

Sunday, February 8, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
SCOUT SUNDAY

TODAY'S FOCUS: BLESSINGS. Last week we looked at the blessings we receive. Today, it's all about the blessing we are to others.

PRELUDE — Brendan Krueger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Lin

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST — Lin**

***OPENING HYMN** TFWS #2236 “Gather Us In” (vs 1, 2, & 4)

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreaming, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in — the lost and forsaken, gather us in — the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young — our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old — who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in — the rich and the haughty, gather us in — the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in — all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — Suzanne Gallagher

One: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Many: Day after day, Lord, we seek you and delight to know your ways.

One: What shall we do to please the Lord?

Many: Shall we fast while others starve? Shall we humble ourselves in sackcloth and ashes while the homeless freeze?

One: What shall we do to please the Lord?

Many: Loose the bonds of injustice!

One: Undo the thongs of the yoke!

Many: Let the oppressed go free!

One: Share our bread with the hungry!

Many: Bring the homeless poor into our homes!

One: Clothe the naked!

Many: Then our light shall break forth like the dawn,

**All: Then we shall call and the Lord will answer, we shall cry for help and God will say,
Here I am.**

OPENING PRAYER — Lin

SPECIAL MUSIC — Lovelight “This Little Light of Mine”

HYMN TFWs #2233 “Where Children Belong”

CHILDREN’S STORY — Sharon Goldade

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:13-20 — Suzanne Gallagher

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

MESSAGE “Existential Answers” Rev. Lin Cheek

RESPONSIVE HYMN UMH #528 “Nearer My God To Thee” (vs 1, 3, 4, 5)

1 Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E’en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

3. There let the way appear, steps unto heaven; all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise, out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

5. Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky, sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

OFFERTORY — Ashley Maine and Betsy Foushee “Every Season”

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #94

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** — Suzanne Gallagher

ALL: Gracious and Loving God, as we bring our hearts, our gifts, and our lives to you now, we trust you to transform these offerings into food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, and hope and love for all who need you this day. Transform what we offer here, including the persons we are becoming by your grace, so that all your creation will see and give glory to you. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER — Lin

All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

***CLOSING HYMN** Insert “Count Your Blessings” (vs 1, 2, 3)

1 When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
when you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

REFRAIN: Count your blessings name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done.
Count your blessings name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings; every doubt will fly,
and you will be singing as the days go by. REFRAIN

3. When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you his wealth untold;
Count your many blessings; money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven nor your home on high. REFRAIN

***BENEDICTION** — Lin

POSTLUDE — Brendan Krueger

Prelude/Postlude—Brendan Krueger

Offertory— Ashley Maine & Betsy Foushee

Organ — Betsy Foushee

Liturgist —Suzanne Gallagher

Special Music: Lovelight. “This Little Light of Mine”

Accomp.— Brendan Krueger/Betsy Foushee

Song Leader — Janice Bachmann

Violin — Rae Ann Norell

Children’s Message— Sharon Goldade