

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Pre-Service Music: *Lord of My Heart* Valerie Lorimer

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Rest in the Lord* John Turner

Song of Greeting #466: *Come and Fill Our Hearts* (sing three times)

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

Enter God's gates with praise and thanksgiving.

We order our footsteps according to God's word.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord, your loving-kindness is better than life. There is nothing that can separate us from your enduring love. Move us out, draw us close, and keep us steady, that we might serve you all the days of our lives. All glory, power, dominion, and majesty are yours from eternity to eternity. Amen.

Opening Hymn #174: *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom* (stand)

Call to Confession:

We love God, and yet . . .
We are Christ's disciples, and yet . . .
We are guided by the Spirit, and yet . . .
There are many ways we do not live this reality.

Let us call upon the Spirit to intercede for us in our time of confession.

Prayer of Confession

Spirit, intercede . . .

when we fall short of your glory, when we do not deserve your promises, when we do not act like those who have been called your family.

Spirit, intercede . . .

when our words wound, when our silence speaks volumes, when our actions are a far cry from what you would have us do.

Spirit, intercede . . .

break forth into our lives, forming us into the image of your Son, that we might never feel separate from you again. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Beloved, hear this good news: God is for us. Not even our sins can separate us from the love of God.

Glory be to God for this grace and mercy!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #583: *Glory to God English/Latin*

Hymn of the Day #450: *Be Thou My Vision*

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

God of grace. Hear our 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn #735: *I Need Thee Every Hour* vs. 1, 3, & 4 (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 29:15-28

Second Lesson: Romans 8:26 – 39

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:31 – 33, 44 - 52

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God. Deuteronomy 6:6

Sermon:

The Cost of Deceit

Jonathan Kimball

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.** Revelation 21:6

Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from first and second Timothy.*

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: Christ Jesus was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

1 Tim. 3:16 (Revised Standard Version)

The saying is sure: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

2 Tim. 2:11-13

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #716: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending vs. 1 & 3*

Prayer of Dedication:

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Sending Hymn #307: *God of Grace and God of Glory* (stand)

Charge and Benediction:

(remain standing)

May the love of Christ
be active in your heart,
be heard in your words,
be seen in your actions
and inform your choices
today and all days. **Amen.**

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said,

“Here I am; send me!” Amen.

Isaiah 6:8

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord!**

Postlude:

I’ve Got the Joy

George W. Cooke

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