

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SOUNDING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE pianist Joseph Cough, Jr.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come, God of the Journey, a people from different places, different histories, different lifestyles.

All: We come hoping to find companionship for the journey, solidarity for the struggle.

One: We gather, God of Hospitality, around your welcome table, a table not yet round, but rounding,

All: We gather seeking to become a round-table people, welcoming of all, with no preferred seating, no firsts and no lasts, and no corners for 'the least of these'.

One: We yearn, God of the Rainbow, for a new way of living and relating, as neighbors not strangers, as brothers, sisters and siblings, not as 'them and us'.

All: We yearn to live fully celebrating both the diversity of our human family, and the unity of our call to love and justice.

One: We hunger, God of Abundant Life, for lives that have meaning and integrity, and for relationships grounded in mutuality and respect.

All: We thirst for places to bring our doubts, our fears; places to express honestly who we are. We thirst for hope and encouragement as we boldly follow Jesus in the way of life-risking love.

One: With the gift of your grace we are nourished.

All: With the promise of your presence may we be strengthened to be faithful. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* #547

INVOKING THE HOLY

"What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do. And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute—the rights of the 'worthy' and the 'unworthy' poor, in other words—we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever-widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as our friend." – Dorothy Day

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Creator God, you made us to be neighbors, members of one family blessed with great diversity. You created us to be helpers and friends to one another, entrusting to us your justice and your joy. Yet we have denied justice and joy to many, creating worlds of poverty, pain, lost opportunities, and absence of hope. In so many ways, we break each other's hearts. Still, you do not reject us. We ask your forgiveness and pray to be transformed.

Silent personal confession

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION

PASSING THE PEACE

*GLORIA PATRI

*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

SCRIPTURE READINGS *Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Mark 12:28-34*

SERMON *Companions on the Journey*

Pastor Aram Mitchell

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

THE MORNING OFFERING

*Doxology

*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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN OF SENDING *This Is a Day of New Beginnings (with alternate fourth stanza)* #417

*BENEDICTION

**Please stand if you are able.*

*POSTLUDE

Pianist Joseph Cough, Jr.

We remember in our prayers: The family of Jeanne Wormelle (Sewall), Nancy Giles, Don Gage, George Greene, Sammy Soule, Tom Boudin, Margaret Ellsworth, Poppy Truchon, Rose Young, Ron Leeman, Joe Dee, Kathleen Grigg, Betancourt family, and our neighbors at the Edgcomb Green.

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Edgcomb Community Church

United Church of Christ

"To bring together our communities in spirituality and loving service to humankind."



November 3, 2024

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

"God is still speaking"



An Open and Affirming Congregation

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