

Sunday, May 17, 2026

Holy Communion - brief version, Peace with Justice offering

Welcome *Pastor Jeff will give announcements and welcome*

****Call to Worship** (*Liturgist parts are indicated in BOLD and ***)

****Good Morning, I am Malorie Packard and will be serving as Worship Leader today. Would you please stand in body or spirit to join me in the responsive Call to Worship?**

****Leader: God's steadfast love extends beyond the farthest star, yet that love is also present among us.**

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

****Leader: God's saving acts were experienced by our ancestors, and God continues to act in our own day.**

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits.

****Leader: God's concern is for all creation, for all worlds, yet that care draws us close in these moments.**

People: The whole creation is filled with eager longing; bless the Lord, all who live in hope.

****Will you join us in our opening song, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past", hymn #117 in the hymnal, and the words will be on the screen.**

Children's Time

Prayers, the Lord's Prayer and Offering of Gifts

(Pastor Jeff will first do the prayers, Liturgist will read Invitation & pray)

****Invitation: Who will lead God's children to their promised land? Surely it will be those who have begun to live in the realm of God, who know God's mercy and remember God's benefits. To the extent that our offerings are generous, the church can be the yeast of God in a needy world.**

****Will you pray with me? We bless you, O God, and remember your steadfast love and mercy. We have heard your challenge to us on behalf of our sisters and brothers who are oppressed. With these resources, we would minister to people who suffer in cruel surroundings. With our personal efforts, we would make way for your glorious reign among us. Bless our offerings of self and substance to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

****Scripture Reading Psalm 16 NRSV**

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

****Scripture Reading Matthew 13:24-33 NRSV**

As this is a reading from the Gospel, please stand in body or spirit.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may

be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

This is the word of God for the people of God: Thanks be to God!

Message *"Fulfillment in the Good Life"* Pastor Jeff Williams

Communion

Invitation

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him and seek to grow into his likeness. Let us draw near with faith, make our humble confession, and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Confession & Pardon

ALL: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your unfailing mercies. We all look

to you for food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. You are near to all who call on you in truth. You fulfill the desire of those who know your awesome power. Hear our cry and save us.

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ has died for us while we were yet sinners: that is proof of God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

-----Pastor reads The Great Thanksgiving...

(The congregation will come forward to receive communion)

Communion Song *“Days of Elijah” -Praise Team*

Miracle Sunday Recognition Doug Lamborne

Closing Song *“Near to the Hear of God” Hymn #472*

Blessing for the Week

Choral Benediction