

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025**

**Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006**  
**Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor**

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Worship Music: Rosalyn McClore**



**PRELUDE**

**“Rock of Ages”**

**UMH # 361**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**Pastor Park**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L: Children of God, for the sake of the joy, we gather...**

**P: We gather to worship, to encounter grace, to grow in faith.**

**L: For the sake of the joy, we proclaim...**

**P: We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, the love of God that surrounds us and forms us into a community marked by love for God, self, neighbor, and all creation.**

**L: For the sake of the joy, we respond...**

**P: We respond with our lives, ready to embody our faith as agents of God’s already-and-not-yet kingdom.**

**L: Come, let us worship the Triune God who dwells with us as we gather, proclaim, respond, and go forth from this place.**

**P: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\* OPENING HYMN**

**“To God Be the Glory”**

**UMH # 98**

**1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
 So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
 who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
 and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

**Refrain:**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
 let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
 let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
 and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
 to every believer the promise of God;  
 the vilest offender who truly believes,  
 that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)**

**3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
 and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;  
 but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
 our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of healing mercies, we come to you this day as imperfect people. We know that you desire for us hope, happiness, and love, yet we have found so many ways in which to block your gifts. We have been given the pathway to peace in the witness of Jesus Christ. He taught us to live as people of compassion and service. But our service has been mostly for ourselves, for our own gratification. We have failed to be your church, your witnesses on earth. We have neglected the needs of others in our rush for our own comfort. Forgive us, O merciful God. Turn us again to you, that we may again learn of your love and mercy. Help us to become partners in peace and hope for others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

P: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

### CHURCH ROOFING PROJECT & CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION

Ken Ingra & Tony Gazzillo

### GATHERING SONG

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

UMH # 328

Surely the presence  
Of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel His mighty power  
And His 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

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:49-56

Pastor Karen, reader

49 "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

**50 But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed!**

51 Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division.

**52 From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three.**

53 They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

**54 He said to the crowd: "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'It's going to rain,' and it does.**

55 And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot,' and it is.

**56 Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?**

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

**All: Thanks be to God**

<b>ANTHEM</b>	<b>“Come Jesus Come”</b>	<b>Rosalyn McClore</b>
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**MESSAGE**                      **"Choosing Christ"**                      **Pastor Park**

<b>PRAISE</b>	<b>“Tomorrow”</b>	<b>Rosalyn McClore</b>
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## 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**

**PRAYER** **Pastor Karen**

## 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                      “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”                      TFWS # 2129**

**1. I have decided to follow Jesus.  
I have decided to follow Jesus.  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**2. The world behind me, the cross before me,  
The world behind me, the cross before me,  
The world behind me, the cross before me,  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**3. Though none go with me, still I will follow.  
Though none go with me, still I will follow.  
Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**\* BENEDICTION** **Pastor Park**

## POSTLUDE

**\*Stand as able**

### **Announcements:**

- **Altar Flowers** are given by Mary and Walter Hartmann to the Glory of God and in memory of their mother Carol Hartmann.
- **Special thanks** to those hosting the time of fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.
- **Fellowship Hour** hosts are very much needed throughout the month of September. There is a signup sheet in the Guyn Room. Your ministry of welcome and hospitality is truly appreciated.
- Please note that the **Worship Committee** will meet today after the Fellowship time.
- **Meet & Greet** – Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm. Come and meet our new Worship Music Leader Rosalyn McClore. Find out how wonderful she is and hear about our future plans for music ministry at CUMC.
- There will be a **Tea & Coffee Social** on August 22 from 9:30 am until 12:00 pm. Come and enjoy a complimentary cup of tea or coffee with friends and neighbors. Home-baked goods and other items will be available for purchase with all proceeds benefiting the church.
- We are looking for volunteers to serve as liturgists and/or scripture readers for the month of August. Please contact the church office or Pastor Park if you are able to volunteer.
- To those who write checks for their offering-our bank has requested that you write out the full name of the church i.e.: “Caldwell United Methodist Church” instead of using an abbreviation such as “CUMC”.



**Coming Up This Week**

***August 19 @ 7:30 pm - Church Council meeting***

***August 22 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm – Tea & Coffee Social***  
***August 24 @ 12:00 pm – Meet & Greet Rosalyn McClore***