SUNDAY, January 26, 2025

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

Jackie Han, Music Minister



PRELUDE "Christ, From When All Blessings Flow"

Jackie Han

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Pastor Park

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Children of God, we gather to worship, to sing and proclaim with joy the good works God is doing in our midst.

P: We gather to worship God who is good and loving in all His ways.

L: We also gather today to pray for our families, our community, and our world. To name the challenges that press in around us, to lament the suffering in our world, to declare our trust in God in the midst of hardship.

P: We gather to worship God who is our only hope and salvation.

L: We gather to hear and receive the Word of God proclaimed among us, the life-giving message of God's love that redeems us to be bearers of love and hope in this world.

P: We are ready to worship God and receive into our hearts His words of love and truth.

- * OPENING HYMN "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" UMH # 64
 - Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
 - 2. Holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
 - 3. Holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.
 - 4. Holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have wandered from your light. We follow paths of self-indulgence, instead of focusing on our need of you. We passively accept the suffering of the world, expecting others to stand up and work for the change we would like to see. Lord, in your strength, renew us and compel us by your invitation that we may work to pursue your justice and mercy for all people, sharing your light in ways great and small. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

"Thou Art Worthy"

TFWS # 2041

Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory,
Glory and honor,
Glory and honor and power
For Thou hast created,
hast all things created,
Thou hast created all things;
And for Thy pleasure
they are created Thou art worthy, O Lord.

SCRIPTURE

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

- 1 all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.
- 2 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.
- **3** He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.
- 5 Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up.
 6 Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

8 They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

10 Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM "This is the Day" the CUMC Choir

MESSAGE "Choose Joy" Pastor Park

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY # 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Park

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.

* CLOSING HYMN

"He Has Made Me Glad"

TFWS # 2270

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart
I will enter His courts with praise
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made
I will rejoice for He has made me glad

He has made me glad, He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad He has made me glad, He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad

* BENEDICTION Pastor Park

POSTLUDE "For the Beauty of the Earth" Jackie Han

Please remain seated for the postlude

*Stand as able

Announcements:

- Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.
- Special thanks to Pastor Karen for hosting the time of Fellowship today.
 Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.
- On Sunday, February 9th we will have our annual Souper Bowl Sunday Soup Sale immediately following worship. Take home some delicious soup, chili or stew to enjoy while you watch the big game.
- Soup makers are needed! Bring your soup, chili or stew on Sunday, February 9th for sale after worship. There will be pint and quart sized containers in the Guyn Room if you need them.
- We invite you to join us in the weekly Bible reading program that is starting from this Sunday. It's very simple. Read a chapter each day beginning today, answer the questions and bring back the answered questions. You can pick up the question sheet every Sunday from the back of the church or receive it in the email every Sunday afternoon. We will start from the Book of Genesis. Reading the Bible each day will help us to grow in our faith as we grow in our understanding of God's Word. This will be like taking our "spiritual vitamins" every day. Join us in this spiritual journey.



If you wish to give electronically scan this QR code using the camera function on your smart phone. You will be taken directly to the donations page on our website.

Composition of the contraction o

"Coming Up This Week"

January 29th – Happy Birthday Mitch Waddington!