



September 13, 2026
11 A.M. Worship Service

Gathering Meditation

“Trust in the Lord... The Lord is good and merciful. *Trust in his goodness and mercy.* The Lord is loving and kind. *Trust in his love and kindness... Trust in the Lord always.* All He expects from us is to do what is right, do what is good, and do what is holy.” (<https://fralfonse.blogspot.com/2013/02>)

Order of Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming the Hour

Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome

James Lackey

The Community Gathers

Prelude

When Morning Gilds the Skies

arr. Phillip Keveren

*Call to Worship

Carol Hargis-Nation

Leader: Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is like a farmer scattering seed upon the earth.

People: We scatter our hopes, our prayers, and our love, knowing we cannot force the growth.

Leader: Night and day, whether we sleep or wake, the seed sprouts and grows—though we may not fully understand how.

People: We rest in the quiet mystery of God's grace. God is always at work beneath the surface!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord, who tends our hearts and brings new life.

All: Praise be to God!

*Opening Hymn 695

God of the Fertile Fields

ITALIAN HYMN

Invocation

Rev. Will Horn

Musical Response 297

Dona Nobis Pacem

DONA NOVIS PACEM

Dismissal for Children's Church

Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

The Community Proclaims God's Word

Scripture Reading

Mark 4:26-27

Carol Hargis-Nation

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. (NRSVUE)

Jesús continuó: «El reino de Dios se parece a quien esparce semilla en la tierra. Sin que este sepa cómo, y ya sea que duerma o esté despierto, día y noche brota y crece la semilla. (NVI)

Special Music

Hymn of Promise

arr. John Ferguson

Sermon

"God Is Still Growing Something"

Rev. Will Horn

$\text{♩} = 116$ Easy acoustic feel

mp Op-en the eyes of my heart, Lord, op-en the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you, I want to

see you. To see you

mf high and lift - ed up, shin - ing in the light of your glo -

- ry; Lord, pour out your pow'r and love as we sing,

"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly."

dim. grad. to end CODA *rit. grad.* "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly." "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

- ly." Op - en the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

The Lord's Prayer

Congregation

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Giving

John Nation

The Community Is Empowered at the Table

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Will Horn

Communion Hymn 230*Now the Green Blade Rises*

NOEL NOUVELET

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

Prayer over the Elements

Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

Words of Institution

Rev. Will Horn

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Those who are able are invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive the elements and partake by intinction. Those serving will tear a piece of bread. You will dip it in the cup. You may return to your seat via the side aisles. The Table of the Lord is open to all. Christ invites us into communion.

The Community is Sent to Restore God's World

Invitation to Join

Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

Invitation Hymn 395Seed, Scattered and Sown*

SEED SCATTERED

***Benediction**

Rev. Will Horn

Postlude*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

arr. Bernadine Johnson

*Please rise in either body or spirit.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."

BIENVENIDA CONGREGACIONAL

"Reafirmando nuestra propia fe en Jesucristo, les damos la bienvenida a esta expresión de la iglesia universal de Dios. Los recibimos con amor, nos comprometemos a su cuidado y celebramos su presencia en nuestra congregación. Mediante el poder del espíritu de Dios, hagamos juntos justicia, amemos la misericordia y caminemos humildemente con Dios, quien nos fortalece para servirnos unos a otros."

VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to **be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity**. We are an Open and Affirming congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger and social issues that affect our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter and Friday Flash emails for details and more.)

We welcome Rev. Will Horn as guest preacher today.

He is the Founder and pastor of the Cosmopolitan Congregation in Dallas, Texas, and CEO of Will Horn Ministries. Rev. Horn is host of the Shake the Table YouTube channel and Podcast and the recruiter and admissions counselor at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He is also a member of the prestigious Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College. Rev. Horn holds a Master of Theological Studies degree with a certificate in History, Theology and Ethics from Brite Divinity School at TCU.

CCSW Men's Retreat is Sept. 18-20 in Brownwood, Texas.

Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes is a keynote speaker! Register with the link provided in The Echo newsletter.

Help us stay connected.

Please review the contact information Midway Hills has for you and your household. Visit <https://midwayhills.churchcenter.com/me>, sign in if prompted, and select Profile & Household. Keeping your email address, phone number, and household information current helps us stay connected with you.

