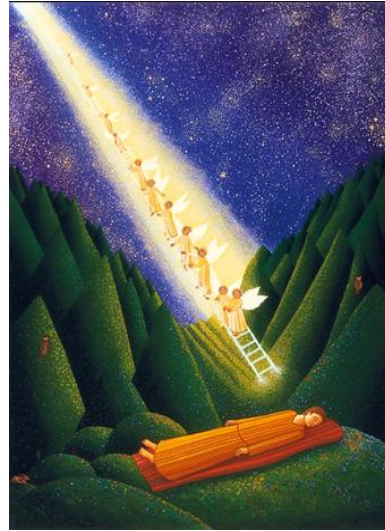


**John Knox
Presbyterian Church
July 19, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**



Dream of Jacob John August Swanson, 1986

Welcome! Please be seated and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

"Be Still My Soul"

Jean Sibelius, 1899, arr. Melissa Terrall

Words of Welcome

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

*** Call to Worship**

Creator God, you are in this place.

God of light and dark, God of word and Silence, you are in this place.

Saving God, guiding God, you are in this place.

God within us, you are in this place.

We greet you! We thank you.

We worship you. Open our hearts to your presence, now and always.

*** Hymn**

"God is Here"

#409

*** Call to Confession**

*** Unison Prayer of Confession**

Lord, you have searched us and found us wanting. You have known our inmost thoughts and called us to better things. You have set us in this world to love and serve you by loving and serving one another, to worship you by tending to those most vulnerable among us. When we fail, do not abandon us. When we go astray, call us back home.

Search us O God, and know our hearts. Test us and know our thoughts. Root out the wicked ways in us, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

*** Assurance of Pardon**

Where can we go from God's spirit, or where can we flee from God's presence? Even if we take the wings of the morning or settle at the farthest limits of the sea, God's hand will find us and hold us fast. Proclaim the good news with me:

Our God does not abandon us to sin or brokenness. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and called back home. Thanks be to God.

*** Sung Response** **"Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place"** #583

** = Standing as able Italics = Leader **Bold** = People*

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 139

a paraphrase by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

O Holy One, you see me from the inside out.

UnfoldingLight.net

You know me better than I do.

You take every step with me;

you have already walked all my journeys.

Even before I speak

you know my thoughts.

You are around me and within me;

I feel your hand on my back.

I can't imagine the greatness of your love;

I can only trust it.

God, for your love, I pray...

Where could I go from your presence?

In outer space, at the core of the earth—

there you are.

If I ran away to the farthest place,

you would be with me all the way.

I could try to hide in perfect darkness

but to you the darkness is light.

God, for your light, I pray...

You formed me before I was born;

you made me by hand in secret.

I praise you, for you are wonderful!

For I am wonderfully, awesomely made.

How amazing is your wisdom, O God,

how infinite your presence.

When I try to comprehend,

you are beyond my understanding.

But when I simply become aware—here you are.

Search through me, O God, and know my heart.

Root out what is unloving,

and lead me in your life-giving way.

God, for your way, I pray...

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Time with Our Young and Growing Ones

Second Reading

Genesis 28: 10-19a

NRSV

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Maggie Lewis

* Hymn

"You Have Searched Me and Known Me"

See projection for lyrics tune #475

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Softly and Tenderly" Will Thompson, 1880

*** Sung Response** "For the Life that You Have Given" #717

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Response: *Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*** Sending Song** "Healer of Our Every Ill" #795

*** Charge and Benediction**

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

Postlude "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place" E. E. Hewitt, 1890

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Pianist: Melissa Terrall

Liturgist: Vallory Bunday

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Psalm 139 paraphrase: UnfoldingLight.net, Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Bulletin image: Dream of Jacob John August Swanson, 1986. From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

Church and Community Life

KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK This summer, we are collecting peanut butter for the food bank. Kids are home all summer, and peanut butter is a great source of protein! Please bring your jars of peanut butter to the grocery cart and we will deliver them to the food bank. Another way to help the food bank at this time is cash donations for bulk food purchases of most-needed items. Designate "KCFB" or "Food Bank" and we will route the money to KCFB. The food bank can also use any reusable grocery bags or medium sized boxes. Take them to the food bank on Monday or Wednesday around noon. Volunteers are always needed to serve our hungry neighbors or to help stock shelves when food is received. See the KCFB Facebook page or website at keizercommunityfoodbank.org for more information. You can also donate on-line on their website.

CHRIST JAR OFFERING received today supports Congregations Helping People. Once a month, on the third Sunday, we gather coins (and we'll take paper money and checks, too!) to support this organization that contributes toward meeting emergency needs of our Salem-Keizer neighbors. If you want to know more about what they do or what you can do to help, please talk with Sheila.

