

25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2023



Announcements and greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is in **bold**.*

Centering words:

Let us come into worship with an open heart, ready to center God. Let us come into worship with a heart of gratitude. Let us come into worship with ThanksLIVING on our minds as God will be pleased.

Prelude

Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr'

Walther

Call to worship: Responsively

Worship the Lord and sing God's praises.

We come into the Lord's presence with songs of thanksgiving.

Make a joyful noise for the rock of our salvation.

We rejoice in our time together.

Drink of Christ's living water.

We thirst for God's love!

*Opening hymn

We Gather Together

¹ UMH # 131

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.**

**Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:
thou, Lord wast at our side, all glory be Thine!**

**We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 131

Words: *Nederlandsch Gedencklanck*, 1626; trans. by Theodore Baker, 1894

Music: 16th cent. Dutch melody; arr. by Edward Kremer, 1877

Opening Prayer: In Unison

Lord of bounty and blessing, we come to you this day in gratitude for all that we have been given. We are grateful for the blessings and for the opportunities to be of service to others in your holy Name. Bless each of us here, that we may become true blessings to others. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: **Deuteronomy 14:22-29**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalter: **Psalm 24** with sung response 2

¹ UMH page 755

Musical Response:

**Who shall stand in God's holy place?
Those with clean hands and with pure hearts.**

¹ The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world, and those who dwell therein;

² for God has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

³ Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in God's holy place?

⁴ Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
**who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.**

⁵ They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek the Lord,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Musical Response

⁷ Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the Ruler of glory may come in.

⁸ **Who is the Ruler of glory?**
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!

⁹ **Lift up your heads, O gates!**
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the Ruler of glory may come in.

¹⁰ Who is this King of glory?
**The Lord of hosts,
he is the Ruler of glory.**

Musical Response

Special Music

First Methodist Brass

New Testament Reading: **Galatians 6:1-9**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading: **Luke 6:37-38 and 43-45**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

God of Our Fathers

Warren

**Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way
Lead us from night to never ending day
Fill all our live with love and grace devine
And glory laud, and praise be ever Thine
And praise be ever Thine.**

Message

"ThanksLIVING"

Musical Response

First Methodist Brass

Call to confession

Confession prayer: In unison

Gracious giver of all things, we come before you with humble hearts. We seek your forgiveness for the times we have not been as grateful as we should have been. We seek your forgiveness for the times we have taken for granted the blessings in our lives. We seek your forgiveness when we have not been cheerful givers. Move in a mighty way in our spirits,

O God, to show us how to be thankful for all things. Show us how to be grateful for all things. Show us how to give as you have given to us, that our sacrifice, not matter how big or small, does not compare to the greater sacrifice you made for us. Help us to be cheerful givers knowing we don't give as the world gives, but we give all for the glory of you, O God. Help us, Holy One, so that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries and our giving. Amen.

Let us pause for a moment of quiet confession.

Words of assurance:

God gives without question to us and God sees and knows and loves our sacrifice. Rest in this assurance and be at peace.

Invitation to the Offering:

Jesus said, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over . . . for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Now is the time to present our gifts and offerings to God with praise and thanks.

Please submit your offering as you feel lead by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Consecration of Giving Cards

Offertory

First Methodist Brass

Offering Prayer: In Unison

O God, your goodness and generosity are limitless and eternal. We bring before you our gifts, as echoes of your generosity, that they may be used for good. We know that it is more blessed to give than to receive. May our giving be a sign of this blessing for others and for our course in faith. Amen.

*Closing hymn

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH # 428

**For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how, through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.**

Please be seated for closing announcements and the Benediction.

Benediction: Responsively

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.

Go with God's blessings.

As people of the Way, we will do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

Go with God's blessings. Amen,

and Amen!

Postlude

***II. Allegro non troppo e pesante,
from Six Short Preludes and Postludes For Organ, Set I, Op. 101***

Stanford

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

¹UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal*

²FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (softcover hymnal)

Worship participants

Preaching: Pastor Tennille Power

Liturgist: Sandy Gallagher

Media: Bailey Borer and David Wilm

Musicians: Evan de Jong, Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard, Bob Rice, and Cole Winslow

Ushers and Greeters: Bill Buga, Roger and Janice McFrederick, and Mike Zahnke

Each week, this service is broadcast live on radio station WEOL 930 AM/100.3 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Annette Grobe and family in celebration of the living and deceased Grobe and Edwards family members.

The altar flowers are sponsored by Annette Grobe and family in appreciation of Pastor Tennille.

This special bulletin cover is provided by Annette Grobe in loving memory of Jim Grobe.

The Harvest Altar is provided by the Grobe and Edwards families in dedication to the many years of Anita Edwards preparing the beautiful altar.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr' by Johann Gottfried Walther (1684 - 1748). *God of Our Fathers* by Geo. W. Warren © 1986 Fred Bock Music. *II. Allegro non troppo e pesante, from Six Short Preludes and Postludes For Organ, Set I, Op. 101* by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 - 1924).

All songs are performed under license # 673591.

Third Street Review



November 19, 2023

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

November Mission focus:

United Methodist Student Sunday **November 26th**

Currently, there are over 70 scholarships available for undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral United Methodist students. Financial support for all General Board of Higher Education and Ministry scholarships come from five primary sources: 63% from endowments; 22% from wills and annuities; 13% from United Methodist Special Sundays and 1% from online gifts and fiduciary income. All donations received empower and encourage our students that we are investing in them and our future. Cash or checks made payable to: **First United Methodist Church**, (indicate **Student Sunday** on the memo line) or go to our website and Donate.

