Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM, November 22nd, 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, on this Reign of Christ Sunday, we celebrate and remember Christ, who reigns over all creation with love and grace, forming us as a family bound together by God.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and calls us to do the same.

We gather to recount all the ways we encounter Christ in our midst—in our neighbor who checks in when we're sick, in our unhoused friends who gather for a meal, in our friends who have been wounded in body and spirit.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and reminds us to do the same.

We join our voices with Christians throughout the world and throughout time to give thanks and to seek guidance as we grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and creation.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and inspires us to do the same.

Come, you blessed by God, with open hearts, open arms, and open doors to welcome and embrace all of our neighbors, because when we love our neighbors, we love Christ among us.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and empowers us to do the same. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

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

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Sovereign God, the wind blows, the water flows, and the sun shines. All creation declares your majesty. In you, we move, live, and have our being. Be glorified in our worship. Be known by our testimony. We proclaim your goodness from the east and the west, from the north and the south. On countrysides and city blocks, you reign. In deep valleys and skyscrapers, we declare that your realm extends from everlasting to everlasting. We worship you, Holy One, in spirit and in truth. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Responsive

In the lives of neighbors who suffer brokenness and pain:

We confess you are still speaking!

In the struggle of the poor whose rights are not honored:

We confess you are still speaking!

In a world crying out for wisdom, love, and mercy:

We confess you are still speaking!

In a world calling for the blessing of truth:

We confess you are still speaking! Bless us to receive!

Let us confess together: We confess that in our lives we often hide behind our work and play, schools and jobs, fun and fashion.

We let ourselves get so busy that we forget the cause of the poor and the suffering. We confess we allow the powers of this world to seduce us into selfishness and silence our witness. Teach us to champion the cause of justice for all; strengthen us to love our neighbor and speak truth no matter the penalty. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Word of God assures us that we are able to love through the Spirit of Christ, whose grace forgives and empowers us to love our neighbors near and far, to speak up for those who are broken. Beloved, 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 25:31-36, 40 (NRSV)**

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then
he will sit on the throne of his glory.
32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people
one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world,
35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.’
40 And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of
the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

MESSAGE **“Mercy in Action”** **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” **UMH # 432**

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

Compassionate Shepherd, you have blessed us beyond measure and taught us to find your face in the hungry, the lonely, the stranger, and the forgotten. Receive these gifts and receive our lives, that we may become people whose generosity flows not from obligation but from love. Use our offerings to feed, welcome, comfort, and restore, so that others may glimpse your kingdom through our care. And when we serve our neighbors, awaken us to the holy mystery that we are serving you. Shape us into disciples whose greatest joy is to love as Christ first loved us. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” **UMH # 694**

*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-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 22nd, 2026



Seven Works of Mercy, ca. 2008, Country Germany, Neuendettelsau, DiaLog-Hotel

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