Welcome to

Sunriver Christian Fellowship

An Ecumenical Ministry Sponsored by the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches



The Holy Eucharist in Celebration of The Last Sunday After Pentecost

November 22, 2026
10 a.m.

Order of Service

Rev. Dr. Barry Heath, *Celebrant & Preacher* **Sally Heise, *Reader***
Meagan Iverson, *Pianist;* Don Udlock & Barbie Sessler, *Song Leaders*

Please silence all cell phones.

Bells *The ringing of the bells calls us to worship and quiets our minds and voices.*

Gathering Song ***Gather Us In*** ELW #532 One License

Please remain seated.



Welcome & Announcements Pastor Barry

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Call to Worship

Celebrant: We gather as a community of compassion and hope.

All: **Jesus calls us to care for each other tenderly and willingly.**

Celebrant: By this caring and sharing we will be known as followers of Jesus.

All: **By our example others may be led to lives of peace.**

Celebrant: Lord, open our hearts and minds this day to your word.

All: **Teach us to serve you with all our gifts and talents. Amen.**

Opening Hymn ***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*** ELW # 693 In Public Domain



Invitation to Confession

Celebrant: Some of the hardest words to say are "I was wrong" and "I'll go with you." In the quiet, think of a time this week when one of those things needed saying. Let's bring that moment to God.

Prayer of Confession

All: **Merciful God, we like to know where we're going and what it will cost us. When a friend says something cruel, we've let it pass because we want to stay on good terms. When someone has tried to tell us how we hurt them, we've been so busy explaining what we meant that we missed what they were trying to say. Sometimes we see what needs doing and quietly hope someone else will do it. Sometimes we are so sure we know what will help that we forget to ask. Forgive us for the ways we protect our own comfort at someone else's expense.**

Help us loosen our grip on having things go our way. Give us the humility to listen when we'd rather explain ourselves, and the courage to stay beside someone when it would be easier to walk away. When love asks something of us, help us take the next step with Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Celebrant: Hear the good news. Christ knows the things we've left unsaid and the moments we wish we could have back. His mercy meets us right here. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We can take the next step with him.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Passing of the Peace *Please stand in body or spirit.*

Celebrant: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.** *Share a sign of peace.*

Please be seated.

Scripture Readings Sally

Reader: Please stand in body or spirit for the reading of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to *Matthew* 16:21-24

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Reader: From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

All: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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Please be seated.

Musical Reflection ***For the Beauty of the Earth*** arr. A. Sherman Bell Choir
Shelley Giaier, Director

Sermon ***What Is My Cross to Bear?*** Pastor Barry

Response Hymn ***Give Thanks*** W&P #41 CCLI, License 1483194

Please stand in body or spirit.



Litany of Prayer and Recommitment

As a church, we are holding in prayer those in our community who are sick, grieving, weary, or in need of God's presence. A full list of names is included in today's announcements, and we invite you to keep these individuals in your prayers throughout the week.

During worship, we will offer a collective prayer for all those in need, trusting that God knows each name, each need, and each heart. If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please contact the church office.

***Reader*:** Jesus, you knew what lay ahead in Jerusalem, and you went on loving the people you met along the way. As we hear your call to follow, we bring before you the people whose lives are bound up with ours.

We pray for people who have been hurt by those with power over them. Give them somewhere safe to go and people who will believe them. Give those who witness harm the courage to speak and the patience to stay alongside the people they stand up for.

We pray for people living through war and for those working for peace when every effort seems to come to nothing. Protect those who are getting families to safety. Give people with the power to stop the violence the courage to use it.

Here in Sunriver and beyond, we pray for our neighbors whose days are shaped by pain, grief, or the care of someone they love. Help us pay attention long enough to learn what would actually help. When we're the ones who need care, give us someone we can ask.

In the quiet, we bring to you the names of people we are holding in our hearts, and we ask you to show us where we can stand beside them.

Pause for silent prayer.

Reader: Creator God, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve,

All: **Bless all who, following in Jesus' steps, take up their cross and give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in Jesus' Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy**.

Reader: Let us be counted among those who follow Jesus.

All: **We dedicate ourselves to be among those who live in the world of Empire but not be followers of Empire's morals, ethics, and power.**

Reader: God had given us gifts and created us as God's children.

All: **This is my identity. This is who I truly am.**

Today I dedicate myself to act as your child; to take up the cross that is uniquely mine because of the gifts you have given me.

Reader: Know this – you don't have to do it all. Jesus told you, "my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." When you take up the cross that is yours you do it with the strength and power that is in Jesus.

All: **Ours is a resurrection faith. In that confidence and faith, we can take part in God's history as we carry our cross of service and know that even if we can't see the victory of our faith, the final Word is God's. As we walk in this faith, we walk with the countless others throughout time, who took up their cross and followed Jesus.**

Reader: May this faith sustain, renew and empower you this day and always.

All: **Amen.**

Offertory

Offertory Response: *Please stand in body or spirit.*

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Praise God, in Jesus fully known;
Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Celebrant: The same Jesus who says, "Take up your cross and follow me," says, "Take and eat." Both invitations come from the one who knows what it costs to love and gives himself for us. Whatever following Jesus may ask of you this week, come and be fed. There is a place for you at his table.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, God, for the ground beneath our feet, for the rain that softens it, and for the people whose work makes it possible for us to eat. We thank you for all the ways you have fed us, including the meals someone brought to the door when we had no idea what we were going to do about dinner.

