

Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Laity Sunday

October 18, 2026

"Paul Writes Home"

Prelude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Welcome

Linda D.

Call to Worship

Margaret W.

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God's sight chosen and precious.

All: We have responded to Christ's call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God's presence on earth.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach to render to you all that we have and all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living sacrifice to you, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Opening Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou has been
Thou forever will be

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me



Love God, Serve Others, Embrace Community

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Ministry Message

Janice K & Youth Stewardship

Children's Message Passing of the Peace

Pastor Melissa

Scripture - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

1 Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith

2 We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. 3 We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. 6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. 7 And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, 9 for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Anthem "Give Thanks",

Performed By: Sam Pio

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because
He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because
He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us"
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"

Because of what the Lord has done for us"
Give thanks
Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because
He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us"
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us"
Give thanks

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St. Matthew's UMC 1360 S. Wendy Dr.1 Newbury Park, CA 91320
newburyparkchurch@gmail.com 805-498-6910 www.StMatthewsNP.com

Sermon "Paul Writes Home"

Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Pastoral Prayer

Moving into a Spirit of Prayer

Covenant Prayers for Cal-Pac Churches

Van Nuys UMC - Preacher Leah Gallard Switzer

First UMC of Reseda - Pastor SangHo Yi

Community Prayers

NEW REQUESTS

CONTINUE TO PRAY

Prayers for Diane(Kathy M. Cousin) who has been diagnosed with cancer and is in the hospital with sepsis. Be with her medical team as they treat her and surround her with peace and comfort.

Prayers for Toni R. who is recovering from carpal tunnel surgery. Be with her as she heals and give her peace and comfort.

Prayers for Karen(friend of Meribeth) who is recovering from a medical mystery that almost took her life. Surround her with healing and comfort.

Prayers for Katie R. who is in the hospital. Prayers for peace and comfort for her and wisdom for her medical team as they care for her.

Prayers for Kathy G.(friend of Emmie) who is recovering from surgery and beginning chemotherapy.

Prayers for peace and comfort as she begins her treatment.

Prayer for Laura (Linda D.'s sister) who is having shoulder replacement surgery. Prayers for comfort and speedy recovery.

Prayers for Betty (Kathleen C. sister) who is in the hospital recovering from a heart attack. Guide her medical staff and give her peace and comfort.

CANCER TREATMENT

Linda (Robin G.), Barbara (Tanya I), Danny C, Kathleen (Tanya). Jennifer(Dr. Bob R.), Georgia(Forbes), Debbie, Ruby(Emmie S), Toni, Sylvia(Pam P), Frank (Taty V), Jan(Nathan), Nori(Linda N.), Tom(Meribeth)

IN HOSPICE CARE

Prayers for Carla VonZell. Surround her and her family with peace and comfort during this transition time.

The Lord's Prayer

Moving Beyond a Spirit of Prayer

Invitation to Give our Blessings back to God

Offertory "Faithful God"

Performed By: Sam Pio

First verse

Your love is like a mountain
standing tall and high.

Your love is like a river flowing
deep and wide.

Your love is like an ocean
vast and deep.

And just like eternity is
your faithfulness to me.

Chorus

Faithful friend faithful father
faithful provider like no other

faithful councilor faithful teacher
that's what you are.

Faithful healer always keeping me
when I'm uncertain always leading me,
never leaving me but always teaching me.
You're a faithful God.

Second verse

Your mercy is everlasting
and your truth never fails,

It's my firm foundation
that will always prevail.

This world keeps on changing



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we can see it more and more,
But just like eternity is your faithfulness to me.

Chorus

Faithful friend faithful father
faithful provider like no other
faithful councilor faithful teacher

that's what you are.

Faithful healer always keeping me
when I'm uncertain always leading me,
never leaving me but always teaching me.
You're a faithful God

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Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal #95

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Closing Hymn "Count Your Blessings",

Hymnal #385

Verse 1

When upon life's billows
You are tempest tossed
When you are discouraged
Thinking all is lost
Count your many blessings
Name them one by one
And it will surprise you
What the Lord has done

Chorus

Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your blessings
See what God has done
Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your many blessings
See what God has done

Verse 2

Are you ever burdened
With a load of care
Does the cross seem heavy
You are called to bear
Count your many blessings
Every doubt will fly
And you will be singing
As the days go by

Chorus

Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your blessings
See what God has done
Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your many blessings
See what God has done

Verse 3

When you look at others
With their lands and gold
Think that Christ has promised
You His wealth untold
Count your many blessings
Money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven
Nor your home on high

Chorus

Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your blessings
See what God has done
Count your blessings
Name them one by one
Count your many blessings
See what God has done

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***Benediction**

Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Ministry and Life of the Church Announcements

Bible Study

The Book of Joy

Lead by Pastor Melissa

10-20 - Women's Study - 10:00am in the Wesley Room - Childcare available for registered moms

10-21 - Men's Study - 11:00 am in the Fireside Room

Altar Flowers: Kathleen Chamberlin

Fellowship Today: St. Matthew's

Birthdays: 10-18 Kevin Wassner, 10-21 Allen Saute, 11-21 Nico Board,

Postlude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Thank you

for leading us in worship

Pastor Melissa for the Sermon Message

Kevin Su Fukagawa Sam Pio, and The St. Matthew's Choir for our music

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