful, kind, just" to bless our church and world

Benediction

Postlude

Oren Varess (they/them)

First Church Ministry Leaders

Ministers

All of Us

Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (*she/her*)

Minister for Intergenerat'l Innovation

Pastor Spencer Law (*he/him*)

C.E. Coordinator

Sandy Wissmann (*she/her*)

Music Director

Deborah Owen (*she/her*)

Organist & Pianist

Oren Varess (*they/them*)

Youth Choir Director

Cassie Cooper-Ricci (*they/them*)

Office Manager

Kylie Morel (*she/her*)

Co-Moderators

Rosemary Wiser (*she/her*)

Marita Wiser (*she/her*)

Treasurer - Asst. Treasurer

Peter Clark (*he/him*)

Gail McBride (*she/her*)

Trustee of the Week

Dave Welbourn (*he/him*)

Deacon of the Week

Megan Sawyer (*she/her*)

Greeters-Hospitality

Lynn Welbourn, Martha Clark, Mary
Stinchfield

Childcare Leaders

Edna & Jessica Engstrom

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This Sunday, October 5

- Worship, 10 am, with Pastor Spencer Law preaching. Service to include Holy Communion for World Communion Sunday
- Potluck Celebration for Rosemary & Will, 11:30 am
- Council Meeting, 11:30 am

Tuesday, October 7

- Jeanette's Closet, 9 - 11 am
- Tiny Tots, 9 - 10 am
- Staff Meeting, 10:30 am
- Prayer Group via Zoom, 1:30 pm
- CUKES Rehearsal, 2 pm

Wednesday, October 8

- Bible Study with Rev. Emily, parlor, 10 am
- GAT Meeting, 11:30 am

Thursday, October 9

- FC Guild Meeting, 10 am
- Garden Visit/Tour at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brunswick, 10:30 am
- LRCC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
- Senior Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm

Friday, October 10

- Bible Study with Debbie Owen, 2 pm

Saturday, October 11

- Music on Main; Teens Facepainting

Next Sunday, October 12

- Worship, 10 am, with Rev. Emily C. Goodnow preaching
- Youth Music Program, 11 am
- New Members Gathering, 11:30 am
- Snack & Chat, 11:30 am
- Trustees' Meeting, 11:30 am

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Mon-Fri

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office@bridgtonucc.org

Announcements

With gratitude for the gift of vacation, Rev. Emily will be away September 29 - October 6. Pastor Spencer will be on call for pastoral needs during this time.

Upcoming 5 for 5 Fundraiser: Neighbors in Need

Your missions committee is committed to sustaining our **5 for 5 special mission offerings**. Today, you will find offering envelopes for the **Neighbors in Need program**, supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. We thank you in advance for your wonderful support.

New Members Gathering & Joining Dates

If you love it here and are not yet a member, but would like to be, please join us on **Sunday, October 12** at 11:30 am for our next new members gathering! The next joining date would be the following Sunday, October 19.

Youth Music Program Begins October 12th

Our first session of the Youth Music Program season will start on the **12th and continue each week until November 23**. The goal for this session of the Youth Music Program is for youth to engage in singing, instrument playing, musical games, and guided composition with the hope that youth will strengthen music skills, connection with each other, and hopefully share music with the congregation in worship on **Sunday, November 23rd**.

The Youth Music Program is always open for youth to drop in as they are interested! If youth are interested in being part of music sharing in worship on November 23rd, it would be best if they can attend practice each week.

Third Annual Progressive Dinner: October 18th

Our third annual progressive dinner is taking place on **October 18th** from 5 to 8:30 pm. Deadline to sign up is October 9th. Donation is \$20/person. Sign-up will be after church on October 5th. Or you can call Sharon at (207) 647- 5553 or (207) 749-5359. For more information, please see the weekly email.