United Church of Christ of California ~ California, Missouri Rev. Lina Eddy Pastor Mrs. Beth Dampf Organist

Mrs. Connie Bestgen

God's Singers Director

November 23 2025 ~ Reign of Christ Commemoration Sunday (Totenfest)

*All those who are able, please stand

The Bell

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles Amelia Howard & Lee Bieri

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather at the foot of the cross, where Christ reigns in love.

People: His crown is not of Gold but of thorns; His thorns, a wooden cross.

Leader: Here, Mercy triumphs over judgements

People: Here, forgiveness is freely given.

Leader: Come, let us worship Christ the King -

People: The King who saves us, even from the cross.

*Hymn No. 215 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" sing verses 1-2, 4-5

*Prayer of the Day

Loving and Gracious God, we thank you for all the beauty around us — for all the people you have made - for all the colors we see - for all the goodness we experience. We thank you God for making us and for loving us. We thank for Jesus - in whose name we gather today - for his faithfulness to you. We thank you for how - though he was equal to you in every way from the beginning of time - that he did not count equality with you a thing to be held onto, but emptied himself and took on human flesh - and being one of us - died for us on the cross. We thank Jesus — we thank you Lord - and we pray that your Spirit might attend us and dwell within us as we worship you now - you who are our Savior and our King - our brother and our friend. Amen.

*Call to Praise

O Lord, open our lips!

And our mouths shall show forth your praise!

*Act of Praise No. 493 "Gloria Patri" (Glory be to the Father) (Printed on laminated card in pew or back page of large print bulletin)

Invitation to Children's Time

Hymn for Children "Jesus Loves Me"

Children's Time Puppets

Anthem "The Butterfly Song" God's Singers

Gracious God, as we stand in the shadow of the cross, open eyes see your glory revealed in humility, your power shown in compassion, and your kingdom built on forgiveness. May your Word Pierce our hearts and draw us near to your mercy, so we may live as citizens of your everlasting kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

First Lesson: Colossians 1:9-20 p. 1026 Second Lesson: Luke 23:33-43 p. 919

Sermon "Christ the King!"

Hymn No. 263 "This Is My Father's World"

Christians, what do you believe?

(Apostles' Creed) I believe in God the Father, Almighty...

(Printed on laminated card in pew or back page of large print bulletin)

Prayer of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

(Printed on laminated card in pew or back page of large print bulletin)

Invitation to the Offering

*Response "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"
(Printed on laminated card in pew or back page of large print bulletin)

*Prayer of Dedication

A Time of Remembering the Faithful Departed

We remember with thankful hearts those members & friends of our church family who have passed from this life to life eternal this past year. In their memory we now light a candle.

Walter Emil Bieri
73 years, 10 months, 13 days

Judith Jane (Liebi) Silver 81 years, 4 months, 7 days

Emmette E. Hall
93 years, 2 months, 22 days

Marjorie Frene Manning 96 years, 0 months, 14 days

Leslie McKee Markovchick77 years, 0 months, 22 days

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" (Revelation 14:13) God has gifted our lives with these precious ones whose memories will be with us always. Thanks be to God!

*Hymn No. 283 "Now Thank We All Our God"

*Benediction

*Congregational Response – "Blest be the Tie that Binds"

(p. 497) verse 1 & 4

"Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above. When we are called to part, It give us inward pain, But we shall still be joined in heart, And hope to meet again."

*Postlude

Ushers: Larry Schoeneberg Anny Roll

Greeters: Justin and Tammy Kilmer

Activities Calendar: November 23, 2025 ~ November 30, 2025

Sunday, November 23, 2025 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost-Reign of Christ

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - Worship

Monday, November 24, 2025

6:00 p.m. - Brotherhood-*Decorating for Christmas followed by Hamburgers, etc.*

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

9:00 a.m. - Prayer Cell

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

No Wednesday Night Activities

Thursday, November 27, 2025 - Thanksgiving- Church office closed

12:00 p.m. - Thanksgiving Meal at Nutrition Center

Friday, November 28, 2025- Church office closed

Sunday, November 30, 2025, First Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School - Giving Tree- Socks and Gloves 10:30 a.m. – Worship

Looking Ahead...

December 1- Sunday School Teacher and Officer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

December 2 – Quilters 11:00 to 4:00 p.m.

- Sr. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.

December 5 – Men's Bible Study at the Crossroads 6 a.m.

December 6 - Veggie Tales 9:30 a.m.

December 7 - MSYF Breakfast fundraiser 8:30 to 10 am

December 8 - Consistory 6 p.m.

December 14 – R.O.K. Sunday

- Salem's Christmas Program at 7 p.m.

December 15 – Brotherhood/MSYF Caroling 5 p.m.

