

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST

October 13, 2024

Mark 10:17-31

### What Must I Do?

There's a contemporary hymn — a fun one to sing with children — that goes, *"I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back."*

Sadly, the young man in today's lesson from the Gospel of Mark was never taught the song, as he turns back after hearing what it takes to follow Jesus.

So eager at first, he proudly tells Jesus how he has followed the commandments since he was a boy. That's great, Jesus affirms, before saying the one word we dread to hear — but.

You can follow me, but you must sell all you have. We are told that the young man owned many possessions, too many to part with. He walks away from Jesus greatly grieved.

Jesus then turns to his disciples who have witnessed this encounter, saying to them, "It is easier for a camel to go through an eye of a needle than for someone rich to enter the Kingdom."

"Who then can be saved?" they ask.

Excellent question, for we all come to Jesus with possessions we dearly hold onto. They don't necessarily have to be riches in the way of a robust real estate portfolio or soaring stocks and bonds. "Costly" possessions can be anything that cost us from going deeper in our walk with Christ.

As early as the 9th century there was an interpretation of Jesus' "eye of a needle" illustration that went beyond an actual sewing needle. It was said that the "Eye of the Needle" was a small gate in Jerusalem in which merchants traveling at night would enter through, as the main gate would have been closed.

If the merchant's camel was carrying a heavy load, though, the animal would not have been able to get through the gate. To squeeze through the "Eye of the Needle," the merchant would have to remove all the treasures that were piled high onto the beast of burden's back.

Such a gate has never been verified by scholars, but the image of an actual camel carrying a heavy load, and a narrow gate helps us to better understand what Jesus was saying about what it takes to follow him.

We all go through life with baggage — things that we insist on holding on to that weigh us down and prevent us from the life Jesus has for us.

What is Jesus asking us to let go of so that we can follow him unencumbered and with great joy? Will we find ourselves singing this day, *"I have decided to follow Jesus. No turning back! No turning back!"*

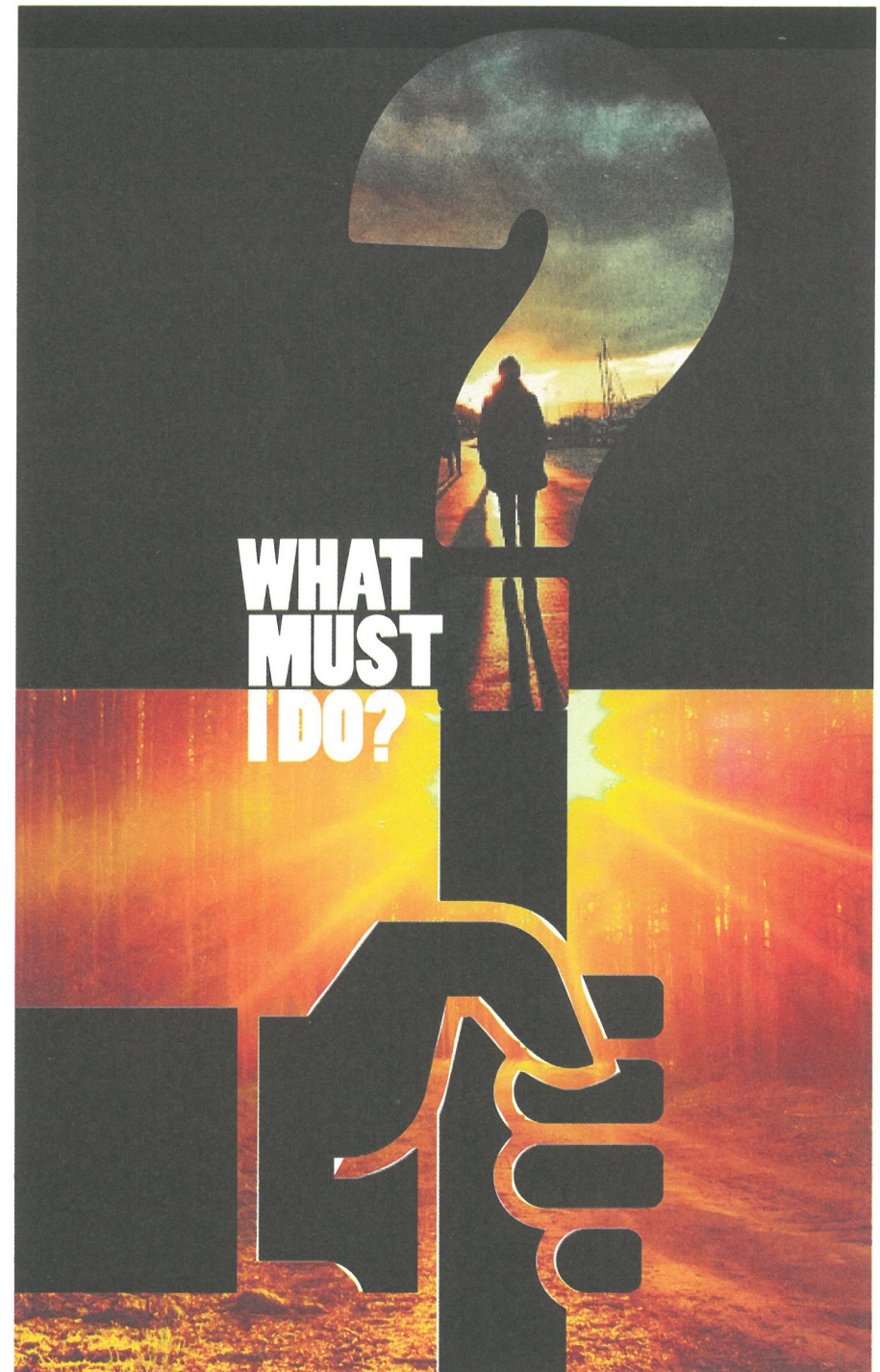
*God, whose riches are not of this world, help us take inventory of the very things that are keeping us from truly following Your Son, Jesus. Give us the strength to let go and trust the path Jesus invites us on. Amen.*



