



Welcome to Worship and Live Streaming @10:45am

# Welcome to Worship

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 11, 2026, 10:45am**

## **GATHERING**

*The people of God come together in the Lord's name.*

### **Welcome & Announcements**

***Prelude--Introductory Voluntary--Edward F. Rimbault***

***Introit--Lord God, Your love has Called Us Here***

Combined Choirs

### ***Call to Worship--***

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, for God has been good to us.

**We come with grateful hearts and joyful spirits.**

In God's presence there is fullness of joy.

**We will praise the Lord, for the joy of the Lord is our strength!**

***Opening Hymn\*\*732--Come, We That Love the Lord***

### ***Invocation (please be seated)--***

Gracious and loving God, we come into Your presence with grateful hearts. Thank You for the gift of joy—a joy that does not depend on perfect circumstances, but is rooted in Your unfailing love and presence. Fill this place with Your presence and fill our hearts with Your joy. May our worship today renew our spirits, strengthen our faith, and remind us that whatever we face, we never face it alone. In the name of Jesus Christ, our source of lasting joy, we pray. Amen.

## **PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.*

***Scripture Reading--Psalm 16:5-11***

***Gloria Patri (Hymn #70)--***

***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.***

**Anthem**--*Joy in the House*--arr. Mary McDonald

Combined Choirs

**God's Word for Young Disciples**--(congregation sings "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward)

**Scripture Reading**--Nehemiah 8:9-12

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**--*"How To Cultivate the Joy of the Lord"*

Pastor Howard Pippin

## **RESPONSE**

*The People respond to the Word*

**Hymn of Response \*\*160**--*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

**Discipleship Moment**

**Offertory**--*A Quiet Moment*--Per Rathje

**Doxology\*\***

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

**Prayers of the People/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 trespasses, as we forgive 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.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.*

**Closing Hymn \*\*664**--*Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

continued...

**Benediction \*\*666--Shalom to You**

***Shalom to You now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.***

**Postlude--A Song of Joy--Ernest A. Dicks**

**The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given  
in honor of Nate Barton and Sarah Demeter who were married here yesterday  
in loving memory of Evangeline Lee, and in honor of Jeremy Huntington's birthday,  
by Bill & April Huntington**

**Music--One License A-731491**

***\*\*indicates please stand as you are able***

**Clergy & Staff**

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister, fallsfirstjon@gmail.com  
Howard Pippin, Associate Minister, fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com  
Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus  
Marie Willis-Guarneri, Director of Music & Worship  
Eric Charnofsky, Organist & Accompanist  
Donna Curfman, Director of Children's Ministries  
Jennifer Brooks, Director of Weekday Christian Preschool  
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**Prayer Requests/Pastoral Care**

The fastest way to contact us is to call the church office. After hours voicemails come through to the church staff.

## HYMN LYRICS

### OPENING HYMN

#### #732 Come, We That Love the Lord

1. Come, we that love the Lord,  
and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord,  
and thus surround the throne.
2. Let those refuse to sing  
who never knew our God;  
but children of the heavenly King  
may speak their joys abroad.
3. The hill of Zion yields  
a thousand sacred sweets  
before we reach the heavenly fields,  
or walk the golden streets.
4. Then let our songs abound,  
and every tear be dry;  
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,  
to fairer worlds on high.

### HYMN OF RESPONSE

#### #160 Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart

1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart;  
rejoice, give thanks and sing;  
your glorious banner wave on high,  
the cross of Christ your King.  
  
Refrain:  
Rejoice, rejoice,  
rejoice, give thanks and sing.
2. Your clear hosannas raise,  
and alleluias loud;  
whilst answering echoes upward float,  
like wreaths of incense cloud.  
(Refrain)
3. Yes, on through life's long path,  
still chanting as ye go;  
from youth to age, by night and day,  
in gladness and in woe.  
(Refrain)
4. At last the march shall end;  
the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their heavenly home,  
Jerusalem the blest.  
(Refrain)
5. Praise God who reigns on high,  
the Lord whom we adore,  
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
one God forevermore.  
(Refrain)

## **CLOSING HYMN**

### **#664 Sent Forth By God's Blessing**

1 Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God  
from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended,  
O now be extended  
the fruits of our worship  
in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action  
for god and for all.  
God's grace did invite us,  
and love shall unite us  
to work for God's kingdom  
and answer the call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving  
to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday  
life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing,  
in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children  
of each tribe and race.  
With your grace you feed us,  
with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one  
in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living  
with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ  
and that name which we bear.

## **BENEDICTION**

### **#666 Shalom to You**

Shalom to You now, shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

## NEXT STEPS

### How to Cultivate the Joy of the Lord - Nehemiah 8:10

#### **We Have Joy When We Spend Time with God**

Psalm 16:11 says: "In your presence there is fullness of joy."

#### **We Have Joy When We Trust God**

One of the greatest joy-stealers in our lives is the desire to control everything.

#### **We Have Joy When We Are Grateful**

Gratitude changes what we notice.

#### **We Have Joy When We Give It Away**

Jesus said in Acts 20:35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

#### **Reflection questions:**

Where in your life are you allowing your circumstances to determine your joy? What practices—such as gratitude, prayer, worship, trusting God, or serving others—have helped you experience the joy of the Lord, especially during difficult seasons?

#### **Memory verse:**

Nehemiah 8:10 This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

**Next week: Guest Preacher Rev. Marvin Brown**

## CHURCH NOTES 10-11-26

The graveside service for Don O'Hara is Monday, October 12, at 3:00pm at Chestnut Hill Memorial Park, with a luncheon at Dontino's following the service. The family asks that you please RSVP to (619) 577-2078 if you plan on attending the luncheon.

**M & M Fundraiser for Epworth Youth:** Today is the last day to take a tube of M&M's to enjoy, fill the empty container with a check, cash, or coins, (checks made out to First UMC with M&M's in the memo) write your name on the label and return it to church by NEXT SUNDAY, October 18. Your donations help to support Epworth youth events, missions, & youth sponsored outreach to the community. Thank you!

**Halloween Candy Donations:** We are collecting bags of candy for our *All Hallows Eve Celebration*. Any donations can be brought to the Welcome Center or Church Office by Oct. 18. No nuts or peanuts, due to allergies, please. Thank you!

**Men's Bible Study:** Men's Bible study meets on Monday's from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge.

**Arts Series Concert:** Our next concert features *The Crooked River Ragtime Quintet* on Friday, October 23 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. This 5 member group (mandolin, guitar, viola, violin, cello) explores ragtime and its influence on folk, blues, jazz, pop, and contemporary classical music. We hope you'll join us!

**All Hallows Eve:** Children and youth of all ages are welcome to our All Hallows Eve Event on Sunday, October 25 beginning at 4:00pm. We'll have games, stories, themed activities, and a snack supper for all. Costumes are encouraged, no gore or inappropriate costumes, please.

**Save the date:** Panda Express Fundraiser benefitting Work Camp. Monday, November 02, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM. Present the flyer, found at the Welcome Center, or use code: 3867751 when ordering online or through the app.

**Exhibit is Open:** Come view our Arts Series Exhibit Sundays, from 8-Noon, and M-F 9am-3pm (during office hours).



[Click here to view this week's prayer list.](#)

*Join Us In Prayer*