December 17 - Women's Guild

December 21 – Cantata

December 24th - Christmas Eve Program 7 pm

December 25th - Christmas Day Service 10 am

December 28th – Rev. Mike Williams- guest pastor

Saturday Dec 6th 9:30 – 11:00 Veggie Tales Matinee California United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall



Promptly at 9:30 a Group Picture with Mr & Mrs Claus Matinee: The Best Christmas Gift & Movie Snacks Make a Santa & Reindeer Stick Puppets Fizzy Snowflakes & Games

Every child will take home a hard back Christmas Book
Please pre-register so that we have enough books on hand.
I have requested your mailing address in the event I need to
mail your child's picture.

Childs Name:	
Mailing Address:	

Breakfast Fundraiser

The MSYF will be serving breakfast on **Sunday, December 7th from 8:30 to 10 a.m.** Please join us for biscuits and gravy, sausage and homemade cinnamon rolls. Proceeds will help with the cost for Young Christians Weekend in Branson in the spring. Thank you for your support.

Please pray for these . . .

Love & Justice in God's World

Confirmands: Lena Bieri, Megan Carlock, Royce Everett, Logan Milligan and Meredith Wolford

All Those Who Need Our Prayers, including:

Charles Velazquez (Dolores Burger's brother-in-law), Diane (Henry) Jobe, Michael and Tammy Rex, Becky Zuidervaart, Bill Schacht, Jenine Baker, Alan Chambers, Courtney Cassil, Joyce Rohrbach, Jo Suggs, Judy Kilmer, Jaden Perry (*Janice Anderson's grandson*)

All Those Serving in the U.S. Military, including:

Martin Knipker (son of Kenny Knipker)

Dwight Bowlin (grandson of the late Jack & Carole Bowlin, Fort Campbell, KY)

Dakota Meyer (grandson of Billy Meyer, Ft. Carson, Colorado Springs, CO)

Madelynn Perry (granddaughter of Jan Anderson, army – Europe)

Dylan Ash (spouse- Jasmine Ash and son of Lanny & Ellen Ash, Great Lakes Naval Base, North Chicago, IL)

Derek Meyer (grandson of Elaine & Eldred Proctor, Army, Italy)

Blake Street (grandson of Jenine Baker, Army, Ft. Drum, NY)

Wednesday Evening Meal – Nov. 26, 6:00 p.m. NO MEAL THIS WEEK

Community Men's Bible Study Crossroads Plaza-December 5th at 6:00 a.m.

Giving Tree

November 30th during opening. This is also known as the "sock and glove tree". We will be collecting donations of children or youth sized socks, gloves, underwear, belts, coats, etc. and they can be placed under the Christmas tree on the stage in the Friendship Hall during the opening. Items will be received through Wednesday, December 3rd. These donations are distributed to local elementary students on an as-needed basis that go out to local kids before Christmas break. The school is always in need of items like this and your donations are greatly appreciated.

"Messiah" Sing-Along Sunday, December 7, $2025 \sim 4$ p.m. California High School \sim Performing Arts Center

Thanksgiving Day, <u>November 27th</u>, the Ministerial Alliance will sponsor Thanksgiving meal from 11:00-1:00 at the California Nutrition Center. If you have a neighbor or family member that would like a delicious Thanksgiving meal, please invite them to partake.

Congregational Survey

Please pick up a survey in the back of the church or downstairs on the table in the foyer area. The Search Committee is asking for you to complete before or by December 14th. Any questions, see one of the search committee members. Darles Vernon, Ken Wolken, Toni Kueffer, Larry Rohrbach, Morgan Opie, Steven Burger and Tammy Kilmer.

A **Nursery** is available in the upstairs hallway, just outside the sanctuary. The nursery attendant is **Emma Bestgen**. There are activity bags at the back of the sanctuary for children that stay in the worship service. **Need some help with hearing?** See an usher at the back of the sanctuary to check out a hearing assisted unit for your personal use in the sanctuary and in the Friendship Hall. We have new units available. **Notice the "Connection Cards" in the pews.** They are for our guests or anyone that has a prayer request or needs more information about the church. Please place it in the offering plate.

ORDERS DUE BY TOMORROW

Poinsettia Order Form

The plants will be red with gold foil (6" pot)

If you would like to have a poinsettia placed in the sanctuary in memory or honor of a loved one, we have those available for \$15.00 each. Please provide the following information.

By (Name)	
Phone	
In Memory of	
or	
In Honor of	

Please have this information to the church office, along with a check for \$15.00 made payable to the U.C.C. of California, by Monday, November 24th.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name











THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one Holy universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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GLORIA PATRI

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.

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,

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and the glory for ever. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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KYRIE

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Minister: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
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