

LET US WORSHIP GOD!

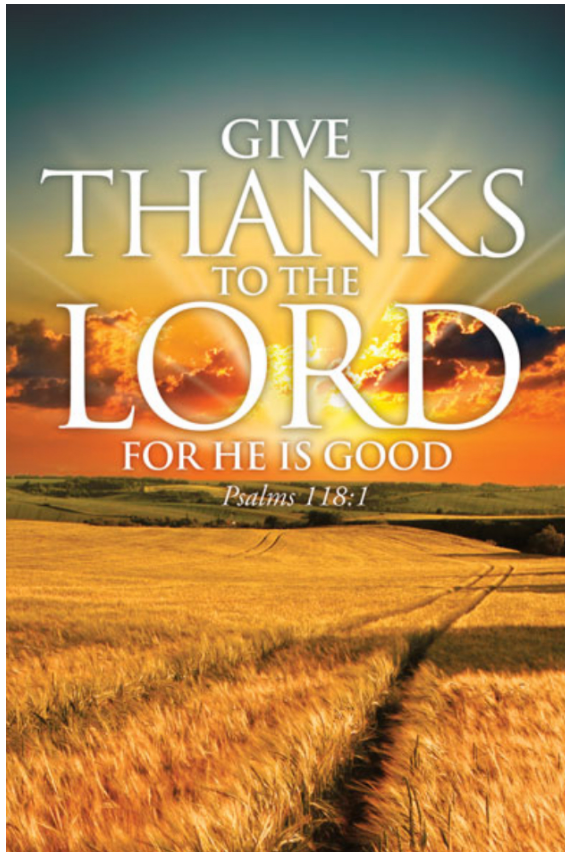
November 23, 2025—10:30 AM

CHRIST THE KING/REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

A HYBRID WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough; Worship Leader: Robert Stiles;

Message: Rev. David Wenker, Pulpit Supply; Worship Production: Norris Clark



WELCOME! WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com

MESSAGE PREVIEW:

Rev. David Wenker's message is titled "Gratitude; The Outward Sign of Trust"

"Trust is most visible during difficult times of our lives. But trust in the routine days of our lives, is made visible by our gratitude. Gratitude seems like an easy choice, but sometimes it feels offensive or at least an unfair choice. Refocusing our eyes to see God's grace is the path to gratitude. And gratitude is the antidote to all sorts of spiritual maladies."

MUSIC PREVIEW:

The hymn "*Now Thank We All Our God*" was written by [Martin Rinkart](#), a Lutheran pastor in Germany, around 1636 during the devastating . It originated as a family grace for meals, inspired by Rinkart's personal suffering and the immense hardship in his town, Eilenburg, due to famine, plague, and war. The hymn's message of gratitude and trust in God became a powerful symbol of hope and was later sung to celebrate the end of the war.

"*Give Thanks, O Christian People*" by Mary Jackson Cathey includes verses about giving thanks for the service of workers, the guidance of leaders, and the fellowship of believers. The lyrics encourage Christians to give thanks for those who serve the hungry, the leaders who teach and guide, and for the community that helps them live out their faith.

The Sending hymn "*Count Your Blessings*" was written by Johnson Oatman Jr. in 1897 to help people find gratitude during difficult times. Published for young people, it advises that even when feeling discouraged or "tempest-tossed," one can find uplift by acknowledging the blessings in their life. The music was composed by Edwin O. Excell, and Oatman is credited with writing over 5,000 songs throughout his life.

GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)

**God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (RESPONSIVE)

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

**Many: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

OPENING PRAYER: (UNISON)

**We worship you out of gratitude for the blessings you pour into
our lives. We worship you for the wonder of your grace and
mercy you give to us. We worship you for the beauty of who you
are in all your glory. All we have and all we are is your gift to us.
Our love, devotion, obedience and worship is our gift to you. We
pray in Jesus name, AMEN**

GATHERING HYMN - #544 (RED) "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"

**1. Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mother's arms, Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.**

**2. O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.**

**3. All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.**

CALL TO CONFESSION: (PSALM 32:5)

As humans, we are all prone to error: when we are entrusted with power, we make mistakes. Let us confess together as a way of holding ourselves accountable to God and each other.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (UNISON)

We confess we do not give you the thanks you deserve. We confess we are prone to self-pity and complaining. Forgive us and heal us. Cleanse us of self-pity and set us free to be people who are filled with gratitude, able to love and appreciate others. We pray in Jesus name. AMEN

Silent Reflection

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (RESPONSIVE)

One: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. .

Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* The Gloria

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be.
World without end, Amen, Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Inspire our hearts, our minds, and our bodies, O God, to listen fully to your Word. Guide us toward creatively courageous interpretations that transform us as we faithfully enact your calling to us. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 3: 1-11

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,

a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 20: 1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. “He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ ““Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

MESSAGE: "GRATITUDE; THE OUTWARD SIGN OF TRUST"

REV. DAVID WENKER

PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF MEDITATION - #552 (BLUE) "GIVE THANKS, O CHRISTIAN PEOPLE"

- 1. Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day
Who heed the call to service and make it their life's way
To go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,
To work for equal justice, Till all God's folk are freed.**
- 2. Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years
Who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears,
To teach the ones who seek light, to guide the faltering feet,
To lead the followers forward, our living Lord to meet.**
- 3. Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord
Who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
To share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
To use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.**
- 4. Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship
With all who trust our Savior their serving to equip:
To ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,
To magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS: (MATTHEW 10:8)

"You received freely; freely, give"

In celebration of God's freedom through Jesus Christ, we now give our tithes and offerings to God.

