The liturgical color is green, signifying life and growth
in the Christian Church, it is the twenty-frist Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Festive Trumpet Tune" David German
Amy Bender, organist

WELCOME Ben Chiappone, Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: For your goodness and generosity in giving us all we need,
C: help us to praise you, O God.
L: In every circumstance of life, in good times and bad,
C: help us to trust you, O God.
L: In love and faithfulness, with all that we have and all that we are,
C: help us to serve you, O God.

***OPENING HYMN** "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" UMH #64

OPENING PRAYER

Holy Lord God, Creator of our World. We give thanks for your constant provision. You bless us with the expectation that we will respond because of our blessings. As we seek to defy financial gravity, we don't take your power for granted. As we worship today, remind us that your love burns bright. Bright enough to light the darkest situation and leave the world glowing. Accept our praise. Amen.

Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

ANTHEM 9:00 "Appassionata" Michael W. Joy
Canticle Bells

11:00 "Sing to the Lord a New Song!" Lloyd Larson
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:44-46 NRSV. p 691

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Rich Elwell

KIN-DOM SIGNS Kaitlyn Gurbach

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may place your offering in the Offering Box at the entrance of
the Sanctuary or give online using the link on the back of the bulletin

OFFERTORY 9:00 "Peace in the Storm" Patricia Cota

11:00 "The Meditations of My Heart" Elaine Hagenberg

**Congregation invited to stand if able*

***DOXOLOGY #94**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

May Your love overcome all of our shortcomings. May our giving spread your love to those in need, and those in your service. This we pray. Amen.

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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 OF CENTERING "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" UMH #405

SCRIPTURE Matthew 6:19-25 NRSV, p. 711

MESSAGE "Defying Gravity: Tethered to God" Rev. Dr. Allen Bevere

***HYMN OF MISSION** "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms" UMH #133

***FAITH IN ACTION**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SUNG RESPONSE** "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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POSTLUDE Toccata on "Amazing Grace" J. Christoher Pardini

Altar Flowers are presented by Jan Sudekum
In Loving Memory of son, David

Pulpit Flowers are presented by Anonymous
In Honor of Rev. Allan & Carol Bevere

For flowers please call Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485

This morning, it is an honor to welcome our guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Allan Bevere who was the associate pastor here at Mentor 1989-1998. Dr. Bevere is a Professional Fellow in Theology at Ashland Theological Seminary in Ashland, Ohio. He recently retired from full-time pastoral ministry in the United Methodist Church where he served for thirty-eight years. He is the owner of the social media portal, Faith Seeking Understanding (allanrbevere.org) with links to his YouTube Channel, podcast, blog, and daily reflections. He is the author of six books. His most recent is entitled, Holiness of Heart and Life: Loving God and Neighbor.

Dr. Bevere is married to Carol. They have four adult children and four granddaughters.

His hobbies include reading, gardening, cooking, playing guitar, and hiking. I encourage you to read Dr. Bevere's full bio in today's *Weekly Update*.

MENTOR
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440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

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and more

WIFI password: GodLovesYou

Defying Gravity

October 22, 2023

Traditional Worship

MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HIGHLIGHTS

Members who are in need of prayer:
Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Dick Anderson, Patricia Bonner
Luke Sanvido, Star Bruno, David Fell, Norma Ickes, Bob Williams,
Ruthie Hobart, Mike Cosmo

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:
The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,
Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler
Salida Woods - Doris Sturm
University Manor - Virginia Gilman
Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons
Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua
Tapestry - Gloria McFeely
Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom
Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Upcoming *This Week*

Monday, October 23
- GEM Meeting - 7 PM

Tuesday, October 24
- Ring Journey Group - 9:30 AM
- SALT Journey Group - 7 PM

Wednesday, October 25
- Child/Caregiver Class - 9:15 AM
- Knitting Group - 1 PM

Thursday, October 26
- OA Meeting - 10 AM
- MOMCo Book Study - 11 AM

Friday, October 27
- MOMCo - 9:30 AM

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Meet and Greets

Pastor Ivy and Pastor Steve will continue to attend meet and greets with groups of 8 to 15 people hosted at someone's home or at the church through November 16. Call Stephanie in the church office if you would like to host a gathering. The one-on-one Meet-and-Greets that Pastor Ivy and Pastor Steve have provided weekly in the community since August will now shift to scheduled one-on-one meetings.

Gingerbread 2024

Join us for this year's Gingerbread House Arts & Crafts Show on Friday, November 10 from 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM and Saturday, November 11 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. This is a United Women in Faith event.

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo

Please join us for another 4B luncheon & program. Nov's menu includes loaded baked potato soup with hearty bread, salad, and pumpkin brownies. Our own Kate Colbow, EOC secretary to UMC Global Ministries, will share about UM missionaries. We hope to see you Mon, Nov 13 at 12 in the Gallery. RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org or signup in Info Hub.

Sign up for Pictures

Visit the Information Hub to sign up for a time slot for your photograph to be taken for the church directory (or for you and your family!).

Poinsettia Orders

Place your orders for poinsettias online or in the Information Hub. Orders must be in by the first weekend in December. Plants cost $7 each.

Thank You!

Pastor Ivy, Pastor Tammy and I thank you for all the wonderful expressions of love and appreciation for Pastor Appreciation month. The cookies, cards, hugs and more have all been received with joy and gratitude!

Pastor Steve

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