Hanging of the Greens

We will hang the “greens” next Sunday, **November 26th**. Plan to stay after the service to help decorate the Sanctuary with candles in the windows, garland on the arches and on the altar rail as we prepare for the Advent season. **Many Hands make light work!**

Food Drive

We continue to collect for the **Salvation Army**. Please bring **any non-perishable item**. They can also use **sample/travel size toiletries and socks** for their guests.

Tasty Treats Cookbook

We look to have the recipe book available for the holidays. They will make a great gift! If you did not participate but would like to preorder a copy, please contact the church office.

Attention All Singers:

The Chancel Choir rehearses on **Sunday mornings** at **9:45**. We are seeking those interested in beginning a **Praise Team**. No experience needed, and everyone is welcome! Rehearsals will be on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM. Questions? See Jack Roberts before or after today's service or call the church office.

*“Faith is the compass that guides us
through the darkest nights
and leads us to the light of God’s love.”*

— Mother Teresa

Free Hygiene Store

We need to replenish the following items:

- † **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- † **Dish and Hand Soap**
- † **Toothpaste**
- † **Kids toothbrushes**
- † **Deodorant for Women and Men**
- † **Body Wash & Lotion**
- † **Diapers** (size 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
- † **Pull-ups** (size 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T)
- † **Baby wash and lotion**
- † **Adult Diapers** (pull on type in size M, L, XL, 2XL)
- † **Feminine products** (Tampons, maxi pads)
- † **Adult Bladder Pads** (Poise)
- † **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. Bless you! The Free Store is open on the fourth Saturday of the month. In November: **Saturday, November 25th**.

312 Happy Hour

Join us for our next Happy Hour on **Tuesday, November 28th**, **Singing Hands** will bring us some **holiday cheer!** Join us at **12 noon** in **Fellowship Hall**.

In December, Happy Hour will be on December 12th. We will resume the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the new year!

Free Clothing Store

The Free Clothing Store is a labor of love! As the seasons are changing, **we need Fall and Winter clothes.** In order for our community to shop with dignity we need **hangers, clothing racks and kind spirits** who are willing to donate time. Please place any kind of hangers in the bin on the main level. The store will be open **Saturday, November 25th**. If you are available to help work in the store **10 AM-12 PM**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622.

Community Breakfast Needs

Every Sunday our numbers increase of those who come for our Community Breakfast. We need **plastic cutlery**. Donations will be greatly appreciated!

*“Love recognizes no barriers.
It jumps hurdles, leaps fences,
penetrates walls to arrive
at its destination full of hope.”*

— Mother Teresa

Sponsorships

Available radio broadcast dates:

December 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31

The cost is \$300 full / \$150 half.

Or please contribute any amount to our Radio Fund!

Flower dates available:

December 17

The cost is \$22.

Please call the church office at 440.322.6622 to reserve your special date!

A Traditional Christmas Choral Concert for the Whole Family!

Lorain County Community College's Civic Chorale and Civic Orchestra, under the baton of Emerita Conductor Nancy Davis, will present the 45th Annual Holiday Choral Concert on **Saturday, December 2nd at 7:30 p.m.** in the Stocker Arts Center-Hoke Theater.

Bring your family and enrich your Advent experience by enjoying the music of the season. The Civic Chorale and Civic Orchestra will perform Christmas favorites! Performing with the Civic Chorale are some very dedicated singers including Kristen Jones, Joel Schmittgen, Jeff Baxter and many other members of the wider community.

General admission tickets are **\$9** and may be purchased by contacting the Stocker Center box office at 440-366-4040 or online at www.lorainccc.edu/stocker. Discounts are available. Come and enjoy!

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, November 19: **Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30**

Monday, November 20: **Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11**

Tuesday, November 21: **Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18**

Wednesday, November 22: **Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matthew 24:45-51**

Thursday, November 23: **Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11**

Friday, November 24: **Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9**

Saturday, November 25: **Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50**

Sunday, November 26: **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46**

Today's Organ Music

Prelude: Johann Gottfried Walther (1684 - 1748)

Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr'

Johann Gottfried Walther was not only an exact contemporary of Johann Sebastian Bach, he was the famous composer's second cousin (Bach had a very large family that included dozens of other significant composers such as Walther). While Bach's music is known for its complexity and innovative style, Walther's music is quite simple in comparison. Historically, organists typically improvised their music most of the time, but the large number of small pieces by Walther that still exist suggest that perhaps Walther wasn't such a great improviser, and that he liked to write his music down. This is lucky for us today, as while Walther's pieces aren't as innovative as those of his illustrious cousin, they are elegantly written and still of very high quality. This prelude on the Lutheran Chorale "All Glory Be to God on High" features quickly moving phrases underneath the original chorale tune.

Postlude: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 - 1924)

II. Allegro non troppo e pesante, from Six Short Preludes and Postludes For Organ, Set I, Op. 101

Charles Villiers Stanford was a prominent composer in the Anglican tradition. He was born in Dublin, studied at Cambridge, and later pursued studies in Germany. Stanford served as organist of Trinity College, Cambridge, whose chapel possesses a great musical legacy of organists, conductors and choral music that continues to this day. Stanford was also one of the founding members of the Royal College of Music, and several of his students went on to become great composers themselves, such as Gustav Holst, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Herbert Howells, and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. This short, energetic piece by Stanford is purpose-built as a postlude (unlike much of the music I play, which is often somewhat removed from its original historical context), and it features use of the crescendo pedal, which gradually adds more and more stops as it is pushed forward. Listen for the pedal solo in the middle of the piece, which leads to a grand crescendo. The Italian tempo indication at the beginning of the piece means "fast but not too much, and heavily."

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