

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, September 27th, 2026

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

The apostle Paul calls us to “let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” What is the mind of Jesus?

The mind of Jesus is to love God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

Paul reminds us that “it is God who is at work in you.” How is God at work in us?

God enables us through grace to love God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

Paul exhorts us to “work on your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

How do we work on our own salvation?

We cooperate with grace to love God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

Beloved, we gather to worship God who, through Jesus, shows us how to love and enables us to love as Christ loves us.

We gather to learn how to live in full accord through our love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

*HYMN “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” UMH # 127

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles’ Creed UMH # 881

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Most wonderful God, the beauty we see in Jesus is your beauty veiled in human flesh, the love we witness from Bethlehem to Golgotha is your love contracted to a span. If Christ’s life is so holy as to fill us with wonder, how much more would your unveiled beauty leave us overwhelmed and trembling? You are more than the eye could bear, more than the mind can ever fathom. Yet you have so carefully made us that although we cannot fathom you, we can yet love you. Gratefully,

we bring our little lives to you, asking that our worship may arise from love and be shaped by love, and be directed towards that larger loving which is our soul’s desire. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Holy God, we know that in so many ways we have run from you, we have ignored your call, we have closed our eyes to your presence, we have disbelieved your mercy, we have disregarded your words, we have belittled ourselves, we have forsaken others. So we ask, once again, for your forgiveness. We ask you to stay with us as we turn away from what is wrong and hurtful to what is bright and life-giving. And hear now our silent prayers.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Receive the good news: God’s love abounds for us, forgiving us and restoring us to Community with God and one another. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 2:1-5 (NRSV)

- 1 If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,
- 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
- 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.
- 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.
- 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

MESSAGE “Abiding Together in the Grace of the Lord” Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN "Forward Through the Ages"

UMH # 555

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

Humble Savior, you meet us at the start of every day and invite us to take on the mind of Christ. As we bring these gifts, set aside in us the need to win, to hoard, to be first. Shape us instead for love, for shared work, for joy in serving side by side. Use what we offer to build a community where sacrifice is natural, mercy is instinctive, and hope rises in every heart. Keep forming us, not by force but by grace, until our living begins to look like Jesus. We place our offerings—and ourselves—in your hands. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN "Here I am, Lord"

UMH # 593

*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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 27th, 2026



Parable of the Two Sons, Mironov, Andrei (Andrei Nikolaevich), 1975-, 2013, Painting

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

Cell Phone: 469-544-6373

Church Office: 973-543-6376