

# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP      Responsive

We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news can feel far away.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

We come searching for safety in a world that often calls foolishness wisdom and wisdom foolishness.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their neighbors.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God who delivers and restores us.

**May God teach us and guide us to find refuge and be refuge with and for our neighbors today and every day.**

**\*HYMN**                      "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"                      **UMH # 400**

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

### OPENING PRAYER      Unison

**This world would deny you, Lord, and rely on human wisdom in their search for answers to questions they have yet to ask, but we will praise you, and exalt your name, for we know that you are Alpha, the beginning of all things, and Omega, the end, and all that is between. We have known your healing. We have known your provision. We have known your victory. Our sorrow has turned into dancing and our tears to songs of joy. We shall praise you ever more. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON      Unison

**O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself. But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you? How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice? How often have we tried to dominate others, even as you stand with them? How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth, and its waters? Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way. All Loving God, we want to be among those whom you seek. Shower your mercy upon us. Find us and lead us safely home to faithfulness. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, Gathering us in to the people of God. Let us rejoice in God's mercy! **Thanks be to God!**

## JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

### SCRIPTURE READING                      **Luke 15:1-10 (NRSV)**

- 1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.
- 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 3 So he told them this parable:
- 4 "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
- 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
- 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.'
- 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

- 8 “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
- 9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’
- 10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**MESSAGE** “What Have You Lost?” **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

**RESPOND TO THE WORD**

\* HYMN “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” **UMH # 348**

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

**Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age, our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off. Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness, to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to live differently, to live redemptively, and to live hopefully. Use them - and us - for the good that ripples outward, for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people. We give not because all is well but because you are good. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

\*HYMN “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” **UMH # 381**

\*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](http://www.mendhamumc.org)

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



Christ as the good shepherd, ca. 1540, Cranach, Lucas, 1515-1586, Angermuseum, Painting, Erfurt, Germany

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

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