



Central St Matthew
United Church of Christ

First Sunday in Pride
Second Sunday After Pentecost
June 7th | 10 am

“You Matter”

Rev. Peter Scie



Central St. Matthew United Church of Christ

First Sunday in Pride

Order of Service

June 7, 2026

(At the asterisk*, all who are able, please stand. Congregation responses are in **bold**)

Ring of the Bells

Prelude

“His Eye is on the Sparrow”

arr. Mark Hayes

Lighting of Candles

Acolyte

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Curry Miller

Leader: Beloved community, let us gather in the presence of the God who sees us, knows us, and calls us beloved.

People: We come knowing that we matter to God.

Leader: On this first Sunday of Pride Month, we give thanks for the sacred dignity of every life, every story, and every testimony.

People: We come celebrating the love of Christ that makes room for all.

Leader: The Spirit calls us not only to receive liberation, but to become instruments of liberation for others.

People: We come ready to speak, to testify, to love, and to serve.

Leader: Let us worship the God who strengthens the weary, affirms the rejected, and stands with the oppressed.

All: We worship with joy, courage, and hope. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

“Immortal Invisible God Only Wise”

NCH #1

***Invocation**

Liberating God, we welcome your presence among us today. On this first Sunday of Pride Month, remind us that your love is wider than our fear, deeper than our wounds, and stronger than every voice that has tried to shame, silence, or exclude your children. Open our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth. Open our ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. Open our mouths to testify with courage. Open our lives to become signs of your radical love. May this worship remind every person that they matter, their story matters, and their voice can become a tool of liberation for someone else. Amen.

Anthem

“Order My Steps”

by Glenn Burleigh

CSM Pride Month 2026 "Say Their Names"

Tennessee Williams

Scripture Reading

The Psalm

Psalm 33: 1-12

The Epistle

Revelations 12: 11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Children's Sermon

"Little Voices, Big Power!"

Rev. Peter Scie

(All the children are invited to come forward as all sing)

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread & cup, prayer & song: This is where children belong.**

Call to Reconciliation

Beloved community, we come before God honestly, trusting that grace meets us with mercy and truth. We confess that there have been times when silence has protected injustice, when fear has limited love, and when the church has failed to reflect the radical welcome of Christ. Let us turn toward God together, seeking forgiveness, renewal, and the courage to become a people who help others know they matter. Let's pray together.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy and justice, forgive us for the times we have been silent when love required our voice. Forgive us for the times we have overlooked the pain of those pushed to the margins. Forgive us for the ways we have allowed fear, comfort, tradition, or prejudice to keep us from fully living the liberating love of Christ. Renew our hearts. Strengthen our witness. Teach us to use our testimonies not for pride alone, but for the healing and liberation of others. Make us brave enough to speak, humble enough to listen, and faithful enough to stand with the oppressed. Amen.

Silence is Kept

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, hear the good news: God's grace is greater than our failures, and God's love is stronger than every force that tries to divide, shame, or destroy. In Christ, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are renewed. In Christ, we are liberated to help liberate others. You matter. Your testimony matters. Your life is held in the love of God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Passing of Peace

Please turn to your neighbor and say "The Peace of Christ be with you," and respond by saying, "And also with you."

*Pulpit Hymn

"I Love You, Lord"

TFWS #2068

Sermon

"You Matter"

Rev. Peter Scie

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the table!

Call to Communion

The Words of Institution

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

NCH #885

The Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Special Music

"O How He Loves You and Me"

TFWS #2108

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Offering

Offertory Sentence Hebrews 13:16

“Keep doing good works and sharing your resources. These are the sacrifices that please God.”

Offertory *“I’m Going to Live so God Can Use Me”* TFWS #2153

*Doxology NCH #781

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; One God, Triune, whom we adore.**

CSM Pride Month 2026 "Say Their Names"

Larry Bagneris

***The Closing Hymn** *“Follow Jesus”* Insert

Carrying of the Light into the World Acolyte

***Parting Hymn** *“Bind Us Together”* TFWS #2226

(Please join the Circle of Friendship)

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love.

There is only one God, there is only one king. There is only one body.

That is why we sing. Bind us together...

*Benediction

Organ Postlude *“It is Well”* Traditional

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God

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Illustrations by Emma Harlan