

WORSHIP GUIDE for NOVEMBER 21, 2021

SETTING YOUR SPACE

Friends, wise teachers from all the enduring religious traditions tell us of the connection between gratitude and joy: the more we practice the former, the deeper we experience the latter. This Sunday, as we gather around songs and stories to give thanks, we'll practice some of what they teach. If you're joining in from home, consider setting your space with elements that inspire your gratitude. I hope you can come/stay after worship for lunch in the Social Hall – soups and cornbread and veggies and fruit and cookies and drinks will be provided.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude: *Thanksgiving Medley* – Muriel Dresser, organist

Welcome – Rev. Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor

Gathering Song: *Come, O Thankful People, Come* (NC #422)

**– Jesse Cromer, Director of Music Ministries, Heidi Toth,
Dave King, Muriel Dresser**

Gathering Prayer & Communal Prayer *from Matthew 6*

– Kathleen Verigin

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Children's Time – Sean P. Williams, Children's & Youth Minister

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2, 9-18

Siblings, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Don't conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds, so that you can judge what God's will is – what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

Your love must be sincere. Hate what is evil and cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of siblings. Try to outdo one another in showing respect. Don't grow slack, but be fervent in spirit: the One you serve is Christ. Rejoice in hope; be patient until trial; persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of God's holy people as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors; bless and don't curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward everyone. Don't be condescending to those who aren't as well off as you; don't be conceited. Don't repay evil with evil. Be concerned with the highest ideal in the eyes of all people. Do all you can to be at peace with everyone.

**Sermon: “So Far As It Depends On Us” – Rev. Erika Marksbury,
and with a special message from Rev. Jim Kilinsky**

**Response Song: Now Thank We All Our God (NC #419)
– Jesse Cromer, Heidi Toth, Dave King, Muriel Dresser**

Pastoral Prayer – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Special Music: I Will Remember You – Heidi Toth

Closing Words

Going Forth Song: *What a Covenant* (NC #471)

- Jesse Cromer, Heidi Toth, Dave King, Muriel Dresser

Benediction - Rev. Erika Marksbury

One: Friends, ... may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Postlude: *March* by Felix Mendelssohn - Muriel Dresser

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