PEACE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open & Affirming, A2A-Accessible to All
Congregation of the United Church of Christ

15 November 2026 – 10:30 AM
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.**
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

PRELUDE — *Softly, As In a Morning Sunrise* — Sigmund Romberg
JAZZ ON HIGH • Aidan Santa Cruz, piano & vocals
Chris Charman, bass; Zack Olsen, drums

WELCOME — The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

*GATHERING SONG

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken, gather us in – the blind and the lame;
Call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

*CALL TO WORSHIP — James Howley, liturgist

One: How shall we enter the house of the Lord?
All: With songs of great praise and rejoicing!
One: How shall we prepare ourselves to receive the blessing?
All: With hearts, minds, and spirits that are open and giving!
One: Come, let us worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.
All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

*HYMN [hymn sheet] — *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* — I'M GONNA LIVE

*PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.

*GREETING OF PEACE

WITNESS — Linda Bravo, Center for Farmworker Families

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

May the peace of God surround you… **Like the trees towering in the forest!**
May the peace of God warm you all over… **Like the sun shining in the sky!**
May the peace of God rise and roll over you… **Like the waves rolling in the sea!**
May the peace of God fill you… **Like the wind stirring in your soul!**
May the peace of God surround you… [singing] **Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen...** [repeating]

ANTHEM — *We Are Called* — David Haas

GOSPEL *Matthew 25:14-30* Jim Howley

‘For it will be as when someone going on a journey called in the servants and entrusted to them some money, giving to one five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to their ability, and then went away. The servant who had received the five talents went at once and traded with the money and made five talents more. So also, the one who had the two talents made two talents more. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug in the ground and hid the money. Now after a long time the one who had gone returned and settled accounts with the servants. And the servant who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, “Sovereign, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.” The sovereign said, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your sovereign.” And the one also who had the two talents came forward, saying, “Sovereign, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.” The reply came, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your sovereign.” Then the one who had received the one talent came forward, saying, “Sovereign, I knew you to be a demanding person, 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 the sovereign answered, “You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not scattered? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take back the talent, and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and they will have abundance; but from everyone who has not, even what they have will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer regions, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

MEDITATION *Digging Up Buried Treasure* Pastor Dave

RESPONSE South African Hymn

(Masithi:) **Amen, si-ya–ku–du–mi-sa** (Sing amen) **Amen, we praise your name, O God.**
(Masithi:) **Amen, si-ya–ku–du–mi-sa** (Sing amen) **Amen, we praise your name, O God.**
Amen, Bawo, Amen, Bawo, **Amen, amen, amen, amen,**
Amen, si-ya–ku–du–mi-sa. **Amen, we praise your name, O God.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY
Invitation
Offertory Music *Lush Life* Billy Strayhorn

*COVENANT

We covenant with God and with each other:
to walk together in all God’s ways as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus’ ministry in this church;
to celebrate through worship God’s amazing gifts of unity and diversity;
to take up Christ’s mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;
to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.

*HYMN [hymn sheet] *We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky* ENDLESS SONG

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Man In the Mirror* Michael Jackson