



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 12, 2023

Twenty-fourth 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

Heaven

Duke Ellington

Choral Introit

Blessed Assurance

Call to Worship

Leader: Are you ready to worship?

People: We believe that we are.

Leader: Put away all those cares and worries that keep you from hearing God's word.

People: The cares and worries of the world have been put aside that we may be truly ready.

Leader: The Lord comes to you this day.

People: Thanks be to God for God's abiding presence and promise. Amen.

Hymn No. 662

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

ST. MICHAEL

1. Stand up and bless the Lord, ye people of his choice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.
2. Though high above all praise, above all blessing high,
who would not fear his holy name, and laud and magnify?
3. O for the living flame from his own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heaven our thought!
4. God is our strength and song, and his salvation ours;
then be his love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers.
5. Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless his glorious name, henceforth forevermore.

Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Through the week of stress and demands,
we come to you this day, O Lord.**

Awaken us again

to your comforting and loving presence in our lives.

Help us to be open to the many ways

in which you have called to us and sustained us.

Make us ready to be of service to you. Amen.

Announcements

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

[Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25](#)

*Response*

- 1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth!
- 2 **I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
- 3 things that we have heard and known,
that our forebears have told us.
- 4 **We will not hide them from their children,**
but tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the Lord, the might,
and wonders God has wrought.
- 5 He established a decree in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children,
- 6 that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,
- 7 **so that they should set their hope in God,**
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;

*Response***Epistle Reading**[1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)**Hymn No. 551***Awake, O Sleeper*

MARSH CHAPEL

1. Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height.
2. To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace.
3. There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call,
one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God who made us all.
4. Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.
5. For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

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Gospel Reading[Matthew 25:1-13](#)**Sermon***Five Lanterns at Sundown*

Dr. Matt Bates

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Anthem

Keep Your Lamps

arr. André Thomas

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. 540

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord

ST. THOMAS

1. I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,
the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.
2. I love thy church, O God! Her walls before thee stand
dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.
3. For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers ascend,
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
4. Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
5. Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

Benediction

Choral Response

Blessed Assurance

Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in E-flat major, op. 99 no. 3

Camille Saint-Saëns

*The altar flowers this morning are given in memory of my father, Herman Daly, by Karen Daly Junker
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

BRING IN THE HARVEST - As our tradition, we are collecting food to donate to Sherbourne UMC Food Pantry. We are collecting food until November 19. Bring food to the sanctuary or old nursery. Suggested items include, but not limited to: (no perishables please)

canned corned beef or stew	spaghetti
spaghetti sauce	boxed macaroni and cheese
cake mix	canned cranberry sauce
instant mashed potatoes	box of cereal
jar peanut butter	dried beans or peas
canned tuna or salmon	canned fruit
canned vegetables	boxed milk
salt/pepper/spices	cooking/vegetable oil
package stuffing/ Stove Top stuffing	

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - It is Centenary's tradition at Christmas to express honor and remembrance by donating poinsettias. The plants will be in the sanctuary for Dec. 17, and 24. They will be available for pick up after the last service on Dec. 24. Order forms are available at the back of the sanctuary and downstairs by the kitchen bulletin board. You may also order online. See the newsletter for the link.

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

November 5 - 19		Bring In The Harvest
November 13	5:00 pm	Change the World/RVA
November 14	Noon	AA
November 15	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Bible Study – Zoom Choir Rehearsal
November 16	7:00 pm	Being United Methodist Christians - Zoom
November 17	10:30 am Noon	Friday Lunch Program AA
November 19	9:00 am 10:30 am	Being United Methodist Christians In person & Online Worship