



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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OCTOBER 27, 2024

*TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& DEDICATION OF STEWARDSHIP GIFTS*

(The congregation is invited to stand as able
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING

PRELUDE: Exuberant Joy *Arnold B. Sherman*
*Music: Arnold B. Sherman © 2005 Choristers Guild 12404 Park Central Dr, Suite 100-S Dallas, TX 75251, recorded
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*CALL TO WORSHIP ***

Creator God, you give us life, and we thank you!

Risen Christ,

you bless us with your grace, and we praise you!

Holy Spirit, you give us the power to create and to work,
to love and to bless.

You have given us such rich and wonderful gifts!

We come to you joyfully, grateful for your generosity.

Earth is generous with food and air, with color and beauty.

**You are generous with grace and blessing,
with love and grace.**

Teach us, God, how to be generous.

Tell us again the story of your grace,
so that we may become a part of it.

Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit,

and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Gather Us In



1. Here in this place new light is stream - ing,
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
We are the old— who yearn for your face,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,



See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,



Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.



Gath - er us in— the lost and for - sak - en, Gath - er us in— the
Gath - er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath - er us in— the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to eat the



blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion



We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
Give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: GATHER US IN, 10 9 10 10 D; Marty Haugen, b.1950
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***SILENT PRAYER**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **

**Gentle God, trusting in your tender mercy,
we confess our sin to you with one another.**

We confess that we forget you.

**We are so concerned for our own comfort
that we forget our neighbors.**

We are so attached to our own will that we forget yours.

We are so aware of our need, we forget our calling.

**We are so pleased with our possessions
that we forget that they are yours.**

Bring us back to mindfulness, God.

Forgive us and be generous with your grace.

**Heal our hearts, restore your Spirit in us,
and re-create us in your image.**

Awaken us to your gifts in us,

that we might live by them with trust and courage.

Lord, have mercy on us, and grant us your peace.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE ***

**Through Christ, God forgives us our failings,
and continues to call us
into a community of mutual love and forgiveness.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God! Amen.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: [Psalm 24](#) (Pg. 436) *NRSV*

ANTHEM Just As I Am Don Besig & Nancy Price

Through all the trials which life sends my way,
through all the troubles I face each day;
shadows and clouds may bring doubt and fear,
but Lord, I know you are near.

Sometimes the darkness is empty and cold,
sometimes I search for a hand to hold.

Lost and uncertain of what to do,
I find my courage in you.

*Just as I am without one plea, for you, O Lord, will comfort me.
Your love alone will set me free! O Lamb of God, I Come, I come.*

I am not worthy but still you forgive,
teaching me patiently how to live.

Humble and thankful, I come to You
with love so faithful and true.

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TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

2044 My Gratitude Now Accept, O God (Gracias, Señor)



1. My grat - i - tude now ac - cept, O God,
 2. From all your boun - ty I give to you;
 1. *Gra - cias, Se - ñor, por lo que me das,*
 2. *Te doy de lo que tú me das,*



for ten - der care that you pro - vide; for your a -
 for all the bless - ings you im - part. Re - ceive this
gra - cias por ben - de - cir - me. Gra - cias por
con go - zo en mi co - ra - zón. Re - ci - be



bun - dant faith - ful - ness. End - less is your sup -
 of - fer - ing I bring. Re - ceive my joy - ful
tu fi - de - li - dad y por tu pro - vi -
hoy mi o - fren - da, te la en - tre - go a



ply. _____ gifts from the heart ac - cept. _____
 heart. _____
sión. _____ de lo que tú nos das. _____
 ti. _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>3. I bring to you all my love and praise.
 I glorify and bless your name.
 Let me adore you, Holy One,
 with every breath I take.</p> <p>4. All that is living belongs to you;
 all that I am in your hands kept.
 From the abundance of your hand,
 gifts from the heart accept.</p> | <p>3. <i>Te amo, Dios, doy gloria a ti,
 tú eres digno de loor.
 Te adoro con mi vida
 y con lo que me das.</i></p> <p>4. <i>Todo te pertenece a ti,
 mi vida y todo mi ser.
 Con gratitud te damos
 de lo que tú nos das.</i></p> |
|--|--|

WORDS: Rafael Montalvo; English trans. by Raquel Mora Martínez (Ps. 24:1)
 MUSIC: Rafael Montalvo

OFRENDA
Irregular

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***EPISTLE LESSON:** [2 Corinthians 9-15](#) (Pg.942) *NRSV*
God provides every blessing in abundance

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

He who supplies seed to the Sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

SERMON

*STEWARDSHIP 4 –
"OUR INDESCRIBABLE GIFT"*

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

What Gift Can We Bring 685

Unison



1 What gift can we bring, what present, what token?
 2 Give thanks for the Past, for those who had vision,
 3 Give thanks for To - mor - row, full of sur - pris - es,
 4 This gift we now bring, this present, this token,

What words can con - vey it— the joy of this day?
 who plant - ed and wa - tered so dreams could come true.
 for know - ing what - ev - er To - mor - row may bring,
 these words can con - vey it— the joy of this day!

