# Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, November 15th, 2026

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

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Responsive

Family of God, whom do you serve?

**We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.**

Family of God, in a world that values productivity and profit, whom do you serve?

**We serve God, who calls us to value equity, justice, and sabbath for all.**

Family of God, in a world that privileges power over others instead of power shared with our neighbors, whom do you serve?

**We serve God, who calls us to privilege the agency and flourishing of ourselves, our neighbors, and all creation.**

Family of God, we gather here to grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. Let us now enter the joy of serving God, who is Love.

**We gather to worship God and work for God's purposes until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***HYMN** "O Worship the King, All-Glorious Above" **UMH # 73**

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

**OPENING PRAYER** Unison

**God, our kind and loving Parent, you no longer call us servants but friends. There is so much you have entrusted to us, even the future of your kingdom of justice and love. Give us the grace to work out with you the growth of mercy and goodness in this world, to be united with all Christians and with all who seek you with a sincere heart in bringing reconciliation and joy to everyone. Let us go together the way to you, our living and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON** Responsive

Merciful God, we have failed to love you with all our heart and to be good stewards of your creation: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We have failed to take up the cross of discipleship and to be good stewards of your gospel: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We have failed to be faithful members of your church and to be good stewards of your spiritual gifts: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God proves God's love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8) Confident in God's free gift of forgiveness, I declare to you: 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** **Matthew 25:14-23 (NRSV)**

**14** "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;

**15** to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once

**16** the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them, and made five more talents.

**17** In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.

**18** But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

**19** After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

**20** Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'

**21** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

**22** And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’
**23** His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

**MESSAGE** **“Enter into the Joy of Your Master”** **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

**RESPOND TO THE WORD**

* HYMN “I Know Whom I Have Believed” **UMH # 714**

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

**Generous Christ, every good gift comes from your hand, and you entrust us with resources, abilities, and opportunities to serve your kingdom. Keep us from measuring our worth by what we produce or possess. Instead, teach us to invest our lives in love, mercy, and the building of community. Receive these offerings and use them to lift burdens, create hope, and strengthen your people. May we find joy not in accumulation, but in faithful relationship with you and our neighbors. May all that we offer today become a witness to your abundant grace. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

*HYMN “Soon and Very Soon” **UMH # 706**

*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-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

**Sunday, November 15th, 2026**



Parable of the Talents, ca. 1620-1648, Poorter, Willem de, 1608-approximately 1648, Painting, Czech Republic, Prague, National Gallery Prague

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

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