8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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**WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
A United Church of Christ  
(708) 865-1282

**Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost**

**“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s  
journey, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!!**

**October 13, 2024**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Welcome on behalf of our pastoral staff**

Rev. Joseph E. Mills, III, Pastor 708/562-0759

Lawrence Underwood, Music Director

Joyce Kelstrom, Bell Choir Director

Pastor Vinod Wesley, Chicago Tamil Church Pastor  
& Associate Pastor

**Altar Flowers: Meskan’s in Memory of Their Parents**

**Liturgist: Peggy Boswell**

**Ushers: Bob Von Laven and Otis Randle**

**Westchester Community Church, United Church of Christ**

**1840 Westchester Boulevard**

**Westchester, IL 60154**

**708/865-1282**

**www.westchesterucc.org**

**Email: westcomchurch@hotmail.com**

**(If you have a prayer request you’d like to share with us,  
go to CHAT on your Zoom page and type it in  
so we can share it with others)**

**\*\*ALSO REMEMBER TO MUTE YOUR ZOOM  
SCREEN SO WE CAN HEAR THE PASTOR  
UNLESS IT’S A TIME TO SHARE**

**FOR THOSE ON ZOOM AND  
ANYTIME YOU WANT TO MAKE A SPECIAL GIFT**

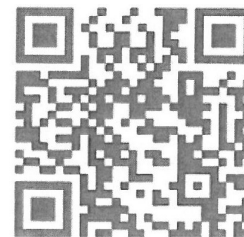
We truly encourage you to use our online giving tool,  
Which you can access through our website.

When you are at home on Zoom, or away on trips,  
Our bills here at church don’t go away.

We need your help!!

Remember to give, and if it is a special gift,

There is a way to make a note on the  
Vanco page. Make clear what the donation  
is for!!! Thank you!!



**Manna news!!!** Manna is a program where people order gift cards through the church, we order them through a company that gives us a discount on the cards and we keep the discount. So, you pay the value of the card, you GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR, and WE earn money. It’s a win, win. With each order the church pays the tax and shipping fees. Manna forms are available in the narthex and on the table outside the office. Manna orders & payment is due the last Sunday of the month, and are distributed by the 2nd Sunday of the month. Manna is great for gifts, donating for In-reach, and for places you shop. Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions, please see Charlene Dol-nics or Sue Becerra.



**HANDBELL  
CHOIR**

**Bell Choir** is every Saturday from 8:30-9:15 in the Sanctuary. We welcome all new members! Please come and join us. No music experience needed.

Thank you, Joyce Kelstrom, Director

**Save these dates - Harvest of Crafts** is Saturday, November 16th and we need volunteers to work on this day. We also need volunteers to help set up on Wednesday, November 13th. We are selling Treasures and Trinkets items for \$2 or some items we make prices. As you do your Fall closet cleaning and find you would like to donate to Treasures and Trinkets please bring your items to the south basement or call Barb Mills for pickup 708-562-0759. Questions or if you wish to volunteer call Barb Mills!!

Our **new Website** is up and running!! You can access it at <https://westchesterucc.org> We hope you find it accessible and helpful!!!

**BRING empty RX bottles** and place them in the bin marked "RX bottles". Please remove any label and make sure they are clean.

