Community United Methodist Church

August 24, 2025 10 AM

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

"How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!" Psalm 84:1

GATHERING MUSIC

Bill Holda

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jackie Farmer, Worship Leader

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "You Are Mine" DAVID HAAS

***UNITY HYMN:** (to the tune of "The Church's One Foundation")

In Unity, we gather to worship and rejoice.

From our own faith traditions, we pray with one strong voice:

Lord, help us love each other and serve all those in need, and live as your disciples – in heart and word and deed.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us worship the Lord, our rock and our salvation!

God's steadfast love endures forever, calling us to gather as one body.

In Christ, we are built into a holy temple, a dwelling place for God's Spirit.

Let us sing praises and pray, for God is our strength and our refuge. Come, let us worship the Lord with gladness!

OPENING PRAYER

God of the Sabbath, you make this day holy.

As we gather in your name, redeem the days

when our focus wandered and draw us back to you.

Let your wisdom, justice, and compassion guide us.

Slow our pace to attend to those things that matter.

Open our understanding to the good that needs to be done.

Sustain us for the challenges we face, make your name known among us and through us. We glorify and honor you in spirit and in truth, in word and deed, in season and out of season. **Amen**

*CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins together.

Gracious God, you call us to be your people,
yet we often stray from your path. We cling to our own ways,
ignoring your wisdom. We fail to love our neighbors as ourselves
and neglect the needs of our creation. Forgive us, O Lord.
Renew our hearts, strengthen our faith, and guide us to walk
in your truth. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! God's grace is poured out upon us, making us new.

Thanks be to God!

(Time for silent reflection.)

***HYMN** #581 (GTG) #71 (UMC)

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

*SHARING IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Let us offer one another signs of peace and welcome.)

ENGAGING WITH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Alan Peters, Reader

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may hear your Word with joy and understanding. Amen.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS

Psalm 103:1-8

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hebrew Lesson: Isaiah 58:9b-14

The Lord bless the reading of this, God's word.

The Lord bless the hearing of this, God's word.

HYMN #796 (GTG)

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

LAND OF REST

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:10-17

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Say Yes" Rev. Laura Walters

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us confess our faith, from the Confessions of Belhar.

We believe that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. We believe that the church, as the possession of God, must stand where the Lord stands, namely, against injustice and with the wronged. We believe that in following Christ, the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interest and thus control and harm others. We believe in one holy universal Christian church, the communion of saints, called from the entire human family. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts (trespasses), as we forgive our debtors (those who 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.

GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD

CALL FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, bless these gifts that they may proclaim your love and bring your healing to the world. Use us and all we offer to advance your kingdom of justice and peace. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LIVE THE WORD

*HYMN #435 (GTG)

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

IN BABILONE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

WER NUN DER LIEBEN GOTT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We warmly welcome **Rev. Laura Walters** as Grace Presbytery's Coordinator of Community Engagement and Public Witness. With a Juris Doctor, BBA from UT Austin, and a Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Laura brings experience as a chaplain and pastor. Passionate about faith and public policy, she excels in advocacy, communication, and community-building.

Welcome friends! May the welcome you feel here be worthy of the gracious God that we serve. In this service, an asterisk (*) invites you to stand as health allows. Material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say. Let us worship God!



CUMC members, please mark your attendance today using the QR code here.

St. Andrew members, please mark your attendance and note prayer concerns in the Friendship Registers in each pew.

Join us this week for Wednesday Night Live Dinner, which is served at 6 p.m. We continue to celebrate the kitchen renovation. Please call or email the church office by noon on Tuesday. The cost is \$10 for adults, with reduced prices for children. This week's menu includes king ranch chicken, a side, salad, dessert, and a drink.

Join the Unity Committee to support Station 6 firefighters on McCann Road with a monthly food delivery program, led by Rose Briggs and Katy Manck. We need a volunteer for **September** to provide a dessert or dish for three 7-person crews, delivered every other day for one week, totaling three days.