Offertory

THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above the heavenly host,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

COMMUNITY NEWS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthdays
& Anniversaries

**Anniversary Blessings to:
Joe & Roseann Paulits ~ Nov. 23**



Flowers: To donate flowers in memory, or in honor, of a loved one, sign up in the narthex and/or contact Beverly Mate, 609-847-1530. (\$20/vase).

Seeking Readers for our Advent Candle Lightings, families, couples, friends, all welcome! See Pastor Dave for details.



**SAVE THE DATE: CHURCH DECORATING FOR ADVENT
ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 10:00 a.m.**

Please let Beverly Mate know if you are available to help!



Poinsettias for the church sanctuary for Advent & Christmas Eve- forms are in the narthex to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of loved ones. \$20.00 per Poinsettia, you can take them home after the Christmas Eve Worship Celebration. Please return forms with payment by Dec. 7, in the collection plate or to the church office.



Cold Spring Advent Covered Dish Luncheon - Sunday, December 7, in Price Hall, following the Worship Service. A Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. You do not need to bring anything to attend. Everyone is welcome!



Wreaths Across America

Ceremony on **Saturday, December 13 at noon.** Order forms to sponsor or buy a wreath for a veteran's gravesite, are available in the narthex.



Sunday, December 21st - 10:30 am Worship Service - be here & bring your family & invite your friends for this special Musical Celebration of Christ's Birth through readings & music,
"Christmas Around the World".



The Angelus Chorus

"Our Favorite Things" Holiday Concerts :

Wed. 12/3, 7 pm - C. M. Convention Center -
714 Beach Ave, Cape May
Mon. 12/8, 7 pm - C. M. United Methodist Church -
635 Washington St., Cape May
Wed. 12/10, 7 pm - First United Meth. Church of Cape May
Court House - 1 Church Street, CMCH
Thurs. 12/11, 7 pm - Resurrection Church (St. Maximillian
Kolbe Parish, - 200 Tuckahoe Rd, Marmora
Sun. 12/14, 2 pm - Performing with the John Walter Cape
Community Band at Middle Township
Performing Arts Center - 212 Bayberry Dr. CMCH

RECEIVING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

(If you'd like to add to our prayer list, please complete a green (Let's Pray card.)

Pray for: **Abby Carr** has had a set back and is hospitalized; **Julie Groob** hospitalized with complications from cancer surgery; **James Dodd, Jr** recuperating at home after a serious illness and hospital stay; Comfort for friends and family of **Ken Ross**, a veteran who passed away; **Rev. Jim Shanley**, his recuperation from a heart procedure is not going well; **Max Moran's Mother** who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer; Denise's stepdaughter, **Lori**, whose cancer has returned for the third time. She is receiving very serious treatment; **Ariana Palmer**, 23 year old awaiting heart transplant;

Continual prayer requested for: **Eileen Stalford** in nursing care; **Pastor Bob & Anna Sheidly** friends of Bob Heinly, as they battle multiple maladies of aging; Bob Sheidly is now the caretaker for Anna, who is having more health difficulties.

Those on hospice care: **Marty, John Stalford, Gertrude Hess, Ted Lewis**

Those undergoing cancer treatment: **Kiley Fulford; Bob Maher, Karen R., Keith, Todd, Brian, Gerri Mills, Robin B, Mike, Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Candy, Donna, Liz, Joe, Jennifer, Lori, Ruth, Debbie, Mike Grecco Norma, Roseann Crook, Christa, Jackie, Diane, Charlotte Holman, Joe Paulits, Gretchen, Ray, Carl & Robert.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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.**

FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

**Once we were strangers,
Now we are neighbors.
Once we were strangers,
Now we are friends.**

SENDING HYMN: #545 (RED) "*COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS*"

**1. When upon life's billows You are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, Thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings-- Name them one by one,
And it will surprise you What the Lord hath done.
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your blessings--See what God has done;
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your many blessings-- See what God hath done.**

**2. Are you ever burdened With a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy You are called to bear?
Count your many blessings-- Every doubt will fly,
And you will be singing As the days go by.
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your blessings--See what God has done;
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your many blessings-- See what God hath done.**

**3. When you look at others With their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised You His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings--Money cannot buy**

**Your reward in heaven Nor your home on high.
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your blessings--See what God has done;
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your many blessings-- See what God hath done.
4. So amid the conflict, Whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged--God is over all;
Count your many blessings--Angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you To your journey's end.
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your blessings--See what God has done;
Count your blessings--Name them one by one;
Count your many blessings-- See what God hath done.**

BENEDICTION:

REV. DAVID WENKER

POSTLUDE:

JAYNE McDONOUGH

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

Notes for Today's Music: CCLI License #20561018. CCLI Streaming License #20561001 Worship Lyric Videos, all rights reserved, Web license. Worship House Media, Web License. OneLicense Limited Podcast / Streaming License #M-401274.

1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #5495557
2. *Now Thank We All Our God*: Martin Rinkart, Johann Cruger, trans. by Catherine Winkworth; CCLI Song #86638
3. *Gloria* Public Domaine
4. *Give Thanks, O Christian People*: Mary Jackson Cathey, Memmingen ms. 17 C., harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward; CCLI Song #20285
5. *Doxology* - CCLI Song #4255578
6. *Count Your Blessings*: Johnson Oatman, Jr, Edwin O. Excell; CCLI Song #40416