

***Mifflin Avenue and South Avenue
United Methodist Churches***



NOVEMBER 10, 2024

25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

THE POWER OF ORDINARY DAYS (Skit)

Emmelia Gaebel and Pastor Russel

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

*OPENING HYMN

‘Come, Ye Thankful People, Come’

No. 694

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God stretches out the heavens and shapes the earth.

People: Come and give thanks!

Pastor: God raises up the mountains and pours water into the seas.

People: Come and give thanks!

Pastor: God calls forth plants from the soil and forms animals in infinite variety.

People: Come and give thanks!

Pastor: God breathes upon us and fills us with life.

People: Come lift your voices in praise!

Pastor: God gives our lives meaning through laughter and tears.

People: Come lift your voices in praise!

Pastor: God touches our hearts through family and friends.

People: Come lift your voices in praise!

Pastor: God loves us and blesses us with everything good.

People: Come and worship!

Pastor: God loves us and overwhelms us with never-ending generosity.

People: Come and worship!

Pastor: God loves us and surrounds us with love in abundance!

INTROIT

‘We Gather Together’

No. 131 Vs. 1 & 3

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.*

*We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

ANTHEM

‘Sing to the Lord a New Song’

C. Courtney

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

This is a time for both gathering and letting go. Gather your spirits to the Lord, let go of the stresses and struggles that you feel. In the ordinary, begin to feel the extraordinary.

HYMN OF PRAYER

'Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus'

No. 349

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of this glory and grace.*

PRAYER

Lord, help us to be quiet, to resist the desire to fill every moment with noise: the noise of living, the noise of our busyness, the noise of plans that rumble around in our heads. Clear our minds and give us a moment's peace.

QUIET MOMENT

HYMN OF PRAYER

'Be Still, My Soul'

No. 534 Vs. 1

*Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In every change God faithful will remain.
Be still my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

PRAYER

Lord, help us to slow down enough to appreciate the beauty around us.

QUIET MOMENT

HYMN OF PRAYER

'For the Beauty of the Earth'

No. 92 Vs. 1

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

PRAYER

Help us, O God, to focus on our own breathing, the rhythm of inhaling and exhaling, and to remember you are the breath of life.

QUIET MOMENT

HYMN OF PRAYER

'Breathe on Me, Breath of God'

No. 420 Vs. 1

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.*

PRAYER

Holy One, help us to relax in your love and creative power. Enable us to place our trust in your abiding presence.

QUIET MOMENT

HYMN OF PRAYER

'Surely the Presence of the Lord'

No. 328

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

PRAYER

Refreshing God, we thank you for these moments of quietness and relaxation. With glad and joyful hearts, we thank you for time in which we can begin to experience the uniqueness of all creation and of each moment in time. Amen

QUIET MOMENT

HYMN OF PRAYER

'Now Thank We All Our God'

No. 102 Vs. 1 & 3

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.*

*All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.*

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts,

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of Your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON

Joel: 21-27

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Alleluia'

No. 186

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you, **People: And also with you.**

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Matthew 6: 25-33

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'The Beauty and Thankfulness of the Ordinary'

Pastor Russel Shuluga

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

In the midst of our thanksgiving, let us pause to recall how we so often lose sight of the gifts of each day and of their Giver.

GENERAL CONFESSION

Pastor: O God, we know that we forget about you, we forget to love you, we forget to help our neighbors, we forget to thank you.

People: **Forgive us.**

All: **Grant us clear minds to know you, new hearts to love you strong hands to serve you. Help us live this day, this week, and always so that our whole life is a thanksgiving to you. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: God did not send Christ into the world to condemn the world, but to be its Savior. We can trust God's word. We are a forgiven people.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'Amazing Grace'

No. 378 Vs. 1

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

What a great day to be together, to share and to rejoice. God calls us into community, to offer our gifts and our service for healing, renewal, and hope to this world. Bring now your offerings to God in thanksgiving for all the incredible blessings in y our life.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

'Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled'

K. K. Davis

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God, our hearts are filled with thanksgiving. Bless the gifts we offer to you. We pray that they will bring hope, peace, gratitude, and grace in this season of Harvest Thanksgiving. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

THE INVITATION

Pastor: Here, at the Lord's Table, Christ offers us his very self.

People: **We come to the table with thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Here, in this gift of bread and wine, Christ meets us as honored guests.

People: **We come to the table with songs of joy.**

Pastor: Here, at the foretaste of the heavenly banquet, Christ calls us his own.

Pastor: **We come to the table of grace.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. The glory of your creation amazes us; by your word you formed the universe, orchestrating the majesty of the heavens like a master composer, fashioning galaxies, solar systems, and our earth with brilliance, and humanity with compassion. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Day by day you bless us with your grace and peace, your light and love; even though we have turned away from you and wandered into the wilderness of sin and death, you have not turned away from us. Instead, you sent your Son, our savior Jesus Christ to deliver us from the folly of our ways. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet of justice, mercy, and peace. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Look around at each other again. Smile. Look with love and wonder. Each one of us is a unique creation of God – there is no ordinary person here. We are all extraordinary because God has called us so.

Go forth to discover the wonders of the world. Go out with joy and be led forth with peace.



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'
'*Amen, amen, a-men.*'

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing'

No. 671

*POSTLUDE

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD



Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church



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