**Save the Date**—Saturday December 7th  
**Razzle Dazzle Is Coming!**

Parish Fellowship in appreciation for the women in our congregation, we put on a lovely luncheon followed by entertainment. Please make sure you mark your calendar for this popular and fun event! More info soon! Bring a friend!

**Village Theatre Guild** in Glen Ellyn presents "**Dr Cook's Garden**" on stage with evening and matinee performances from October 18th through November 9th. Dave Dolnics serves as producer of the show, with Lisa Dolnics working behind the scenes as stage manager. For tickets call 630.469.8230 or visit [villagetheatreguild.org](http://villagetheatreguild.org)

Coming next week, before and after church in the narthex, a mini **craft sale** with **Halloween and Fall decorations**. Come shop with us next week!!!

Holy Guardian Angels Parish presents **Fiddler on the Roof**, one weekend Oct 17-20 at the St. Louise de Marillac Parish Center, 1125 Harrison in LaGrange Park. Tickets are \$15 and discounted for seniors and children. Shows are Thus-Sat 7 p.m. and Sunday 2 p.m.

## WORSHIP SERVICE

*Sometimes you must do the right thing even if it hurts you.  
Actions reify (make more concrete) ideals. We must never stop striving to  
do good, to protect the weak and the powerless.  
This is the charge to all men of learning.*

— Ken Liu

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peggy Boswell  
OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*JESUS IS THE CENTER OF OUR FAITH #405  
*"The Solid Rock"*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Peggy Boswell  
Leader: Faith is not easy work, but it is a far more joyful and fulfilling venture than any other path is.

People: **Being faithful has its challenges, but it is far easier than living falsely or deceptively. Being faithful has moments of crisis, but we know that we live with and in God, and we are never alone.**

Leader: So let us strive to walk the path of faith, knowing that You, Lord, speak to us, surround us with Your Spirit, and guide us along true and right paths.

ALL: **THAT WE WILL PUT YOU FIRST,  
AND WILL FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER WE MUST  
BE SENT, FOR IT WILL BE THE RIGHT PLACE  
AND THE RIGHT TIME.  
MAY WHAT WE DO HONOR YOU ALWAYS.  
AMEN.**

\*A GLORIA PATRI #734  
*"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost. As  
it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen."*

WE PRAY TO THE LORD #409  
*"God of Our Life," vv. 1 & 3*

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor Mills  
THE LORDS PRAYER (Please Use Debts/Debtors)

THE MORNING OFFERING  
AN OFFERTORY

Peggy Boswell

(THOSE AT HOME, PLEASE SEND IN GIFTS BY CHECK  
OR USE OUR ON-LINE GIVING)

\*THE DOXOLOGY

#34

*“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.”*

\*A PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison) Peggy Boswell

**We are not giving things away. We are giving our gifts  
“FOR” God. We want to help You, Lord. We want Your  
Way to become the way on earth right now. So we give to  
make a difference. Use our church and our congregation,  
Lord, to enact what is good and loving and just in this time,  
through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

A Reading from God’s Holy Word  
*From the Gospel: Mark 10:17-31*

Peggy Boswell  
p. 35, NT, Pew Bible  
p. 56, NT, Large Print

THE MEDITATION—“An Un-Entitled Faith” Pastor Mills

\*WE LIVE IN AND FOR JESUS

#406

*“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”*

THE COMMISSION AND BLESSING Pastor Mills

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THINKING AHEAD

**Craft Workshop**—Every Monday from 9:30-11:30. We are making crafts to sell at the November 16th Craft Sale

**Sassy Stitches**—3rd Tuesday of the month from 1pm to 3pm

**Scrapbooking/Diamond Art**—Thursday, October 24th- 9 am-9 pm, Friday, October 25th 9am-11pm, and Saturday, October 26th 9am-9pm

**Card Making**—Friday, October 25th 10am to 2pm

FAITH & HOPE

# 406 My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

1 My faith has found a rest - ing place, not in de - vice nor creed;  
2 E - nough for me that Je - sus saves, this ends my fear and doubt;  
3 My heart is lean - ing on the Word, the writ - ten Word of God,  
4 My great Phy - si - cian heals the sick, the lost he came to save;

I trust the ev - er - liv - ing One, his wounds for me shall plead.  
a sin - ful soul, I come to him, he'll nev - er cast me out.  
sal - va - tion by my Sav - ior's name, sal - va - tion through his blood.  
for me his pre - cious blood he shed, for me his life he gave.

*Refrain*  
I need no oth - er ar - gu - ment, I need no oth - er plea;

it is e - nough that Je - sus died, and that he died for me.

WORDS: Lidie H. Edmunds, 19th c.  
MUSIC: Norwegian melody; arr. William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

LANDAS  
C.M.Ref.

