

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30AM, June 21st, 2026

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

When we feel abandoned and alone, unable to find a way out of the wilderness that surrounds, we cry out to God...

And God listens to us.

When we feel discouraged and defeated, unsure we will ever really be able to make ends meet and worried that no matter how hard we work, it will never be enough, we cry out to God...

And God listens to us.

When we feel lost and forgotten, unable to find the words for the grief, isolation, and despair that we feel, our hearts cry out to God...

And God pays attention to us.

As we gather in this place and time, remember: You are not alone. God knows where you are, and God listens to the cries of our hearts.

May we also listen to one another as God guides us toward the cool, refreshing waters we need to continue on our journey as the family of God.

*HYMN "I Need Thee Every Hour" UMH # 397

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed UMH # 881

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Faithful and loving God, We gather in Your presence with thankful hearts, knowing that we are never alone. When we wander through the wilderness of uncertainty, You hear our cries. When we are weary, discouraged, and burdened by the cares of life, You listen with compassion. When words fail us and our hearts are heavy with grief, fear, or loneliness, You know us completely and pay attention to our deepest needs. Thank You for bringing us together as Your family. Refresh our spirits with the living water of Your grace. Open our ears to hear Your voice and open our hearts to hear one another with love and understanding. Lead us through every wilderness and guide us into the peace and hope that only You can provide. As we worship

You today, quiet our anxious thoughts, renew our strength, and fill us with the presence of Your Holy Spirit. May our prayers, songs, and praises be pleasing in Your sight, and may our lives reflect the love of Jesus Christ. We ask all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life: Hear our prayer. There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from You. We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out. You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with You. Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the Good News: God does not abandon us in the wilderness. God hears our cries, knows our hearts, and comes near to us with mercy and compassion. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, the broken are restored, the separated are reconciled, and all things are being made new. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Through the power of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are embraced by grace and called to walk in newness of life. Friends, believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 21:14-20 (NRSV)

- 14** So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.
- 15** When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes.
- 16** Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.

- 17 And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.
- 18 Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.”
- 19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.
- 20 God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.

MESSAGE “The God Who Sees Us and Hears Us” Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” UMH # 430

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

Listening God, you hear the cries we whisper and the cries we cannot speak. In a world still marked by fear, abandonment, and unfairness, you remain the one who listens and who hears the voices of the outcast, the wounded, the overlooked. As we bring our offerings today, open our ears as yours are open. Make our giving an act of solidarity with those whose voices rise in need. Use these gifts to reveal your presence, to bring water into desert places, and to remind all your children that they are not alone. Shape us into people who hear because we have been heard. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN “Faith of Our Fathers” UMH # 710

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* 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

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

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Sunday, June 21st, 2026



Hagar and the Angel, ca. 1643-1645, Fabritius, Carl Ferdinand, fl.
1664-1667, Leiden Collection, Painting

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

Cell Phone: 469-544-6373

Church Office: 973-543-6376