

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

July 13, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST // IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM SERVICE

All music used by permission. CCLI License #1325764; CCLI Streaming License #20116748

Liturgist: Dawn Barnes

[CC] = closed-captioned

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

WELCOME

CENTERING HYMN

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

UM #328

(Sing twice)

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings;
I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

GTG #316

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A lawyer asked Jesus, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus answered, “Love the Lord your God, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

Who is our neighbor?

Anyone in need of mercy.

Come, let us worship the One who shows us how to love.

Let us draw near to God, who calls us to compassion.

OPENING PRAYER

**Merciful God,
You come close to us with questions that reveal our hearts and stories that stretch our
compassion.**

**Open us to Your Word and to one another, that we may not pass by pain or overlook
need.**

**Teach us again what it means to live in mercy and justice, as followers of Christ, our
Good Shepherd and Healer. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love and truth,
You ask us to love our neighbors, but we have drawn boundaries of comfort and
convenience. You ask us to show mercy, but we too often look the other way. We
confess that we have failed to live with open hearts and hands ready to help.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Interrupt our routines, challenge our assumptions, and renew our
calling to embody Christ's compassion.**

In His name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 30:9 – 14

ANTHEM

“For Good”
(Stephen Schwartz; from *“Wicked”*)

Gia Woodford &
Olivia Thompson

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:25 – 37

TIME WITH
YOUNG DISCIPLES

“Good Neighbors”

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

MESSAGE

“A HEART THAT STOPS TO HELP”

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“When We Are Living”
(*Pues si vivimos*)

GTG #822

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,

and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

**Generous God,
You have shown us mercy and boundless compassion. Receive these gifts as signs of
our gratitude and our desire to respond in love. Bless what we offer and guide our
lives so that we may serve You by serving our neighbors.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer

**Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

GTG #203

Refrain:

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.

Refrain

Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race;
neighbors are near us and far away.

Refrain

These are the ones we should serve;
these are the ones we should love;

all these are neighbors to us and you.

Refrain

Loving puts us on our knees,
willing to wash others' feet;
this is the way we should live like you.

Refrain

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JULY 13 – JULY 20

All meetings are via Zoom (unless otherwise noted).

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect to, engage, and invest in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 7/13	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Liturgist: Dawn Barnes</i>)
	11:30 am	FELLOWSHIP (<i>Room 10</i>) NEEDLEWORK GROUP (<i>café/kiosk area</i>)
Mon, 7/14	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
	4:00 pm	FINANCE TEAM
Sun, 7/20	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Scheduled liturgist: Dean Randall</i>)
	11:30 am	FELLOWSHIP (<i>Room 10</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible

Deuteronomy 30:9 – 14

And the LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

"Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?'

Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Luke 10:25 – 37

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself."

28 And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead.

31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.

32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

33 But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion.

34a He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine.

34b Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35a The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper,

35b and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

