Welcome to Worship at
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN EAST GREENWICH
We are glad you are here!

Sunday, November 15, 2026
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 AM Service

Matthew 25:14-30

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours. 'But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"



First Words:

""Enter into the joy of your master" (25:21) begs the question, "Who is the master?" And what is that joy? If the master is the harsh taskmaster who drives us to produce, to increase, to make, to have more and more, and to take from those who have little, then the joy is an economy that favors the "haves" and punishes or dismisses the "have-nots." But if the master is the one who says, "Come to me all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest," then that joy is something very different indeed. Maybe the hard thing we are called to do is to risk being cast out of the systems within which we live and stand against a cruel and oppressive economy that values profit over people. Maybe, like the third slave, we can protect what we've been given but not use it to oppress others. Maybe the joy of the master can be found in smaller, relational, and less expensive ways." [Rev. Dr. Derek Weber]

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'"
[Matthew 25:21, NRSVue]

****Gathering Music**	**"My Reward," *Paul Baloche***	**Wellspring**
Welcome and Announcements		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Prelude		**Beth Yerger**
****Call to Worship**		**David Salera**
****Hymn of Preparation**	**"What Gift Can We Bring"**	**#87**
Concerns and Celebrations		
Preparation for Prayer	**"Water, River, Spirit, Grace"**	**#2253**
Pastoral Prayer		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**
The Lord's Prayer		

WE HEAR THE STORY

The Word Through Music	**"Cool of the Day," *arr. Peter Amidon***	**Voices of Praise**
Scripture Reading	**Matthew 25:14-30**	**David Salera**

Leader: **As we hear what the Spirit says to the Church,**
People: **May our hearts be open.**

Children's Moment		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**
****Hymn of Proclamation**	**"All Who Love and Serve Your City"**	**#433, vs. 1-3 (Tune, #121)**
Sermon		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

Returning Thanks

Offertory **Beth Yerger**

****Song of Thanksgiving**	**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**	**#94**
****Prayer of Dedication**		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

****Hymn of Response**	**"Together We Serve"**	**#2175**
****Blessing and Sending Forth**		**Pastor Thom Blackstone**
Postlude *(please be seated)*		**Beth Yerger**

*****Indicates to please stand in body or spirit***

WORSHIP ROLES

Ushers ~ Steve Sovet & Phil Dion **Greeter** ~ Harolyn Meyer **Acolyte** ~ Julia Labriola
Audio /Visual ~ Linda Bergemann & Brit Sutterley **Coffee Fellowship** ~ hosted by the Erickson/Mitchell Family
The flowers on the chancel are given by the Diepholz/Priebe Family in memory of Eugene & Katie Diepholz.

November 15, 2026

FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN

"O creator and mighty God, you have promised strength for the weak, rest for the laborers, light for the way, grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love. O creator and mighty God, help us to continue in your promise. Amen." (*The United Methodist Book of Worship* #524)

🙏 We lift in prayer…	
Ray Gauthier	John Iacchini
Bill Place	Dawn Goyette
William May	Joe & Joyce Mcginn
Dennis & Betty Farias	The Sampson Family
Sue Hayes	William Hills
Peace Everywhere	

🏠 We remember those shut-in or facing long-term illness…		
Jeanette Boyd	Roland Nanni	
Carol Herchuk	Mary Louise Counnas	
Chrissy Benton	Charles Gustaveson III	
Sue Schier	Soun Cha	Matt Colicci

🔔 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION AND SERVICE

👨‍👩‍👧 YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

➤**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** - the pageant will be at 4:00pm on Christmas Eve (Thursday, 12/24) and is open to children ages 3 and up (including your friends & neighbors). Rehearsals are 12/6, 12/13 & 12/20 where we'll work on stage direction and music. We are so glad to have your children share the Christmas message! Sign up here: Pageant Sign Up

➤**CHRISTMAS WREATHS & CENTERPIECES** – pick up your purchases starting**, Sunday, November 22**. Sale proceeds support MYF gift shopping for families in need. ***Our MYF Christmas Shopping Outing is on Sunday, November 29.***

For more information contact betsyaulisio@gmail.com or text 516-902-2625

🎵 MUSIC TIDINGS

"All Who Love and Serve Your City" was written by Erik Routley (1917-1982), an English Congregational minister, Professor of Church Music at Westminster Choir College, and one of the most influential hymnologists of the 20th century. Combining his scholarship and pastoral insight, Routley's text acknowledges the weariness, injustice, and moral confusion often found in crowded places, and speaks directly to the Christian's responsibility within the community. The text is set to a tune written by Lizzie S. Tourjée (1858-1913), a Methodist Episcopal educator, organist, and composer from Newport, RI.

🔔 CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

➤**BIBLE STUDY** – our Bible Study group continues to meet on Wednesdays, at 10:00am. If you'd like to join, it's not too late! Connect with the office or directly with Pastor Thom.

➤ **WHAT'S HAPPENING BULLETIN BOARD** – let's stay connected with the Connections team bulletin board. See the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall with posted notices and to post happenings to share with our church community.



➤**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST** help raise money for the church while enjoying good food and fellowship. Join us immediately following the 10:00am service on **Sunday, November 22**, (*that's next week*!) for breakfast sponsored by the Finance team. For those over age 12, a donation of $10 is suggested, but certainly not required.

