



Welcome!

Because we believe that the risen Christ is in our midst, we also believe that we should never place a period where God has placed a comma.

Order of Worship

September 17, 2023 | 10:30 am

16th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather

Welcome

Prelude

Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You
Gaither/arr. Tornquist

*Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you!

Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves:

It is not we who chose Christ,

but Christ who chose us,

That we are not here because of our goodness

but because of Christ's grace,

That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

but to allow Christ to enlighten us,

That we have not come to "go to church,"

but to worship Christ with heart, soul, mind and strength. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen.

*Hymn #61 (Chalice)

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love heavenly things; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those things that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

You are invited to use the time before service to prepare your heart and mind for worship through prayer and reflection. We kindly ask that all cell phones and media devices be silenced.

Worship Liturgy

Throughout the worship liturgy, you are invited to respond with all of the words in bold.

*Asterisk indicates please rise in body or spirit

Hymns

are chosen from the "black" *New Century Hymnal* or "blue" *Chalice Hymnal* located in the back of your pew.

St. Mary's UCC, 1441 E. Mayberry Rd, Westminster, MD 21158

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We Hear

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6-9 (page 164)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-7 (page 176)

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20 (page 35)

***Gospel Response:**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end, amen. Amen!

Sermon: The Primary Teaching of Our Religion

We Respond

***Hymn #537 (Chalice)**

My Hope Is Built

***The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Thanks to the following people for helping with service today:

Reader: Doug Dutterer

In-Person Greeters:

Online Greeter:

Alice Buckner

Acolyte:

Consistory Person of the Month:

Stacy Fourhman

Back-Up:

Andy Brown

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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Please note the service is being broadcast simultaneously on Facebook Live and by attending, you are giving implicit permission for your video or audio to be transmitted out on the internet.

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 as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Offertory Prayer

Living God, we come with no great gifts to offer; we are ordinary people. Yet what we have we bring to you, and we give our gifts to make your love felt in other people's lives. We offer you our time and our talents at home, at work and in the marketplace. Use us fully so that your love may shine through us, and through us may the light of your Kingdom illuminate the world. Amen.

Communion

Communion Prayer

God is with us! **We are not alone!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you are creative and self-giving, generously moving, giver and restorer of life... We rejoice with all your people of every time and place, and with angels and archangels, to proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy,

God of love and majesty

The whole universe speaks of your glory,

O God Most High!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!

Hosanna in the highest!

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place. In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

Sunday Mornings

9:15 am - Adult Sunday School
9:15 am - Children's Sunday School
10:30am - Hybrid In-Person and Online Worship

Church Staff

Sam Chamelin, *Pastor*
Mary Ann Driscoll, *Organist*
Jane Sharpe, *Choir Director*
Alice Buckner, *Bell Choir Director*
Sabrina Hodge, *Financial Secretary*
Lisa Brown, *Treasurer*
Sabrina Hodge, *Administrative Associate*

Are you interested in joining St. Mary's U.C.C.?

Please contact the church office.

Pastoral Emergencies

Please call the church office or call/text Pastor Sam at 717-309-7680.

Prayer Chain

Contacts:

Belinda Finn or the Church Office

Church Office Hours

Mondays 9 - 1
Wednesdays 9 - 1
Voicemail and email are monitored daily.

Church Contact

1441 East Mayberry Rd
Westminster, MD 21158
www.stmarysucc.org
(410) 346-7977
Follow us on Facebook

Words of Institution

On the night in which he was handed over....In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of faith:

Christ's death we proclaim. Christ's resurrection we declare.

Christ's coming we await. Glory be to you, O God.

Holy God, we call on you to transform these familiar things,
as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness, so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Breaking of Bread and the Pouring of Wine

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Call to the Table

This is the table of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and for those who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little. You who have been here often and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, not because you must, but because you are invited by Christ to be known and fed here. Amen!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. Having tasted and seen your goodness, we are sent forth into this world to live into the vision God has laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Hymn #558 (Chalice)**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

We Are Sent

***Benediction**

***Three-fold Amen**

***Postlude**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Converse/Pethel