



CENTRAL ST MATTHEW
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Bringing New Orleans Together

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 19^h | 10 am



“The Great Reveal!”

Rev. Peter Scie

Central St. Matthew United Church of Christ

Order of Service

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2026

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

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

“March from Scipio”

by George Frideric Handel

Lighting of Candles

Acolyte

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Michael Boucree

Leader: Creation waits with eager longing.

People: We come ready to reveal the love of God.

Leader: The world is groaning for justice, healing, and hope.

People: We come ready to live as children of God.

Leader: The Spirit calls us beyond fear and into faithful witness.

People: Let us worship God with courage, compassion, and joy.

***Opening Hymn**

“We Have Come Into This House”

AAHH #174

***Invocation**

Spirit of the Living God, awaken us to your presence and call us into deeper faithfulness. Free us from fear, renew our hope, and reveal your love through our worship and our lives. Make us courageous witnesses of justice, mercy, and radical welcome. Amen.

Scripture Reading

The Psalter

Psalms 139:1–12, 23–24

The Epistle

Romans 8:12–25

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Children’s Sermon

“Show Them Who You Are!”

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 worshipping throng.

Water, God’s Word, bread & cup, prayer & song: This is where children belong.

Call to Reconciliation

We are called to be visible signs of God's love, yet too often we remain silent when truth must be spoken and absent when justice requires our presence. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess together.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, forgive us for the times we have allowed fear to silence us, comfort to distract us, and indifference to keep us from acting. Forgive us when our faith has remained hidden while others have suffered. Renew our courage, deepen our compassion, and help us reveal your love through justice, service, and public witness. Amen.

Silence is Kept

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: We have not received a spirit of fear, but the Spirit of adoption. We are God's beloved children, forgiven, restored, and called again to live with courage and hope.
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 Surrender All"

AAHH #396

Sermon

"The Great Reveal!"

Rev. Peter Scie

The Prayer of the Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Call to Communion

The Words of Institution

The Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Special Music

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

AAHH #686

All are welcome at the table!

The Offering

Offertory Sentence

Hebrews 13:16

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

Offertory

"Awesome God"

TFWS #2040

*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.**

***The Closing Hymn**

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

AAHH #474

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

“Benediction”

arr. Aaron Waite

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God

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Illustrations by Emma Harlan