➤ **FALL CLEAN-UP** – join your church community and help us beautify our grounds. The clean-up is scheduled for **Saturday, December 12, 8:00am – 12:00pm**. Bring your leaf blowers (always needed), your rakes or just your helping hands. Spend as much time as you can. If you can't be here, you can still support with donations using this QR code.

➤ **CAMP ALDERSGATE** – an evening of connection and community and the opportunity to meet new camp executive director, Scott James-Vickery from **4-8pm, Friday, November 20**. Enjoy s'mores, hot chocolate, coffee and fellowship around the campfire at Camp Aldersgate, 1043 Snake Hill Road, North Scituate, RI.

➤**CHECKOUT THE ART** - Have you observed the artwork at our church? These are original creations of the E.G. Art Club. Artwork is available for purchase; with proceeds going to the church, the artist, and the club. Art makes a great gift. Connect with Leslie Pires or Dan Lake for club information, to connect with artists and help you make your purchase.

➤ **TIBETAN MONKS PEACE MANDALA TOUR** – a great opportunity to learn more about and engage with this group focused on peace. There are several opportunities between November 23 - 27, right here in East Greenwich. See the flyer in the Narthex and use the QR code to get the schedule.

MORE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

➤**CHANCEL FLOWERS** – one 2027 spot left to fill, **12/27!** Jan, Feb & March 2027 also now available for booking.

WORSHIP NOTES

Our "Purveyors of Awe" worship series has officially ended, but let's continue to grow a sense of awe together as a church community. Remember our words: *AWE*, *BEAUTY*, *WONDER, MEANING, CURIOSITY, DELIGHT, CONNECTION & SELF-GIVING!*

NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS CORNER

➤ **GLOVEMBER** - As in past Novembers, we are collecting winter coats, hats, gloves, long underwear, and other cold-weather gear that Mathewson Street UMC can share with its friends. Please put donations in the narthex Mission Corner or use this QR code to donate directly:

➤ **CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE** - the Christmas Giving Tree is available **today!** Take a tag and support *Tides Family Services, Project Outreach, Devereux Behavioral Health, Children's Friend* and 2 nursing homes; *Scalabrini* and *St. Elizabeth's*. **Your gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 6.** See the November LINK for a description of each organization and donations.

➤ **MATHEWSON STREET THANKSGIVING TURKEYS** - Thank you to everyone who volunteered to cook turkeys. **Details**: 15 to 20-pound turkey carved (drumsticks may remain whole if that's easier) and save the drippings. Remember to deliver your turkey to the church on **Wednesday, November 25**, **9:00am - 12:00pm**, or **5:00pm - 7:00pm**. Connect with Niki Stanley for more info.

➤**GAS AND NECESSITIES** - we continue our support for gas and necessities, with Stop & Shop gift cards available to help our community. If you or someone in your family is experiencing this challenge and needs assistance, please contact Pastor Thom. On a case-by-case basis, the church is prepared to provide Stop & Shop gift cards that can be used for gas and food to members and families who are in need.

➤ **MATHEWSON STREET** – this month's casseroles are due by **noon, Thursday, 11/19**. They must be fully cooked in a 10 x 14-inch pan, include a list of ingredients and placed in the kitchen freezer. You can also donate rice, pasta (no spaghetti), and sauce. Connect with Niki Stanley or any member of the Missions Committee with questions.

Mathewson Street is in dire need of **men's clothing**. They also need ponchos, rain gear and 8'x8' tarps as well as lip balm. Winter is coming!

➤ **OPEN CLOSET** – Open Closet is a vital program of the Open Table of Christ UMC in Providence, serving a mainly immigrant neighborhood. Open Closet is grateful for the continuing support of our church through weekly donations of clothing and small appliances to their thrift store.

➤ **AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE –** we continue to co-sponsor the Eshan Family resettlement. When donating, please designate the Eshan Family when making your gift. You may contact Pastor Thom or Robin Marek (Rmarek227@gmail.com) with questions.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 15
8:15AM - Worship
10:00AM – Worship (w/ Children's Moment)
Grab Your Tags! - Christmas Giving Tree Available
Monday, November 16
7:00PM – Nominations Committee (virtual)
Tuesday, November 17
7:00PM – Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 18
10:00AM – Adult Bible Study
2:00PM – E.G. Art Club Board Meeting
6:30PM – Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, November 19
12:00pm – Mathewson Street Casserole Deadline
6:30PM - Finance Meeting
7:00PM – Wellspring Rehearsal
Friday, November 20
4-8pm – Meet the Exec Director event; Camp Aldersgate
Saturday, November 21
3:00PM – Cooperative Parish Council Meeting at Christ Church UMC, Kingston RI
Sunday, November 22
8:15AM - Worship
10:00AM – Worship (with Children's Moment)
Pick up your wreaths and centerpieces after the service

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Thomas Blackstone, Lead Pastor – pastor@egumc.org
Betsy Aulisio, Director of Ministries to Children, Youth and Families: betsyaulisio@gmail.com
Mona Stephens, Minister of Music: stephensm11@gmail.com
Beth Yerger, Minister of Music: bhyerger12@gmail.com
Judy Arruda, Office Manager: church@egumc.org
Fernando Melo – Sexton Web site: www.egumc.org

Wi-Fi Network: umc - password: egumc1558

TOTAL ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 78
Use this QR code to make a donation to the church or specific church activities / missions.