# God of Our Life

409

1 God of our life, through all the cir- cing years, we trust in  
 2 God of the past, our times are in your hand; with us a -  
 3 God of the com - ing years, thro' paths un - known we fol - low

you; in all the past, through all our hopes and fears, your  
 bide. Lead us by faith to hope's true Prom-ised Land; be  
 you; when we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone; our

hand we view. With each new day, when morn-ing lifts the  
 now our guide. With you to bless, the dark-ness shines as  
 faith re - new. Be now for us in life our dai - ly

veil, we own your mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.  
 light, and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.  
 bread, our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

WORDS: Hugh T. Kerr (1872-1950), alt.  
 MUSIC: Charles H. Purday (1799-1885); arr. John Weaver (1937-)

SANDON  
 10.4.10.4.10.10.

## CALENDAR

TODAY

Worship 10 am

Chicago Tamil UCC Worship, 12:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Zoom Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. THIS WEEK

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/961336622>

NEXT SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. Worship

Noon - Chicago Tamil Worship

## BIRTHDAYS THRU 10/20:

10/13 Wendy Lindstrom, Bobby Margaris

10/15 Mary Straube, Julie Slanker

10/18 Janice Panek

10/19 Dewayne Rowe, Christine Stout

## ANNIVERSARIES THRU 10/20

10/15 Ron and Kathy Cecconi 35 years

**Our next Confirmation Classes are Wed. Oct 23 and Nov. 6, 4 p.m. in the 1st floor classroom at church.**

Coming next week, before and after church in the narthex, a mini **CRAFT SALE** with **Halloween and Fall decorations**. Come shop with us next week!!!

Pastor Joe is in the musical **Young Frankenstein**, performed at the Theatre of Western Springs, two weekends (Thus—Sund) October 17-20 and 24-27. Performances are Thus, Fri, and Sat evenings at 8 p.m., and Sat. and Sun. matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30, and you can reserve them online at [www.theatreofwesternsprings.com](http://www.theatreofwesternsprings.com) or call the Box Office at 708/246-3380.



My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 405



**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**PEOPLE AT THEIR HOMES:**

Wayne Scharlach, Allan Boyd, Cindy Cox, Ed Monahan, Karen Hart, Bill & Maggie Smith, George Long, Mary Kay Baca, Donna Hansen, Aaron & Elaine Hempel, Chuck Yeiser, Linda Belice, Dave Vrablic, Emil Poprawski, Marilyn Sinde, Bettyann Richeson, Benny Locigno, Ellie Merritt, Pat VonLaven, Barb

Sweazey, Sandra Bradley, James Hixon, Jeanie Rowe, Allen Meskan, Aldona Kitt, Judy Frandsen, Kim Powers, Don Smith, Mark Henning, Serena Ivers & Chris, Elayne Dalheim, Patricia Ladner, Michael Kelstrom, Patrick McCarthy

**FRIENDS IN PRAYERS:** Bill and Kimble Compton, Bob and Jean, Sherri Cozzi, Drake Dennis/Family, Bill Ernst, Father Neil Fackler, Ashley Feeney, Nancy Fiala-Zinn, Herman Goodloe, Kyle Hall, Karen and Bob; Karen Hekr, Helen Hicks, Mary Ann, Larry, Tom Lindsey, Julie McGee, Julie McLean (mom to Nancy McLean), Frieda McKinnon, Amy Morlier, Betty Moticka, Eric Odelson, Pat (cousin to Linda Belice), Connie Petrik, Diana & Larry Ridener, Scott Rouse, Gary Schultz, Anthony Taylor, Patricia Traylor, Ron Tulke, Lawrence Underwood Jr., Gwendolyn and Bob Westlund, Monica Wojdziak, Charles Woodman, Adam Zellman

**OUR MILITARY:** Samantha Brown (overseas), Tyler Kimbler (Ft. Bragg, NC), Jay & Bri Mills (Ft. Bliss, Texas), Malik Taylor—Norfolk, VA, Anthony Taylor—Ft. Hood, TX; Nick Weeks—Peace Corp. South Africa

**HOSPITALIZED/Long-Term:** Marilyn Sinde—Plymouth Place, Joe Mills (Pastor's dad) - Virginia Mason Rehab, Tacoma, Candice Phoenix—Illinois Masonic, Elaine Dildine— Sheridan at OakBrook, room 255; Jim Craver (our Jim's father)—Nursing Facility, Sara Zellman—the Pearl, Hinsdale; Marylu Mills - in Hospice, Tacoma, WA; Lil Klippel - The Radcliffe; Steve Tomporowski - Wisconsin; Rosemarie Kosik (Terra Vista, OakBrook Terrace)

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and  
 2 When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the  
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

right - ous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found: dressed in his right - ous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand: all  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.