



Faith Community United Methodist Church

5315 Harford Road
Baltimore, MD 21214
Rev. Ronald S. Dodson, Sr.
Church: 410-426-8177

Sunday, November 15, 2020 24th Sunday After Pentecost
10 a.m.

WE GATHER FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

Keith Harmon

GREETING & VISITOR WELCOME

Judy Slide

**CALL TO WORSHIP: Please stand with heart or posture.*

Leader: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the lands!

People: Serve the Lord with gladness! Sing with joy unto the Lord!

Leader: Know the Lord is God, and we are everyone God's creations.

People: We are God's chosen servants each given special talents for service.

Leader: Let us serve the Lord with joy and lift our voices in praise!

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

OPENING HYMN

PRAYER FOR FAITH: O God, in Your glorious wonder You have given each and every one of us personal gifts with which we can bless the world. Lord, help us to know our gifts and use them for You. In Christ we pray. Amen.

[Silent prayers of confession and forgiveness of others]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! AMEN.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So, the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

We are ever-growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:14-30 *Please stand with heart or posture.*

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received what was my own with interest. So, take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

We are ever-growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference

WE CELEBRATE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

PRAISE REPORTS

PRAYER CONCERNS: *"Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace."*

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE OFFER THANKSGIVING

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY: O God, we do present these offerings in order to proclaim our own righteousness, but as symbols of our love for you and your Church. Bless them we pray, and may they be as loving arms reaching out to show our love for your needy children. Amen

*THE DOXOLOGY: UMH #95 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" *Please stand with heart or posture.*

WE DEPART TO SERVE

REMINDERS:

- Eastern/Faith Community Joint Trustee Meeting Thursday November 19, 7:00 p.m.; Zoom

BLESSING WITH A MISSION

CLOSING HYMN

Please remain seated until the candles are extinguished, and the music is finished, then exit through the single door to the parking lot.

Scripture Lessons for November 22, 2020; Christ the King Sunday

- Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- Psalm 100
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Matthew 25:31-46

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