

Sunday, July 16: Pentecost 7

“We will go deeper in faith as we do justice, love mercy,
work for peace, and walk humbly with God.”

Prelude	Matins – Healey Willan	Christian Broughton
Call to Worship		David Young

One: A love that never ceases,
ALL: A creativity that designed the universe,
 One: A hope that cannot be quenched,
ALL: A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost:
 One: These are the things that are of God,
ALL: Then let us worship God.

*Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling NCH 43

Time With Children Cherry Johnson

Song	Give Me the Strength	Ben Luedcke
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Invitations to Involvement/Call to Giving and Prayer Jacob Maez

*Hymn Precious Lord – Thomas Dorsey **NCH 472**

Prayer Pat Kile

Anthem Servant Song – arr. Fetke Summer Choir

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Scripture	Micah 6:8	Vanessa Perkinson
Sermon	The Circles of Justice and Faith	Vanessa Perkinson
*Hymn	Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed	NCH 537
Benediction		Vanessa Perkinson
Postlude	Sandys – Healey Willan	Christian Broughton

The SFBC **Property Development Committee** invites church members and friends to participate in the congregational forum immediately after today's service. Lunch will be provided. A Zoom link for this meeting is also accessible on the church calendar on the SFBC website.

Faith Journeys continues next Sunday with Spencer Van Koevering at 9:30am in the parlor.

The call to worship is from <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/>.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling was written by one of the founders of the English Methodist movement, Charles Wesley, in 1743. To call Wesley a prolific hymn writer would be an understatement; experts put his poetic and hymn output between 3,000 and 6,000 verses. Frequently he would be struck with inspiration while on horseback and take down notes while riding. Upon reaching his destination, Wesley would rush inside a friend's home crying, "Pen and ink! Pen and ink!" and scribble down his verse. Today's hymn, *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*, found immediate popularity because its focus on God as pure unbounded love was unusual at the time. The tune we sing, BEECHER, was composed for this text in 1870 by John Zundel, the organist at abolitionist Henry Ward Beecher's Plymouth Church in Brooklyn.

Thomas A. Dorsey (1899–1993), "the father of gospel music," won renown as a blues pianist, the first publisher of black Gospel music and the founder of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses. In 1932 Dorsey was inspired to write *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* by the death of his wife in childbirth and his infant son two days later. In composing the melody, Dorsey fused sacred music with blues in adapting *Maitland*, a tune attributed to composer and professor of geology George N. Allen (1812–1877). *Precious Lord* became Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s favorite song and was sung many times at civil rights rallies and later at the funerals of King himself, President Lyndon Johnson and Mahalia Jackson, whose career Dorsey had helped launch. Published in more than 40 languages, the hymn has been recorded since 1937 by innumerable artists.