

# Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

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

## PRELUDE

"The Spacious Firmament"

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Responsive

Come into the land of God.

**We come seeking the land of love.**

Live as the people of Christ.

**We gather to grow as a community of love.**

Follow in the ways of the Lord.

**We move forward on the path of love.**

Come, young and old, friend and foreigner, for all are welcome here.

**We come to live and grow in the love of Christ.**

**Praise God for this wonderful gift!**

### \*HYMN

"Since Jesus Came into My Heart"

TFWS # 2140

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

UMH # 881

### OPENING PRAYER

Unison

**O God, you are our God and we come as your people on earth. Gather us in, that we may remember the ties that bind us together in your love.**

**Write your law upon our hearts, that others may find us to be generous and loving friends. Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may live in love - a love that transforms our lives even as we help to transform the lives of others. In the hope of your miraculous love, we pray. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Unison

**Helper God, be the hope that overcomes our despair; be the love that**

**overcomes our hatred; be the mercy that overcomes our sin. Set us free from the prisons of our own making, and release us from the bonds that bind us. Forgive us and watch over us. Welcome us home into the loving arms of your mercy. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You are not far from the kingdom of God, for in Christ we are given grace and forgiveness. Praise God for this marvelous gift! **Thanks be to God.**

## JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

### SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12:28-34 (NRSV)

- 28** One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"
- 29** Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
- 30** you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'
- 31** The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."
- 32** Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other';
- 33** and 'to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself' --this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."
- 34** When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

### MESSAGE

"You are not far from the kingdom of God"

Rev. Dongkue Jee

## RESPOND TO THE WORD

\* HYMN "Pass It On" UMH # 572

## 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

**God of justice and love, transform these offerings, that they may be gifts of justice and love for a world in need of hope and help. Let love flow through these offerings, that they may become gifts of love for the world. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN "Give Thanks" TFWS #2036

\*BENEDICTION Responsive

Go to love God and neighbor.

**We go forth in the love of God!**

Go to welcome the stranger.

**We go forth with love for the world!**

POSTLUDE "Come back quickly to the Lord"

\* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.



*Welcome to*  
**Mendham United Methodist Church**

[www.mendhamumc.org](http://www.mendhamumc.org)

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

## Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024



Pillar of Love, 1990, Eichner-Shaw, Barbara, Hermitage Park, Sculpture, Freestanding, Edmonton, AB, Canada

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

Cell Phone: 469-544-6373

Church Office: 973-543-6376

**Pianist: Janet Bell**

The offering plater is located at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate