Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, October 25th, 2026

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

We are chosen children of God, bound together by the Holy Spirit.

We belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another.

When we feel tested by hard decisions, calls to advocate against injustice, competing narratives, and worrying misinformation, we remember:

We belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another.

When we struggle with damaged trust and the need to repair our relationships with God and one another, when we are called to go against the social current to build communities of mercy and justice, we remember:

We belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another.

Come, let us worship God whose grace surrounds us when we feel tested and tried, empowering us to remain faithful disciples of Jesus Christ when we face chaos, division, injustice, and hardship.

We come to worship God who chooses us, empowers us, and inspires us to live as the Body of Christ in a broken and hurting world. Amen.

***HYMN** "His Name Is Wonderful" **UMH # 174**

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

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Happy are we, O God, when our hearts are full, our ways are yours, our spirits enlivened by your call. Happy are we, O God, when our lives are guided by delight. We gather here today for just that, holy God. We gather to draw on all you would give us to be more fully yours. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you; you call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with pride, quarreling, and divisiveness. Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Receive this good news: God, who tests our hearts, gives us abundant grace to turn from sin and back to God again and again and again. 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 **1 Thessalonians 2:1-4 (NRSV)**

1 A You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain,

2 but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.

3 For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,

4 but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts.

MESSAGE **"A Life That Pleases God"** **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	

Loving God, you call us not only to believe the gospel, but to live it. You test our hearts not with trials meant to break us, but through the daily invitation to serve, to love, and to share our lives with one another. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our willingness to embody the good news of Christ. Use what we offer to nurture communities of compassion, where faith is lived gently, courageously, and with humility. May our witness—like Paul's—be rooted not in pride or gain, but in love that gives itself freely for others. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN	"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"	**UMH # 110**

*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

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 25th, 2026



Wooden Love Sign, ca. 2000, Plaque,
Thailand, Chom Thong District, Doi Inthanon National Park

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

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