



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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***“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”***

***“You Shall Love”***

***All Saints Day***

***Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost***

**November 3, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Worship Leaders:**

**Pastor: Michael Small**

**Liturgist: Sonja Huber**

**Special Music: Chancel Choir and Bell Choir**

**Greeter: Esther Covert**

**Keyboard: Sabbastian Wilson-Webb**

**Tech: Aurora Diehl (Video), Esther Covert (Audio)**  
Spiritual Life, Chancel and Communion Preparation

**PRELUDE**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

† HYMN                      **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”** (vss. 1, 2, 4)                      #439

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Inspired by Psalm 146*)

One: Praise the Holy One as long as we live.

**All: Praise the Creator, who makes our days, who trails our paths, and who gives us breath.**

One: Praise the Holy One with our whole selves—mind, body, and soul.

**All: Trust in wisdom and honor, truth and love, grace and mercy.**

One: Praise the Holy One for God is just, generous, compassionate, liberating, and near.

**All: The Holy One reigns, lifting up the lowly, humbling, the proud, and sustaining the righteous from generation to generation. Praise God!**

**A TIME OF CENTERING**

*(During this time of centering, open your hearts to God; be in the present, here and now.)*

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† For those who are able, please stand.

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Loving God, what joy it is to know your name. To know that when we call, you answer. When we seek you, we find you. When we long for you, we discover that you are already with us. Anchor our lives in your presence. Encourage us beyond our fear. Remind us of your goodness and miraculous works. Reaffirm the power you have made available and at work within us. Fortify us as your people who give and receive your love to your glory. In your name, we pray. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**All: Righteous One, write your commandments on our hearts...not as a list of do's and don'ts but as a vision of the people who can be, the lives we may live, and the world we may create. Write liberation of the oppressed, care and wholeness of those with unmet needs, and revelation and understanding to those oblivious to the truth. Emblazon your law of love in our hearts, on our lips, and in our journey. Transform us with your love so that we may reflect your love toward our neighbor and toward ourselves. Amen.**

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*(Each person can take this time to surrender to God privately anything weighing heavy on their heart.)*

## **WORDS OF GRACE**

One: Beloved, you are loved, and you have power to choose love in every moment and every encounter. Love has the power to lift, to heal, and to change. Let Holy Love move the mountains before you and the valleys within you.

## **† PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Focus Scripture Mark 12:28-34** *Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 2208). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition.

<sup>28</sup> One of the religious scholars who had listened to them debating and had observed how well Jesus had answered them, now came up and put a question to him: "Which is the foremost of all the commandments?"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, "This is the foremost: 'Hear, O Israel, God, our God, is one. 30 You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your

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† For those who are able, please stand.

mind and with all your strength.’<sup>31</sup> The second is this: ‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

<sup>32</sup> The scholar said to Jesus, “Well spoken, Teacher! What you have said is true: the Most High is one and there is no other.”<sup>33</sup> To love God with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself—this is far more important than any burnt offering or sacrifice.”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus, seeing how wisely this scholar had spoken, said, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to question Jesus any more.

## REFLECTION

**“Cast Votes, Not Stones!”**

## HYMN

**"When Peace, Like a River"** (vss. 1, 2, 4)

#438

## COMMUNION LITURGY

### WORDS OF INVITATION

One: Faith communities around the Earth gather to observe World Communion Sunday. Some call it Holy Communion, others refer to it as the Great Thanksgiving (Eucharist) or Lord’s Supper. Some place elements on an altar. In the Protestant tradition, we approach the Table. Every language and tongue, every tribe and nation, every continent and hemisphere represented as the Body of Christ accepts the invitation to unity around a meal prepared by the One who entered a body, the human condition, and the brokenness of the world. Let us join together in the name of Jesus the Christ to commune as one.

One: God be with you.

**All: The Holy One is with us.**

One: May our hardened hearts be softened.

**All: We lift them up to the Holy One with thanksgiving and in hopeful expectation.**

### WORDS OF THANKSGIVING

One: Gracious God, you are holy, and you make us holy. We declare glory and honor due to your precious name. Like generations before us and the heavenly chorus beyond us, we cry, Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. All realms are filled with your glory. Redeem us, restore us, renew us. Blessed by your Holy Name.

### WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

One: We join in remembrance of your incarnation. Your humble beginnings affirm that the strength of God is perfected in weakness. The years of obscurity left unrecorded and unknown to us remind us that good things benefit from preparation and patience. The record of your baptism reminds us of our own

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baptism as we entered the waters of life and community with you. Recalling your ministry encourages us to engage in the work of healing, teaching, and presence. Revisiting your passion challenges us to expand our capacity to love generously, sacrificially, and relentlessly.

**HYMN**

**"Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"**

#342

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

One: For it was the night of betrayal when Jesus enjoyed a meal with his community of faithful disciples. Imperfect people committed to follow his way encircled that table. The one who would deny him was at the table. The one who would betray him was at the table. Many who would flee in fear of the risk to their own lives sat at that table.

All were welcomed. All were known. All were loved. All were nourished as Jesus took the bread, gave thanks for it, and broke it. As Jesus offered the bread to the gathered, he declared, "This is my body. Take and eat in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and blessed it. As he offered the cup to the gathered, he declared, "This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Take and drink in remembrance of me."

Ministering in the name of Jesus, we offer bread and cup as we proclaim Christ lived, Christ died, Christ rose, and Christ lives again.

Receive the gifts of God for the people of God.

*(As the cup is served, drink when you are ready – though we are one in Christ we drink as we acknowledge our personal relationship with God/Christ/Spirit)*

### **WORDS OF PRAYER**

**All: Communal God, we give you thanks that as you shared in life and death, you lead us into the resurrected life. At this table, we acknowledge your abiding presence among us. You offered us bread and cup, which we receive in remembrance and expectation of your movement in human history. Form us as your faithful community and shape us as servants and stewards of your realm. By your Holy Spirit, may your covenant reign within our hearts and manifest in the witness of our lives now and forever. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/PASTORAL PRAYER**

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† For those who are able, please stand.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison, using debts)**

**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.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

One: The call to generosity is a charge to love with our resources in material ways. When we give from our abundance, we express our gratitude to God our Provider, we assert our trust in God our Sustainer, and we affirm our communal commitments to God our Creator. Let us give from love in action and in energy, in spirit and in truth, in hope and in expectation that the kingdom comes when we choose to live it.

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**DOXOLOGY:** *(as collection plates come forward)*

Tune #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING**

One: Great God, receive these gifts of love with blessing for those who give and those who receive. Magnify our ministries, enlarge our circles of care, and amplify our love in the world. Amen.

† **HYMN**

**“Unto the Hills We Lift Our Longing Eyes”** (vss. 1, 2, 3)

#466

### **PARTING WORDS**

One: When love reigns, the world will change.  
Be the love that the world needs  
For the kingdom to become our beloved realm.  
Go, in the assurance that the God of Love,  
Who is Love, is with you.

## **POSTLUDE**

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† For those who are able, please stand.

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**You Shall Love: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Year B** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

