



**LOVE FIRST.
SERVE FIRST.**

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



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

November 8, 2020 + Twenty Third Sunday After Pentecost + 10:00 AM

Bolded text - said in unison by all
* If able, please stand where indicated.

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal*

TFWS - *The Faith We Sing*

CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY

Prelude

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" - Henry Kihlken

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Gather in sacred and solemn assembly; break out in loud and joyous celebration.

All: God is not pleased with empty rituals; our songs of praise must be genuine.

Leader: Hear God's word of invitation; listen also to God's word of judgment.

**All: Worship prepares us for deeds of mercy;
God calls us to work for justice for all.**

Leader: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.

**All: In gratitude for the earth's abundance, we come;
in thanks for the privilege of sharing, we give.**

***Opening Hymn**

My Hope Is Built

UMH 368

1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

[Refrain]

On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When Darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
4. When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne!

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Meet us here, Gracious God, for we need our reassurance. Amid our griefs and empty toil, comfort and redirect us. From our fears, deliver us. In our confusion, lend your light to guide us. Gather us in watchful anticipation, lest we miss the signs of your presence and fail to hear your summons to ministry. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Before your light, O God, we become aware of the shadows in which we live. In the midst of your abundant gifts, we sense the poverty of our response. Daring to identify with the plight of sisters and brothers who hunger and mourn and suffer oppression, we realize how little we have done to ease their pain. Forgive us, God, for focusing on our narrow concerns and complaints. Open us to sacrifices of thanksgiving. Amen. (Pausing for Siler Prayer...)

Leader: God's word of assurance comes, even in the midst of reproof and correction: "Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you." Live always with resurrection hope, preparing for God's presence and reign. Give thanks in this day and hour for what is and what shall be.

All: Give thanks to the Lord. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

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

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp.
- 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 78:1-4

UMH 799

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

**We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders God has wrought.**

Hymn of Illumination

As the Deer

TFWS 2025

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Dr. Michael Stewart

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for

yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour

Sermon

"Be Prepared"

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**

Be Still, My Soul

UMH 534

1. Be still, my soul: The Lord is on thy side; Bear patiently the cross grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide; In every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, thy heavenly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
2. Be still, my soul: Your God will undertake to guide the future, as in ages past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know
the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.
3. Be still, my soul: The hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: When change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

***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

"Praise The Lord of Lords" - Mark Williams

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