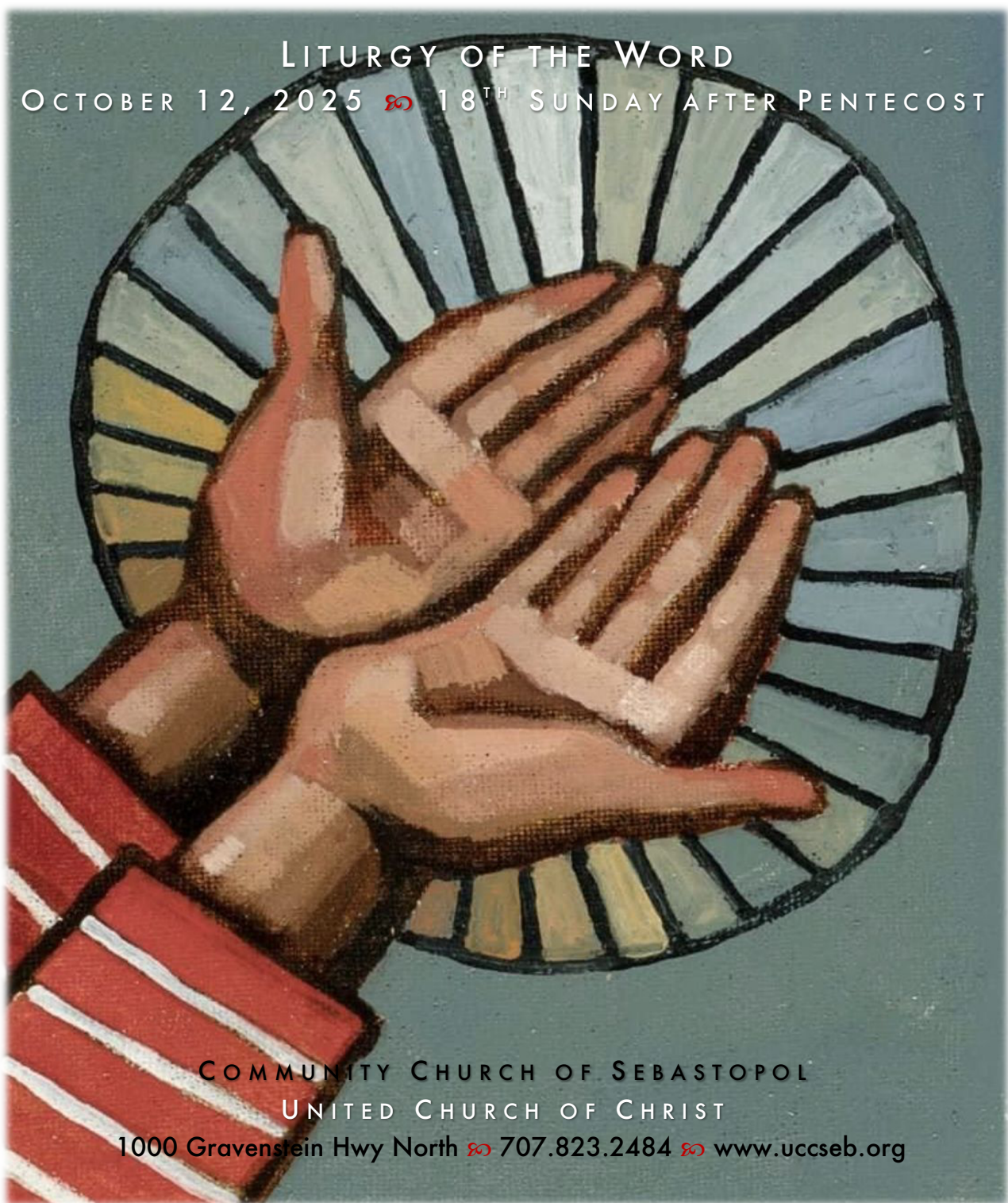


LITURGY OF THE WORD
OCTOBER 12, 2025 ☞ 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1000 Gravenstein Hwy North ☞ 707.823.2484 ☞ www.uccseb.org

PIANO PRELUDE *God of the Ages* – Roberts & Warren

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *You Shall Live* Hosea 14:7 & Micah 6:8

CALL TO WORSHIP Jeremiah 29 & Dorothy Day

One: To the exiles in Babylon, God spoke through the prophet Jeremiah:

Many: Build houses and live in them. Plant gardens and eat their produce.

One: While in exile, seek the wellbeing of the place where you find yourself.

Many: Form families, build communities, care for your neighbors.

One: When you pray, pray for your captors. As Dorothy said,

Many: I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least.

* OPENING HYMN *Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven* #23, vv. 1 – 3

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION Psalm 66:1

One: God of mercy and grace, we are meant to praise you and give thanks to you always. Yet we confess we do not live out of constant gratitude.

Many: We harbor resentment for what we lack. We blame you. We blame others. Forgive us, we pray, for attitudes and behaviors that diminish our joyful thanksgiving... (silent prayer)

* ASSURANCE OF GRACE

* PASSING THE PEACE The Peace of Christ be with you: **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Psalm 84:1

CHILDREN'S PRAYER ending with *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin'dom come...

* HYMN *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* #245

GOSPEL READING *Luke 17: 11 – 19* Pew Bible, NT, p. 80

SERMON *Thanksgiving Is Believing* Pastor Benjamin

PIANO INTERLUDE *Bridegroom* – Peter Cutts

GENEROSITY STORY Emily Bell

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Brooke Bell

HANDBELL OFFERTORY *Joyful Rhythm* – Kevin McChesney

* DOXOLOGY Tune: *Old Hundredth*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Luke 2:20 & 17:15

One: Like the shepherds in Bethlehem's field, and like the foreigner in today's story, we return to praise and glorify your name, O God.

Many: You have given us more than we could have imagined. Make of us, and these gifts, good news to the poor, hope to the hopeless, and sanctuary to all who are threatened. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CLOSING HYMN *Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven* #23, vv. 4 – 5

* BENEDICTION

PIANO POSTLUDE *Leoni* Hebrew melody

Following worship, all are invited to Kinship Time in the Bell Tower Courtyard and, when the bell rings, to Faith Formation Hour.



WORSHIP LEADERS

Ushers	Steve Reid (Lead), Elena Dillon & Terri Harper
Piano	J. Althea
Liturgist	Brooke Bell
Preacher	Rev. Benjamin Broadbent
Worship Music	Handbell Ensemble
Handbell Director	Karna Roa
Generosity Story	Emily Bell
Tech Team	Henry Allen & Eliana Curtis
Chancel Flowers	Kelly Allen

STAFF TEAM

Lead Minister	Rev. Dr. Benjamin Broadbent
Associate Minister	Open
Congregational Administrator	Joy Richards
Faith Formation Coordinator	Tirza Dawn
Choral Director	Andy DelMonte
Keyboardist	J. Althea
Handbell Director	Karna Roa
Bookkeeper	Deanna Euritt
Custodian	Paul Loudon



Our mission is to worship God and share the love of Jesus Christ, teaching the message of Jesus to all ages and putting our faith into action.



An Open & Affirming congregation in the United Church of Christ, we welcome and affirm people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family composition, physical and mental ability, ethnicity, age, and gender identity and expression.



A Sanctuary congregation in the Sonoma County Sanctuary Coalition.