PLEASE JOIN in the July birthday and anniversary celebration in the Social Hall after worship today.

We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks. Copyrighted music is projected and recorded under One License #A-735693, CCL#3162413, or by permission of the author or publisher.

This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.

Melissa's Performance Practice

Melissa is preparing for a piano concerto competition in Houston in August. On July 26 (next Sunday) and August 2 she will be sharing her "dry run" practices with us after church. They will last about 20 minutes. We'll take a short break between the end of the service and the beginning of her music. There will be time enough for you to take a short break for the restroom or to pick up a couple of cookies and a cup of coffee in the social hall, and return to the sanctuary if you like. You are invited, but certainly not required to watch and listen – if socializing is the priority for your day, you are welcome to stay in the social hall – we will be closing the doors to block some sound both directions. Of course, if you are in the sanctuary, please remember your concert manners!

Looking Ahead

- July 21** Planning Workshop at JKPC 10 am – 3 pm
July 26 10:30 Worship with Rev. Steve Hammond
 After worship – Melissa "dry run" concert
August 2 10:30 Worship with Holy Communion
 After worship – Melissa "dry run" concert

July Birthdays	July 2: Karen B.	July 28: Linda A.
	July 16: Sheila C.	July 29: Leone W.
July Anniversary	July 1: Adam & Anna R.	

JKPC June 2026 Financial Report

INCOME	Actual	Budget	Year to Date Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Pledges	\$11,520	\$10,815	\$35,960	\$35,900	\$84,280
Offerings	322	417	3,702	2,500	5,000
Misc.	2,350	708	4,487	4,250	8,500
Christ Jar/ CHP	100	100	623	600	1,200
Building Use	130	100	425	600	1,200
Per Capita	100		700	600	600
Food Bank Donations	175	150	1,050	900	1,800
Backpack B Donations	1,300	175	1,870	1,050	2,100
INC. TOTAL	\$15,997	\$12,465	\$48,817	\$46,400	\$104,680
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$6,084	\$6,693	\$60,151	\$56,162	\$114,375
PROFIT/ <LOSS>	\$9,913	\$5,772	<\$11,334>	<\$9,762>	<\$9,695>
<i>Including Investment Income, unrealized loss/gain and fees</i>					
	\$14,743	\$5,772	\$16,456	<\$9,762>	<\$10,295>

Treasurer's Report

Pledges

June saw a net gain of \$4,830.49. Payment in full of one pledge including special giving was received in June and is reflected in the Pledge, Miscellaneous and Backpack Buddies income categories. One pledge has been increased \$100 per month for the second half of the year. Total pledge income is now \$84,280, reducing the projected deficit to \$9,695.20.

Savings and Investments

We have three investment funds; all are experiencing increase in value which is reinvested back into the funds.

Administration

A successful Annual Financial Review was completed on July 14 and quarterly payroll tax reporting has also been completed. Bronwyn attended a Collaborative Conversation hosted by the presbytery. She noted that regardless of church size, treasurers face many of the same challenges. JKPC is fortunate that we have affordable access to a CPA to complete an annual financial review; other congregations utilize a committee of congregants to complete a review, and a surprising number didn't do a review or rarely complete one. Many congregations have payroll services handled out of house by specialty firms. While relatively expensive, it does reduce the workload and personal risk to the treasurer in the case of any errors.

Editorial note: A sincere and well-earned thank you to Bronwyn for the care she takes with our finances. We are fortunate that she shares her time and skills with us.

Notes from Session

Session will not meet in July. The next session meeting is August 20 at noon, in person at JKPC.

Hope

*In hope we were saved.
Now hope that is seen is not hope,
for who hopes for what one already sees?
But if we hope for what we do not see,
we wait for it with patience.
—Romans 8.24-25*

Behold this mystery: severed flesh knows how to heal.
Sundered tissues reach out for each other,
join hands, embrace, reweave a wholeness.
I know this. I trust it. This is my hope.

The sower goes out to sow in hope,
not with some magical power of wishing,
but the sure knowledge of how seeds work.
There will be setbacks, and a harvest.

Hope is not wishing for a certain future,
but trusting in the grace that is present.
Paul is wrong. I hope in God's salvation
because I *do* see it. It is already here,

the grace that spawns forgiveness,
the courage that seeks justice,
the love that reaches out, that risks boldly,
the patience that endures.

One may hope *for* something yet to come,
but we hope *in* something already here.
There will be setbacks, failures and disasters.
But grace is not future tense. Already present.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light www.unfoldinglight.net

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