



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 22, 2023

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.

Prelude *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier BWV 731* J. S. Bach

Choral Introit *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Call to Worship

Leader: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens, God is the Lord of all life.

People: In God we live and move and have our being.

Leader: God requires our faithfulness and our service.

**People: We reach out to others with the same kind of love
with which God has touched our lives.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

People: Let us praise God who walks daily by our side. Amen.

Hymn No. 2009 *O God Beyond All Praising* THAXTED

1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your Word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
2. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

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Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Holy God, you have made us in your image,
and we belong to you alone.**

**Therefore we offer ourselves to you,
in service, love, and praise.**

**Use us for the glory of your realm
and the good of your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Ps. 57:5
Jane Marshall



Be ex - alt - ed, O God, a - bove the
5 heavens! Let your glo - ry o - ver all the earth be found.

Response

- 1 The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!
The Lord sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake!
- 2 **The Lord is great in Zion,
and is exalted over all the peoples.**
- 3 Let them praise your great and wondrous name!
Holy is the Lord!
- 4 Mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
**you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.**
- 5 Extol the Lord our God.
Worship at the Lord's footstool!
Holy is the Lord!

Response

- 6 Moses and Aaron were among God's priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on God's name.
**They cried to the Lord, who answered them,
who spoke to them in the pillar of cloud.**
- 7 They kept God's testimonies,
and the statutes God gave them.
- 8 **O Lord, our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**
- 9 Extol the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain.
Surely the Lord our God is holy!

Response

Epistle Reading

[1 Thessalonians 1:1-10](#)

Hymn No. 427

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of man.
2. In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.
3. From tender childhood's helplessness, from woman's grief, man's burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.
4. The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.

5. O Master, from the mountainside make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again.
6. Till all the world shall learn your love and follow where your feet have trod,
till, glorious from your heaven above, shall come the city of our God!

Gospel Reading

[Matthew 22:15-22](#)

Sermon

It's Complicated

Dr. Matt Bates

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Anthem

Rejoice the Lord is King

Eric Thiman

Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer No. 895

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Hymn No. 577

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

1. God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.
2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.
3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

God of Grace

Paul Manz

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The altar flowers this morning are given by Charlene Seitz in thanksgiving to God for the beauty and bounty we see in each of the seasons He created.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and throughout the week to make this worship possible.

Welcome!

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

Announcements

BEING UNITED METHODIST CHRISTIANS - You are invited to join us to refresh your understanding of the United Methodist version of the Christian faith, or explore this spiritual tradition for the first time. We offer the course at two different times and in two different formats. The **in-person** format is on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am now through Nov. 26. The **online** format is on Thursday evenings now through Nov. 30 (excluding Thanksgiving) at 7:00 pm. A Zoom link is sent out weekly. Feel free to drop in when you can!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY –Wednesdays at 10:00am. Each week we will look at the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. An email is sent out every Tuesday with the Zoom link and all the details. If you would like to join us, contact the church office to be put on the email list.

Upcoming Events

October 23	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Fall Foliage/Lunch Trip Change the World/RVA
October 24	Noon	AA
October 25	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Bible Study – Zoom Choir Rehearsal
October 26	7:00 pm	Being United Methodist Christians - Zoom
October 27	10:30 am Noon	Friday Lunch Program AA
October 29	9:00 am 10:30 am	Being United Methodist Christians In person & Online Worship