We thank you for Jesus. When he told his friends what lay ahead in Jerusalem, they could hardly bear to hear it. We understand. We would have wanted to talk him out of going, too. Yet he went, faithful to you and to the people he came to love. On the night before he died, he sat down with his friends and fed them.

On the third day you raised him from the dead. We give you thanks that the love Jesus showed at that table is alive among us now.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup. As we eat and drink, let us know the risen Christ here with us. When following him costs us something we had hoped to keep, give us courage for the choice before us. When the cost is more than we can carry alone, help us trust the hands that reach out to help.

Gather us at this table with all who have followed Jesus before us. With them, we give you thanks. With the whole church, we pray as Jesus taught us.

All: **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

We serve communion by intinction. You are invited to take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and receive the elements together. Gluten-free and individual sterile options are available.

Prayer after Communion

All: **Jesus, you have fed us and given us a place beside one another. When following you asks something of us this week, help us remember what we received here. Give us courage to offer what we can, trusting you with what lies beyond our reach. Amen.**

Closing Hymn ***Now Thank We All Our God*** ELW #840 CCLI

Please stand in body or in spirit.



Benediction

Coffee is served today by Jenny & Dave Long
Next Sunday—Celebrant & Preacher: Pastor Kally Elliott

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER NEEDS: Please keep these people in your prayers: Bonnie S., Betsy M., Kelly B., Peter R., Melodee M., Jeanette B., Joan F., Lori, Sandy G., Bob C., Whitney M., Nancy J., Lloyd S., Cliff R., Gina T., Jett A., Rachel, Sharon B., Rich D., Dianne, Curtis S., Melissa J., Sheree, Karin B., Scott J., Lauren B., Carol F., Jennie F., Erik E., Amber F., and Olivia L.

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS AT SCF

November 22: 10 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Barry Heath
November 22: After the service – Stewardship presentation – John Salzer
November 29 10 a.m. Worship Service, 1st Sunday of Advent, Pastor Kally
December 2 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., Piano music with Meagan Iverson
December 6 10 a.m. Worship Service, 2nd Sunday of Advent, Pastor Kally
December 10 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., Piano music with Meagan Iverson
December 13 10 a.m. Worship Service, 3rd Sunday of Advent, Pastor Kally
December 15 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Managing Board Meeting
December 15 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Memory Café
December 16 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., Service of Comfort and Hope, Pastor Kally
December 20 10 a.m. Worship Service, 4th Sunday of Advent, Pastor Kally
December 23 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., Piano music with Meagan Iverson
December 24 3:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24 5:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Evening Service, Pastor Kally
December 27 10 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Kally

GUEST BOOK: We would love it if our guests would sign the guest book with your full mailing address. It is located in the lobby on the counter by the coffee bar.

NEW OUR DAILY BREAD: Copies of Our Daily Bread for December, January, and February, are now available on the counter at the end of the coffee bar by the front door.

TODAY'S FLOWERS

Flowers are provided today by Carolyn Cooper in memory of her brother, Gregory Cooper.

STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION SESSION THIS SUNDAY

Grab your coffee and a cookie after worship TODAY and join us upstairs in the fellowship hall. John Salzer will give an update on our stewardship campaign and share information about giving and pledging. Joe Amos, our treasurer, will be there to answer questions. Everyone is welcome!

TREE OF GRATITUDE: Continuing throughout November, we invite you to embrace the spirit of Thanksgiving by reflecting on the many blessings in your life. Visit our **Tree of Gratitude** in the lobby, write something you are thankful for on a leaf, and add it to the tree. Together, let's watch our tree grow with gratitude and abundance!

NANCY MCGRATH GREEN GALLERY

Photography: Seven Points of View Continues

Can you find which photographer references both a bird and a cocktail in his work? (Two favorite pastimes!) *Photography: Seven Points of View* is open weekdays 1-4pm, after worship, and by appointment in the Nancy McGrath Green Gallery. Bring your neighbors!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service will be held for Andy Elsbree on Friday December 4th, at 2 PM at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bend.

MANAGING BOARD:

The Managing Board will be meeting on different days and a different time because of the Thanksgiving Holiday and Christmas. The December Managing Board Meeting will be **December 15th at 10am** in Fellowship Hall. All are Welcome.

SCAN TO DONATE to SCF: Simply scan the code and it will take you directly to the SCF donation page.

SUNRIVER COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SHARING PROGRAM

How To Help:

Pick up a bag. They are available at SCF behind the counter under the window. They are also available other places (see the poster).

Fill the bag with items listed on the sheet stapled to the bags. Return the bag to SCF or the other places. Beginning November 16, they will be picked up twice a week through December 11.

Donate cash or checks that will be used to purchase gifts for children and perishable items.

See the poster on our Community Bulletin Board for more information.

Pastor Kally Elliott, Senior Pastor
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Kathy Bullock, Choir Director; Shelley Giaier, Bells Director
Ministers: *The Congregations*
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