When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,
 Give thanks for the Now, for stud - y, for wor - ship,
 God gives us his word that al - ways, for - ev - er,
 When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,

what song can we of - fer in hon - or and praise?
 for mis - sion that bids us turn prayer in - to deed.
 we rest in his keep - ing and live in his love.
 this song we now of - fer in hon - or and praise!

WORDS and MUSIC: Jane Marshall (1924-)
 Words and Music © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

ANNIVERSARY SONG
 11.11.11.11.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG

In the Lord / El Senyor

Ostinato Refrain

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-
El Se - nyor és la me-va for - ça, el Se - nyor el me - u

joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid; lift up your
cant. Ell m'ha e-stat la sal-va-ci - ó. En ell con -

voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.
fi - o, i no tinc por. En ell con - fi - o, i no tinc por.

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

All: The Lord's Prayer

(UMH p. 895)

PRAYER SONG (See Above)

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY IN 2024

PRAYER

[PRESENTATION OF COMMITMENT CARDS, TITHES AND OFFERINGS](#)

Thank You for your ongoing support of the ministries of FUMC.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Unison



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;



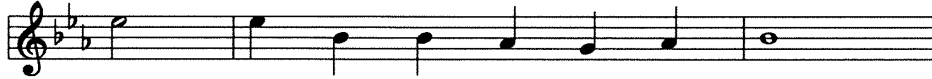
praise God, all creatures here below:

Harmony

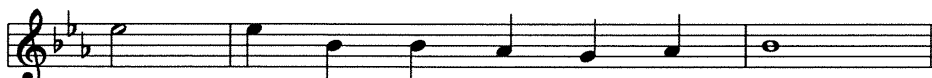


Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison



Praise God, the source of all our gifts!



Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

Refrain (Harmony)



Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

God, We See What You Have Given

NETTLETON

God, we see what you have given; signs of grace are everywhere!
All around are gifts from heaven — gifts enough for all to share.
We are stewards of your bounty, called to give as we've received;
And your blessings have been plenty
from the day we first believed.

We are stewards of the richness that you send from heav'n above.
For in Christ, you gave up greatness,
humbly showing us your love.
In a manger gift from heaven! On a cross with love and pain!
You proclaimed we are forgiven;
now you send us in your name.

We are stewards of your welcome
that you showed through Christ the Son.
In his living and his teaching, Jesus welcomed everyone.
To the outcast and the stranger, He showed hospitality!
By your Spirit, may we also give the welcome we've received.

We are stewards, sent out sharing, offering you our very best.
Through our serving and our caring
may we give as we've been blessed.
God of love, may faithful living be much more than Sunday talk.
Send us loving, serving, giving; help us daily walk your walk!

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*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Liturgist: Trish Croteau
Video and Sound Engineer: Sam Tweedy
Image on Cover: Published by FUMC Staff

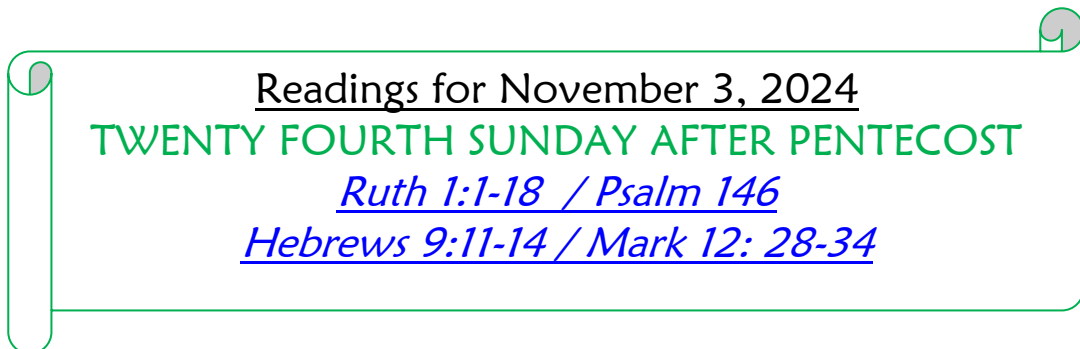
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***Worship elements by Steve Garnass Holmes at *unfoldinglight.com* & [Discipleship Ministries](#) online resources.

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Looking Ahead



Readings for November 3, 2024
TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Ruth 1:1-18 / Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:11-14 / Mark 12: 28-34

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