



Faith - Family - Fellowship

**Order of Worship**  
**Contemporary Worship Service**  
**November 23, 2025**  
**11:05 a.m.**

Welcome & Announcements		Doug Hammond
Prayer of Transformation		Charles Cathey
Call to Worship	10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)	Congregation & Praise Team
Song of Faith	What a Beautiful Name	Congregation & Praise Team
Words of Wisdom	Isaiah 7:10-14	Danielle Ellis
Song of Hope	No Longer Slaves	Praise Team
Doxology / Blessing of the Offering		Praise Team
Word of God	Matthew 13:25-30; 36-43	Rick Stoltz
Video		
Spiritual Vitamin	The Connection Between Thanksgiving and Advent: "Two Meals, One Menu"	Doug Hammond
Prayers of the Church		Charles Cathey
Song of Love	Come Thou Fount of Ev'ry Blessing (Verses 1 & 2)	Praise Team
Going Forth		Praise Team

## Prayer of Transformation

Lay Leader: When our hearts tremble like trees in the wind, You speak peace:  
*"Be careful, keep calm, and don't be afraid."*

**People: We trust in Your promise, O God. Transform our fear into faith.**

Lay Leader: You declare that a virgin will conceive and bear a son, and His name will be called Emmanuel—God with us.

**People: We welcome Your presence. Let Your love take root in us and grow.**

Lay Leader: You told of a farmer who sowed good seed, and though weeds grew among the wheat, the harvest was sure.

**People: We are Your field, Lord. Plant Your truth in us and prune what does not belong.**

Lay Leader: You spoke of mustard seeds—small and unnoticed—yet they become trees of refuge.

**People: Grow Your kingdom in us, even from the smallest beginnings.**

Lay Leader: You taught of yeast hidden in flour, working quietly until all is changed.

**People: Let Your Spirit work within us, transforming our hearts and renewing our minds.**

**All Together: God of promise and growth, we receive Your Word with joy. Make us good soil. Let Your presence transform our fears, Your truth shape our lives, and Your love bear fruit in us. Amen.**

## Words of Wisdom - Isaiah 7:10-14

In a moment of national fear and personal doubt, King Ahaz is invited to ask God for a sign. He refuses—not out of humility, but out of hardened disbelief. Yet God responds anyway, offering a sign not just for Ahaz, but for all people: **Emmanuel**, “**God with us.**”

This prophecy, spoken centuries before Christ’s birth, reminds us that God’s promises are not dependent on our faithfulness—they are rooted in His. Even when we hesitate, resist, or fear, God moves toward us with grace.

The sign of Emmanuel is more than a miraculous birth. It is the declaration that God is not distant. He enters our world, our mess, our fears. He is with us in the waiting, the wondering, and the wandering.

In Advent and beyond, this passage calls us to trust in the God who shows up—not just in signs and wonders, but in the quiet presence of a child born to save.

Allow these words from the prophet, Isaiah, to open your mind to God’s eternal promise of salvation through a personal relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ.

Later, the Lord sent this message to King Ahaz: “Ask the Lord your God for a sign of confirmation, Ahaz. Make it as difficult as you want—as high as heaven or as deep as the place of the dead. But the king refused. “No,” he said, “I will not test the Lord like that.”

Then Isaiah said, “Listen well, you royal family of David! Isn’t it enough to exhaust human patience? Must you exhaust the patience of my God as well? All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means ‘God is with us’)

May God bless our discernment to His Holy Word.

**People: Praise be to God.**

## **Word of God - Matthew 13:25-30; 36-43**

Today's Word of God comes to us from Book of Matthew, chapter 13.

Now hear the word of the Lord from the New Living Translation.

Here is another story Jesus told: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. But that night as the workers slept, his enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat, then slipped away. When the crop began to grow and produce grain, the weeds also grew. "The farmer's workers went to him and said, 'Sir, the field where you planted that good seed is full of weeds! Where did they come from?' "'An enemy has done this!' the farmer exclaimed.

"Should we pull out the weeds?' they asked. "'No,' he replied, 'you'll uproot the wheat if you do. Let both grow together until the harvest. Then I will tell the harvesters to sort out the weeds, tie them into bundles, and burn them, and to put the wheat in the barn.'"

Then, leaving the crowds outside, Jesus went into the house. His disciples said, "Please explain to us the story of the weeds in the field." Jesus replied, "The Son of Man is the farmer who plants the good seed. The field is the world, and the good seed represents the people of the Kingdom. The weeds are the people who belong to the evil one. The enemy who planted the weeds among the wheat is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the harvesters are the angels. "Just as the weeds are sorted out and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the world. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will remove from his Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. And the angels will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's Kingdom. Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand!

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**