

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

July 20, 2025

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

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

Liturgist: Dean Randall

[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

“Be Thou My Vision”

GTG #450

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus entered a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.
She was distracted by many tasks, while her sister Mary sat at the Lord’s feet and listened.

PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

Generous God,

You have shown us mercy and boundless abundance and grace. We bring our gifts before You, not as distractions or duties, but as acts of devotion.

May these offerings reflect our desire to choose the better part—to serve with joy, to listen with care, and to give with love. Bless what we bring and bless who we are, in Christ’s name. 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

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

(Mark Sedio)

Refrain:

Take my life that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Refrain

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Refrain

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Refrain

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

Refrain

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JULY 20 – JULY 27

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, 7/20	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Liturgist: Dean Randall</i>)
	11:30 am	FELLOWSHIP (<i>Room 10</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Mon, 7/21	10:00 am	MEMORIAL SERVICE & REPAST (<i>Room 4, Room 10</i>)
	7:00 pm	COUNCIL MEETING
Thu, 7/24	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sat, 7/26	9:00 am	SJU MEN'S GROUP
Sun, 7/27	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Scheduled liturgist: Lisa Cooper Green</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

Genesis 18:1 – 10a

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.

² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground.

³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant.

⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.

⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on--since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."

⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.

⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent."

¹⁰ Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Luke 10:38 – 42

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying.

⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."

⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things,

⁴² but few things are needed--indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

