

## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30AM, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Liturgist: Gail Lingerman

Asterisk (\*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

**PRELUDE** "My Hope is Built" **UMH # 386**

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Responsive

Come and learn the ways of life.

**We have come to follow Jesus.**

Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

**We have come to follow Jesus.**

Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

**We have come to follow Jesus.**

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

**We have come to follow Jesus.**

Come and learn the ways of life.

**\*HYMN** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" **UMH # 384**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Apostles' Creed **UMH # 881**

**OPENING PRAYER** Unison

**Inexhaustible source of love and life, be with us in our time of worship as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son. Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone. Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness with which we hope to be treated. May our every word and deed make known that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON** Unison

**Teacher of hard truths, it is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways; it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by the unjust systems stacked against them. We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth. We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated.**

**Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When we treat others as we would have them treat us, Jesus calls us beloved children of the Most High. If God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, how much more will God be kind to those who love the Lord and seek to live the Golden Rule? Rest in this assurance and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

### JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

#### SCRIPTURE READING

**Luke 6:27-38 (NRSV)**

- 27** "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you;
- 28** bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you.
- 29** If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.
- 30** Give to everyone who ask of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again.
- 31** Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- 32** "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- 33** If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.
- 34** If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.
- 35** Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
- 36** Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.
- 37** "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;
- 38** give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

MESSAGE "Are You Listening?" Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

\* HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH # 206

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH # 895

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

\*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

**Source of every blessing, as you sent Joseph into Egypt to save the world from famine, you sent Jesus into our lives to save us from selfishness and greed. For teaching us to treat others as we would have them treat us, we give you our thanks and praise. Bless these gifts, which we have received from your bounty, and send them forth to those in need, whether they be friend or foe. For all are your beloved children and our sisters and brothers. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN "Pass It On" UMH # 572

\*BENEDICTION Responsive

Go with God's blessings.

**As followers of Jesus, we will love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.**

Go with God's blessings.

**As followers of Jesus, we will bless those who curse us and pray for those who persecute us.**

Go with God's blessings.

**As followers of Jesus, we will do unto others as we would have them do unto us.**

Go with God's blessings.

POSTLUDE "Freely, Freely" UMH # 389

\* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

\* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.



*Welcome to*

# Mendham United Methodist Church

[www.mendhamumc.org](http://www.mendhamumc.org)

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

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Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025



Reconciliation, 1991-2008, Supuni, Amos, Sculpture, freestanding, Stone, Woerden, Netherlands

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

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