

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

November 24, 2024 10:00 AM
Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* – J. M. Michel Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Christopher Stevens

*OPENING HYMN NO. 276 *We Gather Together*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) Rev. Barbara Papagian

Leader: God is great, and greatly to be praised!

People: We thank you, God, for families and friends.

Leader: We thank you for the warmth of kitchens, quilts and good neighbors.

People: We thank you, God, for newborn kittens and faithful dogs, for pine trees and sunlight and crisp, clear air.

Leader: Blessed be God, the rock of our salvation!

People: We thank you, God, for the sound of laughter and the touch of love,

Leader: For brand new mornings and for memories held close.

All: Come into God's presence with thanksgiving--make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise! Amen.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison) Rev. Christopher Stevens

O Lord, in thanksgiving would I live each moment.

So well-versed in your love would I be, that I approach each situation knowing that within it rests my highest good.

May I stay close to you today and know eternal life.

When I am restless, when doors are closed against my dreams, when there are mountains or valleys to be traveled, may I stay with you.

You are the way. I will not be lost.

You are the truth. Guide me, O Lord.

You are the life. Give me the life I need. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING *How Great Thou Art* – Lloyd Larson Sipra Kolar, soloist

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed. Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze (Refrain).

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin (Refrain).

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart. Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art (Refrain).

Those involved with Sunday Friends may leave for their activity.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Barbara Papagian

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 56 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

OUR MORNING OFFERING Rev. Barbara Papagian

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn No. 46)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We bring our gifts with gratitude for the opportunity to give. We thank you, O Lord, for the bounty that is ours and for the freedom we have to worship as we choose. We are grateful for the endless choices that are ours to ponder and partake. We bring our gifts with hearts full of thanksgiving for all that is ours. We ask only that you would help us to remember. Amen.

