

The UMC of New City Hybrid Worship

September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost; "Beloved Community" - Week 3

Welcome

Pastor Amanda

Prelude

Dr. Diana Hughes

Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, our God, you invite us to practice both justice and mercy.

People: Move us toward what can be.

Leader: "Justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." (MLK)

People: Move us toward what needs to be.

Leader: Lord, our God, you teach us that we embrace you as we embrace "the least of these."

People: Move us toward the fulfillment of your will and your way.

**Hymn #400 (UMH)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. **Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.**
2. **Here I raise mine Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**
3. **Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.**

Unison Prayer

Jesus, when do we see you in our day-to-day routines? Are you ahead of us in the checkout line at the grocery store, choosing which item you'll have to put back in order to make ends meet? Are you the one waiting our table, barely making a minimum wage? Are you the one panhandling whom we have learned not to see? Are you the one we keep saying we'll visit tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow? We praise you for calling our attention to the least, the lost, and the lonely. We praise you for being God-with-Them and God-with-Us. Help us to see you in each one we meet, until the walls of privilege and status are torn down forever and we serve each other in Beloved Community. Amen.

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:31-40

Gray Persaud

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my

Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’”

Leader: Gifts of the Spirit. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Message *"Beloved Community" - Week 2: Moving in Its Direction*

Rev. Dr. Amanda Hemenetz

Hymn 2175 (TFWS)

Together We Serve

- 1. Together we serve, united by love, inviting God's world to the glorious feast. We work and we pray through sorrow and joy, extending your love to the last and the least.**
- 2. We seek to become a beacon of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet. We learn, year by year, to let love shine through until we see Christ in each person we meet.**
- 3. We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor, the busy, the lonely, and all who need care. We offer a home to those who will come, our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.**
- 4. Together, by grace, we witness and work, remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong. Together we serve in Spirit and truth, remembering love is the strength of our song.**

Prayer Requests and Praises

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Announcements

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Dr. Diana Hughes

****Doxology #95 (UMH)**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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**

Almighty God, who builds the beloved community with us and within us, bless these gifts and use them to your glory. You tell us that when we care for those on the margins, we are caring for you. As you bless us, help us to be a blessing to others. May these gifts bring welcome and hope to our neighbors. May what we give today become love in action. Amen.

English: Sent out in Jesus' name, / our hands are ready now / to make the earth the place / in which the kingdom comes. (Repeat)

The angels cannot change / a world of hurt and pain / into a world of love, / of justice and of peace. / The task is ours to do, / to set it really free. / O help us to obey / and carry out your will.

Spanish: Enviado soy de Dios, / mi mano lista está / para construir con El / un mundo fraternal. (Repeat)

Los ángeles no son / enviados a cambiar / un mundo de dolor / por un mundo de paz. /

Me ha tocado a mí / hacerlo realidad; / ayúdame, Señor, / a hacer tu voluntad.

****Blessing**

****Choral Benediction**

Praise God (to the tune of "Amazing Grace")

Postlude

Dr. Diana Hughes

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. You are always welcome here! To be added to our email list, ask questions, request pastoral care, or explore the possibility of membership, contact the church office at umcofnewcity@gmail.org or call (845) 634-1758.

Our youngest worshippers (Pre-K through 6th grade) are invited to our "Children's Church Table" after the Children's Message.

Our thrift shop, Angel's Attic, is open Saturdays 9am-2pm and Thursdays 10am-12pm.

We are a Reconciling Church; we fully love and accept ALL, including LGBTQ+ individuals and families.

Our Mission Statement is "Serving God through Serving the Community."

****Indicates to please stand, if you are comfortable doing so. 'UMH' = The United Methodist Hymnal (red); 'TFWS' = The Faith We Sing (black). Both are available from the ushers.**

Our worship elements today were adapted from the GNJ and EPA Commissions on Religion and Race.

QR Code for



online giving

May you go in Christ's peace, assured of God's love.