Adult Sunday School begins new study September 13.

We will be discussing John Pavlovitz's writings. He discusses a Christian response to what is happening in the US today. Mary will email the exact column each week. We meet each Sunday at 10:00 AM.

Mark your calendar:

Board Meeting - September 20, 12:15 p.m.
Elders Meeting - September 27, 12:30 p.m.
Cabinet Meeting - October 1, 7:00 p.m.
Mission & Outreach Committee - October 11, 12:00 p.m.
All Church Prayer - Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. on Zoom
Prayer Alcove - Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adult Book Discussion - Sundays, 10:00 a.m., room 1

Scan this QR code
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Midway Hills
Christian Church:



JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Please pray for these in our church family:

LaVerne Johnson; Dan Gaylord—surgery, Friday, Sept. 11

Please pray for our extended church family concerns:

James Lackey's sister Jessica; Robin Copeland's brother Wade Keller; Jack van Wunnik; Rev. Robert Schomp; David Hammons' wife, Joan

Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:

Nina Boothe	Gay and Jim Gilmore	Bryen Lackey
Frank and Millie Martin	Jeryl Crawford	Lynne Stokes
Judy Mank	Chris & Jayne Sparrer	Elaine & Don Manworren
Mary Ludwick's sister, Alice Collins—hospitalized		

Sympathy to:

- ❖ Mary Ludwick and family on the death of her brother, John Croix.
- ❖ Roger Wedell and family on the passing of his nephew, Brett Wedell.
- ❖ Dan Gaylord and family on the passing of his aunt and uncle.

Let's celebrate with joy:

- Laura & Paul Mitchell on relocating to Mexico to be near family
- Having LaVerne Johnson in worship on Sunday
- John O'Neal & Lowery Ferguson on beginning a new life in Mexico
- Our guests/visitors in worship in the sanctuary and online

Please pray for our city and state:

- Those facing the difficulties of losing their employment
- Muslim community
- Religious freedom legislation
- Legislative sessions
- Texas faith-based non-profits serving immigrants and refugees

Please pray for our nation and world:

- **Being inclusive, pursuing justice, embracing diversity**
- U.S. wildfires and Grand Canyon flooding
- Victims of random violence
- The people of Nepal, as they face the tragic loss of life due to flooding in their country, and the difficult tasks to rebuild & restore
- Those working for peace in places of conflict and those caught in the cycles of violence
- Justice for the people of Ukraine and others struggling against oppression
- Justice for the Palestinian people
- Those who have limited access to health care and those working to expand access
- Those experiencing discrimination and oppression because of their gender identity, sexual orientation or gender expression
- Those struggling with food insecurity and those working to overcome it
- Those who work to create a larger Welcome Table

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13

9:45 a.m. Choir practice
10:00 a.m. Adult Book Discussion, room 1
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:00 a.m. Children's Church

Monday

September 14

6:00 a.m. Chef Dorisa (until 9:00 a.m.) kitchen

Tuesday

September 15

9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 4:00) exterior gardens
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Wednesday

September 16

12:00 p.m. Christian Adult Fellowship (CAF) Lunch, community hall

Thursday

September 17

8:30 a.m. All Church Prayer, on Zoom
11:30 a.m. Men's Lunch Group
6:00 p.m. Prayer Alcove
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Friday

September 18

CCSW Men's Retreat (through Sept. 20) Brownwood, TX

Saturday

September 19

10:00 a.m. Magdalen House meal prep (until 2:00) kitchen

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20

9:45 a.m. Choir practice
10:00 a.m. Adult Book Discussion, room 1
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:00 a.m. Children's Church
12:15 p.m. Board meeting, community hall & online

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet after worship with the Elder offering the invitation,
or contact the church office any time.

MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Jeff Crouse
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons
Administrative Assistant

Douglass Anne Cartwright
Bookkeeper

TECH CREW
James Lackey
John Leslie

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE
Kate Lynch

SEPTEMBER DEACON
Clayton Cunningham

SEPTEMBER 13 ELDER
Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

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Midway Hills Christian Church · 11001 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229
www.midwayhills.org · 214-352-4841

