# Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, November 1st, 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.**
As we gather to remember the saints who formed us in the faith, we give thanks for their living witnesses to God's love, showing us that:
**We belong to God, and through God, we live as family in Christ, bound together by Love.**
We give thanks for the influence of the saints in our lives who demonstrated God's love and saving grace, so that we could know in our bones that:
**We belong to God, and through God, we are saved to love one another.**
Come, let us worship God who blesses us with witnesses to divine love that we may be witnesses of Love with everyone we meet.
**We come to worship God who chooses us, empowers us, and inspires us to live as witnesses of Love in communion with the saints of every age. Amen.**

***HYMN** "Give Thanks" **TFWS # 2036**

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

**OPENING PRAYER** Unison

**God, our Teacher, please instruct us in the ways of humility and love. Help us to live in community with one another rather than in competition with each other. Give us your heart for serving our neighbor. Assure us of your abiding presence and release us from the hierarchies of this world. May your kin-dom come with power and gentleness as we strive to live as embodied witnesses of the good news in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON** Responsive

Beloved, we are God's children now, but what we will be in the fullness of our time has not been revealed. What we do know is this: we will be like Jesus the Christ and saints of God. Let us consider how Jesus was revealed among us and pray to be more like the Christ in every way.
Jesus embodied the unconditional love of God…
We pray, **may we be more like Jesus.**
Jesus fed those who were hungry…
We pray, **may we be more like Jesus.**
Jesus drew near to those living on the margins and excluded…
We pray, **may we be more like Jesus.**
Jesus brought healing and wholeness to those in need…
We pray, **may we be more like Jesus.**
Jesus hungered and thirsted for righteousness…
We pray, **may we be more like Jesus.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Beloved, through the love shown to us by Jesus, we can be sure that we are God's children now. The Spirit of Christ is among us in this gathering, and the nature of Christ is revealed within us. We are becoming more and more like Christ each day, living witness to the good news of God's grace. Therefore, let us live joyfully as God's people, saints and instruments of God's way. **Thanks be to God!**

**JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER**

**SCRIPTURE READING** **Matthew 23:8-12 (NRSV)**

**8** But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all
brothers and sisters.
**9** And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven.
**10** Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.
**11** The greatest among you will be your servant.
**12** All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves
will be exalted.

**MESSAGE** **"Let Us Humble Ourselves"** **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

**RESPOND TO THE WORD**

* HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" **UMH # 474**

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

INVITATION

COMMUNION **UMH # 13**

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

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us—those whose lives bore witness to your grace and whose faith still shapes the church we share today. As we remember them with gratitude, we offer these gifts as signs that their witness continues through us. Open our eyes to see your work in the world. Use our voices to give witness to what we have seen of your love and mercy. Use these offerings to strengthen your church, that our lives may also become a testimony to your living Word at work among us. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

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

*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, November 1st, 2026**



Crossing from the desert to the promised land, 2019, Stained glass,
South Africa, Cape Town, Table View Methodist Church, 85 Janssens Ave, Table View

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

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