

ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH, CORPUS CHRISTI

CALL TO WORSHIP

O give thanks to the Lord. Make known his deeds among the peoples.
The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who kept hiring workers,
all the way to the last hour, because there was still room.
 The last will be first. The first will be last.
 Everyone who shows up gets more than they deserve.
Come, poor and needy, early and late. We worship the God who provi

SONG OF INVITATION **“Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy”** *OGRP #502*

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.

**[Chorus:] I will arise and go to Jesus; He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.**

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. **CHORUS**

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. **CHORUS**

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him. **CHORUS**

PRAYER

Loving God, we confess that we are frequent grumblers. We call your generosity unfair. We think we can do it ourselves, when we can do nothing worth doing without you. Forgive us. You go out again and again, at dawn, at noon, at the eleventh hour, not counting hours, not measuring merit, just calling, and calling again. Teach us to be grateful, graceful, and generous with the same abandon you have shown to us. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

MESSAGE

Matthew 20: 1-16

Now Hiring!

PRAYER SONG **“Here I Am, Lord” OGRP #589**
I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

[Chorus:] **Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will give My Word to them. Whom shall I send? **CHORUS**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? **CHORUS**

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER OGRP #700SONG OF TESTIMONY “Graves Into Gardens”

I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me.
 Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough.
 Then You came along and put me back together.
 And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love.

**Oh, there's nothing better than You. There's nothing better than You.
Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You.**

Now, I'm not afraid to show You my weakness.
My failures and flaws, Lord, You've seen them all, and You still call me friend.
'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley.
And there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again.

**Oh, there's nothing better than You. There's nothing better than You.
Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You.**

You turn mourning to dancing. You give beauty for ashes.
You turn shame into glory. You're the only One who can.
You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies.
You turn seas into highways. You're the only One who can.

Oh, there's nothing better than You. There's nothing better than You.

Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You. (2x)

You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies.
You turn seas into highways. You're the only One who can.
You're the only One who can. You're the only One who can.

CHARGE & BLESSING

Go, the vineyard is still open. You have been hired,
not because you arrived first,
but because the landowner saw you and said: go.

**Praise the one who turned graves into gardens
and called you at whatever hour you heard him.**

Go without grumbling, grateful for the grace that found you,
gracious toward those still finding their way.

The last will be first. Live like that changes everything.

CLOSING & THE PEACE

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Leaders in tonight's worship: Brad & Lisa DeHaven

*"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" text: Joseph Hart, 1789*

*"Here I Am, Lord" by Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; © 1981 OCP*

*"Graves Into Gardens" by Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, Tiffany Hammer and Brandon Lake;  
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Prayers for use at home this week:

Morning – Lord, I am thankful to be hired, not for what I brought, but for what you offered. Keep me from grumbling today, from watching what others receive and forgetting what I have been given. Let me work with a grateful heart, in a garden I did not plant, for a wage I did not earn. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Evening – God who provides, the day is done. I worked in your vineyard today, with more grumbling than I would like to admit. Forgive the envy and the scorekeeping. Thank you for the grace that pays more than I deserve. You turned graves into gardens. Do something with the ground of my heart too. I am thankful. Truly. Amen.



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Wednesday Evening Chapel Worship

September 23, 2026 – 7 pm



**St. Luke's Methodist Church – 3151 Reid Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78404
(361) 854-5379 – stlukescc@gmail.com – www.stlukesmethodistcctx.org
Sunday Worship: "Infuse!" – 9 am – Moore Hall / Traditional – 11 am – Sanctuary
Sunday School for children, youth, and adults of all ages: every Sunday, 10 am**