



**November 12, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
24th Sunday After Pentecost**

**First United Methodist Church
Of Newton**

Order of Worship

(*Please rise in body or in spirit.)

PRELUDE Christie Spriggs

GREETING Rev. Todd Lattig

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) Kathleen Meredith

God is from everlasting to everlasting.

The Holy One inhabits all eternity and everything that is, or was, or ever will be.

God is the source, guide, and goal of our lives.

We acknowledge God as the center of our lives and of our world, not ourselves.

We come today to worship God.

We come with thanks and praise.

Let us humble ourselves before God's holy presence.

May God teach us the ways of life as we pray. Amen.

*HYMN "Awake, O Sleeper" UMH 551

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) Kathleen Meredith

In the stillness of this moment, awaken us to the astonishing truth that your love is like the celebratory love of a couple on their wedding day. Help us choose again to live in your love and to yield every aspect of our lives to your divine rule. Amen.

ANTHEM "Fall Afresh" (Jobe) Kathleen Meredith

COMMUNITY PRAYER Rev. Lattig

KIDS ROCK CHILDREN'S SERMON Rev. Lattig

SCRIPTURE READING Kathleen Meredith

Matthew 25:1-13

25 "Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, ⁴ but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. ⁵ When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶“At midnight they were roused by the shout, ‘Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!’

⁷“All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. ⁸ Then the five foolish ones asked the others, ‘Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’

⁹“But the others replied, ‘We don’t have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.’

¹⁰“But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. ¹¹ Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, ‘Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!’

¹²“But he called back, ‘Believe me, I don’t know you!’

¹³“So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.”

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

Thanks be to God for this Word.

SERMON **JESUS WARNS: “Awake Over Asleep”** Rev. Lattig

OFFERTORY Melinda McCoy-Miller, flute
“Ondeggiando, ma non adagio” (Telemann)

Please proceed up the center aisle to place your offering in the plate or scan one of the QR codes on the back of this bulletin to make your offering electronically using PayPal or Tithe.ly.

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Kathleen Meredith

Holy God, we sometimes treat money as our god. May we listen anew to Joshua’s plea that the Hebrew people put away foreign gods. In our giving, free us from our love and worship of money. In today’s offering, we choose to love again and to worship you alone in every aspect of our lives. Receive our gifts with gratitude and praise for your unending love. Amen.

*HYMN

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

UMH 328

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lattig

POSTLUDE

Christie Spriggs

This Week's Schedule

Monday, Nov 13	10-11 Chair Yoga (HH) 11:30-12:30 LWJ Yoga (HH)
Tuesday, Nov 14	10-1 Life With Joy (HH) 6 Cub Scouts (HH) 7 NSS Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, Nov 15	10-3 Life With Joy (HH) 6 Potluck Supper (HH)
Thursday, Nov 16	10-1 Life With Joy (HH) 2 ABC Book Club (Zoom) 6 Administrative Council (Zoom) 7:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Friday, Nov 17	12 Piano tuning (Sanctuary) 6:30 NSS Dress Rehearsal (Sanct.)
Saturday, Nov 18	8-12 SCYO (HH) 9-2 Treasures of Hope 3 New Sussex Symphony Concert
Sunday, Nov 19	9 Joy Fellowship (HH) Sunday School (1B) 10:30 Sanctuary Service

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Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor
Music Coordinator/Joy Fellowship
Flute Soloist
Liturgist
Greeter
Camera Operator
Soundboard Operator

Rev. Todd Lattig
Christie Spriggs
Melinda McCoy-Miller
Kathleen Meredith
Fred Fox
Jen Phlegar
Jay Morrison

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