



Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Congregational responses are in bold,

• means "please rise in body or spirit."

November 19, 2023 | Order of Worship

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Prelude

Welcome

Deacon Jonathan Moran

Call to Worship

Led by Jonathan Moran

Welcome to this place:
where children and seasoned citizens sit side by side,
where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.

Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:
where we find God's love,
where we hear the tender voice of Jesus,
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.

Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:
where we bring our hunger, and find food;
where we bring our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves, and find God's welcome.

Introit

We Are Truly Thankful
First Church Junior Choir

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Anthem

Sing A Song of Thanks | Vivaldi/Hopson
First Church Senior Choir

Celebration of Gratitude

"If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough."-Meister Eckhart

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today, November 19

- Worship, 10 am with Rev. Emily Goodnow preaching, Junior Choir singing, New Members Joining
- Daisy's Children Outreach, 11 am, Fellowship Hall
- Deacons' Meeting, 11:30 am

Tuesday November 21

- Jeanette's Closet, 9am - 11am
- Prayer Group Mtg, 1:30pm
- Topics on Autism Group, 6pm

Thursday, November 23 **Happy Thanksgiving !!**

Next Sunday, November 26

- Worship, 10 am led by church members with the Sermon by Peter Clark
- Junior Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 am
- Council Meeting, 11:30 am

Celebration of Gratitude (cont)

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God's extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

We Sound the Bell

We Welcome New Members into Our Church Family

Questions of the New Members - Liz Brown, Laura Cogar, Wendi-Lee Porter, Stephanie Wilcher

Questions of the Congregation:

Respecting divine mystery beyond our human knowing revealed in the stories of our faith, and the stories of our lives, do you promise to strive to walk humbly with God?

We do.

Celebrating the fullness of Jesus' witness flowing from the baptismal waters at the river Jordan and the stories of bread broken and shared, do you promise to strive to follow in the way of Christ?

We do.

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to resist oppression and evil, to work for love and justice, and to be a voice of light and love in this world as best as you are able?

We do.

Will you be faithful to these new people as they join our community?

We will.

Will you challenge these new members to be the best versions of themselves, and will you help them to live up to the things they say they believe?

We will.

Will you allow yourself to be changed, shaped, and transformed by these new members, living into our called identity as a beloved community of God?

We will.

Prayer of Welcome and Celebration

Presentation of Gifts

Our youngest disciples are invited to go downstairs with Sandy and our Children's Ministry Team

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by Kylie Morel

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

Sharing Our Sacred Story (contd)

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

- Psalm 65
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Inclusive Bible Translation
Inclusive Bible Translation

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

•Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God
#419 in Black Hymnal

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Stewardship Testimony

Jayne Hamaty

Generosity Celebration

Phil Allen

Offertory Music

We are Marching in the Light of God, *#526 in Black Hymnal*
Oren Varess

•Words of Thanksgiving

Praise God, from whom blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour out Your blessing on this offering today. Guide us in Your way and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:

We call out words like “joyful, kind, just” to bless our church and world

•Hymn

God, We Thank You for Our People
#376 in Black Hymnal

Benediction

Postlude

FIRST CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers

All of Us

Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

C.E. Coordinator

Sandy Wissmann

Music Director

Deborah Owen

Organist & Pianist

Oren Varess

Jr. Choir Director

Oren Varess

Sunday School Leaders

Rosemary Wisner, Wensday
Morse, Jessica Engstrom

Moderator

Megan Sawyer

Treasurer

Karla Swanson-Murphy

Trustee of the Month

Peter Clark

Deacon of the Week

Jonathan Moran

Greeters

Eleanor Nicholson, Jan Yindra,
Beth Cossey

Office Manager

Theresa Sawyer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Emily will be on vacation Nov 20-27

Office Mgr. Theresa Sawyer will be away Nov 18-26 so our Church Office will be closed Thanksgiving week but Jeanette's Closet and other usual programming will be open. Rev. Nancy Foran, will be on call for pastoral support at 207-650-7845.

Many thanks to all who make this vacation time possible for both of us.

Thanksgiving Gift Cards

The Missions Team is still accepting monetary donations to provide Thanksgiving gift cards to the Bridgton Food Pantry to be handed out to needy local families.

Please see Debbie McBride or Jan Yindra with questions.

Special Service Dec. 3rd - Advent by Candlelight The Virgin Mary's Role in Advent

Sunday 12/03 at 5pm, a special service is being held, sharing in song and reflection of Mary as a mother, showing us the power of love and devotion in the Christmas story.

If you wish to attend, please click on the RSVP link in this week's newsletter or email Rande Cassidy at randee_cassidy@yahoo.com
Childcare is available upon request with Sandy!

November 26th Snack & Chat

If your last name is within this range,
MU-OH

please consider bringing a snack and helping with setup, serving, and cleaning up. Thank you!



Service Credits:

Call to Worship by Thom Shuman.

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Monday-Friday
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