

Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost, September 20 2026

Childcare is available in the nursery for children under the age of 5.

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude Helena Veranian

Welcome Rev. Jennifer Mihok

Introit Sing to the Lord Chancel Choir

† **Call to Worship** Joyce Cummings

God, you send us prophets, so we know how to live into your kin-dom on earth.

Let us listen to the truth-tellers.

God, you desire to gather us together, but we are not always willing, and you lament.

Let us embrace each other.

God, we need to practice your ways of equity, inclusion, and mutuality instead of inequality and oppression.

Let us listen to one another's struggles with new ears.

† **Hymn**.....“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” UMH 581, v 1-3

1. Lord whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

3. As we worship grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Time for All God's Children Rev. Jennifer Mihok

† **Passing the Peace** (with our nearest neighbors)

† **Sung Response**.....“I Come With Joy” UMH 617, v. 1 & 3

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

† **Gospel Reading** Matthew 23:1-12 Joyce Cummings

Sermon Overcoming Obstacles to Beloved Community Rev. Jennifer Mihok

Anthem..... God is in This Place Chancel Choir

Sharing our Prayers Rev. Jennifer Mihok

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer..... Rev. Jennifer Mihok

Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Maker), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom (kin-dom) 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 (kin-dom), and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Gratitude Moment

† **Doxology** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” *UMH 94*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

† Prayer of Dedication

God of promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a world that often troubles us. Receive our gifts offered in faith. Through them, may we become a people who live what we say with honesty, humility, and compassion for our neighbors and the world. Amen.

Announcements

† **Hymn**..... “O Jesus, I Have Promised” *UMH 396*

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

† **Benediction & Blessing** Rev. Jennifer Mihok

Postlude Helena Veranian

*Please remain seated during the postlude, then join us in Gifford Hall
for fellowship during coffee hour*

This worship series uses materials created by United Methodists of
Eastern Pennsylvania and Greater New Jersey (Breakthrough Worship Series).

Coffee Hour

Each week Coffee Hour is served by a team organized alphabetically by last name. Everyone is encouraged to join our Coffee Hour teams. Next week, 9/27, families/individuals with last names beginning **LE-RI** will be responsible for Coffee Hour.

Options for Giving

Friends and members are asked to prayerfully consider giving in support of Crawford's ministries and operations. We invite you to bring your offerings with you to church. Or you can mail a check to 34 Dix St., Winchester, MA 01890. Mail is checked daily. We welcome online giving through our website at crawfordmethodist.org/give.

Our Staff

Minister.....	Rev. Jennifer Mihok
Music Director	James Gutierrez
Organist/Pianist.....	Helena Veranian
Sexton/Custodian.....	Jose Deleon
Nursery Manager	Cindy Slack
Treasurer	Doug Marmon
IT Director.....	Robert McAlpine
Church Administrator.....	Stacey Hilliard

The church office is open Monday through Thursday, from 9 to 3, and at other times by appointment. Voice mail (781-729-5056) & email (office@crawfordumc.org) are checked daily. Rev. Jen Mihok can be reached at pastor@crawfordumc.org.

Coming Up at Crawford

September 27.....	Sunday School Showcase (during Coffee Hour)
October 4.....	Blessing of the Animals
October 8.....	Autumn Potluck (5pm)
October 25.....	The Spirituals Concert (2pm)
November 1.....	Church Conference at Wilmington UMC (1pm)
November 14	Holiday Faire (8:30-2)

See upcoming issues of the Messenger for more information about these and other happenings at Crawford! Not receiving the Messenger? Contact the church office or subscribe here: crawfordmethodist.org/subscribe

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