



**LOVE FIRST.  
SERVE FIRST.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA**



© Ling Chen | lingchen.art

**WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICE  
AND APPRECIATE YOUR VIRTUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION.**

October 25, 2020 + Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost + 10:00 AM

**Bolded text** - said in unison by all

**UMH** - *United Methodist Hymnal*

**TFWS** – *The Faith We Sing*

*\* If able, please stand where indicated.*

**CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY**

**Prelude**

*"The Church's One Foundation" -Arr: Don Hustad*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Blessed are those who stand in awe before God; happy are all who walk in God's ways.

**All: The true and living God turns us from our idols.**

**The Spirit directs us in the way we should go.**

Leader: Link your hearts with one another in God's presence;  
know that you are a part of God's family.

**All: The love of God chooses and unites us;  
that love causes us to value ourselves and others.**

Leader: Open yourselves to God's testing and God's demands;  
receive God's gentle care and warm embrace.

**All: God is our judge and our inspiration; God is our comfort and our refuge.**

### **\*Opening Hymn**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

UMH 154

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
6. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

### **Opening Prayer**

Pastor: We bow down before you, Sovereign God, for your power fills all the universe, and your ways are beyond our knowing. We, who so often feel like strangers to you and to one another, want to understand more fully what it means to live in your realm and be guided by your Spirit. Meet us where we are. Speak to us in accents our hearts can understand. Move us to fuller communion with you and with all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**All: We confess, O God, that we have not held the gospel in trust nor been diligent to share the good news. We have substituted empty words of flattery for gentle messages of truth. We have nursed our grievances rather than the people who need our care. We have been more concerned with honor than with service. Our greed outruns our generosity. Perhaps we have not loved others because we have not fully claimed our own worth as your beloved children. Grant us the will and the courage to change. Amen.** (Pausing for Siler Prayer...)

Leader: Peace be with you. Walk without fear. Toil with renewed hope. You are not foreigners to God, but brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, in whose name you are accepted and forgiven. Surely the fruit of your labor will be blessed, and even in times of trial you will do well. So be ready to share yourselves, that you may live fully while God gives you breath.

**All: We are accepted and forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.**

### **Sharing Our Joys & Concerns**

Please share your joys and concerns in any of the following ways:

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp group (First UMC of Montclair).
- Write it as a comment on the wall of the Facebook Livestream.
- Send a text to Pastor Kim

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Children's Message**

Dr. Leslie Lester

### **Responsive Hymn**

Jesus, Name above All Names

TFWS 2071

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.  
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

### **CALLED TO THE WORD**

### **Psalter Reading**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

UMH 809

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust, and say, "Turn back, O mortal ones!"

**For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning;

**in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants!

**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

**Let your work be manifest to our servants, and your glorious power to their children.**

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands;

**yes, establish the work of our hands.**

### **Hymn of Illumination**

*Make Me a Servant*

TFWS 2176

Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

And may the prayer of my heart always be:

Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

### **Epistle Lesson**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Robert Kelly

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

**\*Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

**Sermon**

**"Growing in Love"**

Rev. Myungim Kim

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

**CALLED TO SHARE**

**Offering**

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below:

Praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD**

**Closing Hymn**

*Jesu, Jesu*

UMH 432

**[Refrain]**

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors, we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.
2. Neighbors are rich folk and poor, neighbors are black, brown, and white,  
neighbors are nearby and far away.
3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you.

**\*Sending Forth**

Rev. Myungim Kim

**\*Circle of Blessing**

*Shalom to You*

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

**Postlude**

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" - Oliver Holden*

***Please continue to pray for all those affected by the pandemic.***