

SUNDAY, February 9, 2025

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

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

5th Sunday of Epiphany

Jackie Han, Music Minister



PRELUDE

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Jackie Han

WELCOME

Tracy Voca

OPENING PRAYER

L: Everlasting God, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude, thanking You for Your boundless love that never fails. Your love is beyond measure, always steadfast and true, and we are deeply grateful for the way it sustains us every day.

P: Everlasting God, we thank You for the hope we find in Christ – through whom we have the promise of eternal life and the assurance that we are never alone no matter what we face. Your love, shown through Jesus, gives us hope that transcends any hardship or struggle.

L: Everlasting God, in moments of doubt, Your love remains our anchor, reminding us that we are cherished and valued beyond our understanding. Through the Holy Spirit, we find strength, courage, and the encouragement to stand firm in our faith.

P: Thank You, God, for Your enduring love that transforms and renews us. May we continue to walk in the light of Your love, sharing it with those around us, and reflecting the hope we possess through Christ. Amen

*** OPENING HYMN**

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

UMH # 133

**1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

Refrain:

**Leaning, leaning,
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

(Refrain)

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
 leaning on the everlasting arms?
 I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
 leaning on the everlasting arms.
 (Refrain)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God, at times we feel so frail and fragile, getting blown about by the latest crisis, by bad news, by our own short tempers and failings. You call us to hold fast to what is good, but so often we flounder, unable to find that solid thing that will center us again. Help us, we pray. Help us to see you as our center, and to cling to the good that you create in the world. Help us to set aside all our jealousies and prejudices, all of our betrayals and lies, all that adds to the world's hurt. Help us to grow even more into Christ's likeness, that we will bear his love and truth to the world. We pray in his name. Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Tracy Voca

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

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Pastor Karen, reader

Be on your guard, stand firm in your faith, be courageous and strong, and do everything in love.

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

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

"Higher Ground"

Jackie Han, piano

MESSAGE**“Stand Firm”****Rev. William Williams****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****Rev. William Williams****PRAYER****Pastor Karen***** CLOSING HYMN****“Go Forth for God”****UMH # 670**

1. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
 be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
 in God's good Spirit, daily to increase,
 till in the kingdom we see face to face.
2. Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
 strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
 help the afflicted; richly from above
 God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
3. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
 hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
 render to no one evil; Christ at length
 shall overcome all darkness with his light.
4. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
 to serve God's people every day and hour,
 and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
 rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.

*** BENEDICTION****Rev. William Williams****POSTLUDE****“Jesus Calls Us“****Jackie Han**

Please remain seated for the postlude

***Stand as able**

Announcements:

- **We extend a warm welcome to the Meadowlands District Superintendent Reverend William Williams who will be leading us in worship and sharing God's word with us today.**
- **Altar Flowers are given by Dave and Rita Whetton to the Glory of God and in celebration of Patty Sampson's 90th birthday.**
- **Special thanks to Christine and Jon Waddington for hosting the time of Fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.**
- **If you have not already filled out your membership form please complete it and return it to the church office at your earliest convenience. Completed forms may be returned to the office, mailed or emailed to the office at caldwellumcnj@gmail.com.**
- **Due to inclement weather in the forecast, our Souper Bowl Soup Sale has been rescheduled from today until next week Sunday, February 16th immediately following worship. Take home some delicious soup, chili or stew to enjoy after worship.**
- **Soup makers are needed! Bring your soup, chili or stew on Sunday, February 16th 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. The question sheet can be picked up every Sunday from the back of the church or receive it in the email every Sunday afternoon. Reading the Bible each day will help us to grow in our faith. Please be sure to pick up your answered forms from the back of the church.**



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.



“Coming Up This Week”

February 12th – Happy Birthday Owen Scott Winkler

February 14th – Happy Birthday Denise Stelter

February 15th – Happy 90th Birthday Patty Sampson

Sunday, February 16th -- Souper Bowl Soup Sale after worship