November 15, 2026



HOLMDEL COMMUNITY, UCC

on the land of Munsee Lenape, Lenape Haki-nk (Lenni-Lenape)

Holmdel Community United Church of Christ
40 W. Main Street, Holmdel, NJ 07733

Our mission is to deepen our relationship with God,
follow Jesus in service to our community,
and work for justice and peace.

November 15, 2026 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

❖ *Rise in body or spirit*
Large print bibles, bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.
Hearing enhancement devices are also available.
Please remember to turn off your cell phones.

Words for Meditation

So many people are forced by the status quo of our society to live partial lives,
or to move through their life not fully being present to who they are.
Our role as resistors of that status quo is to honor
the liminality and complexity of one another's identities.

- Kaitlin Curtice

See back of bulletin for more info

PRELUDE *High Plains* Philip Aaberg

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Nada Sellers

❖GREETING YOUR NEIGHBOR

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

(Don't forget to turn around and wave to our church family online!)

INTROIT *According to the Gifts* Scripture paraphrased by Peter A. Judd; MUSIC: William H. Havergal

❖**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(inspired by Psalm 90)* Ward Kradjel

Throughout all the generations, God has been our refuge.

The Holy One is our dwelling place
from generation to generation.

Lift up your hearts to the God who shapes and guides us.

God forms the earth, the world, and the universe; we are shaped by God's purposes and live by God's power.

Lift up your worship before God who is most holy.

The Holy One teaches us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

May God establish for us what is to be done. Praise God!

❖**OPENING HYMN** *I Cannot Dance, O Love* **No. 290**

GATHERING PRAYER Rev. Nada Sellers

Generous Creator, Source of all life, you have given us all we need.

We gather to worship.

Let us know you, within and among us this hour.
Feed us from the bread of life that sustains us daily.

We gather to praise you.

Heal our spirits with a balm of peace for all brokenness.
Shelter us in the sanctuary of your love.

We gather with gratitude.

Fill the inner well that so often runs dry in us, that we may be renewed by springs of hope, bubbling up and flowing out from within, to all the world.

Amen.

❖**GLORIA**

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN Amanda Spagnolia

SPECIAL MUSIC *Creation Will Be at Peace* J. Paul Williams/ Anna Laura Page

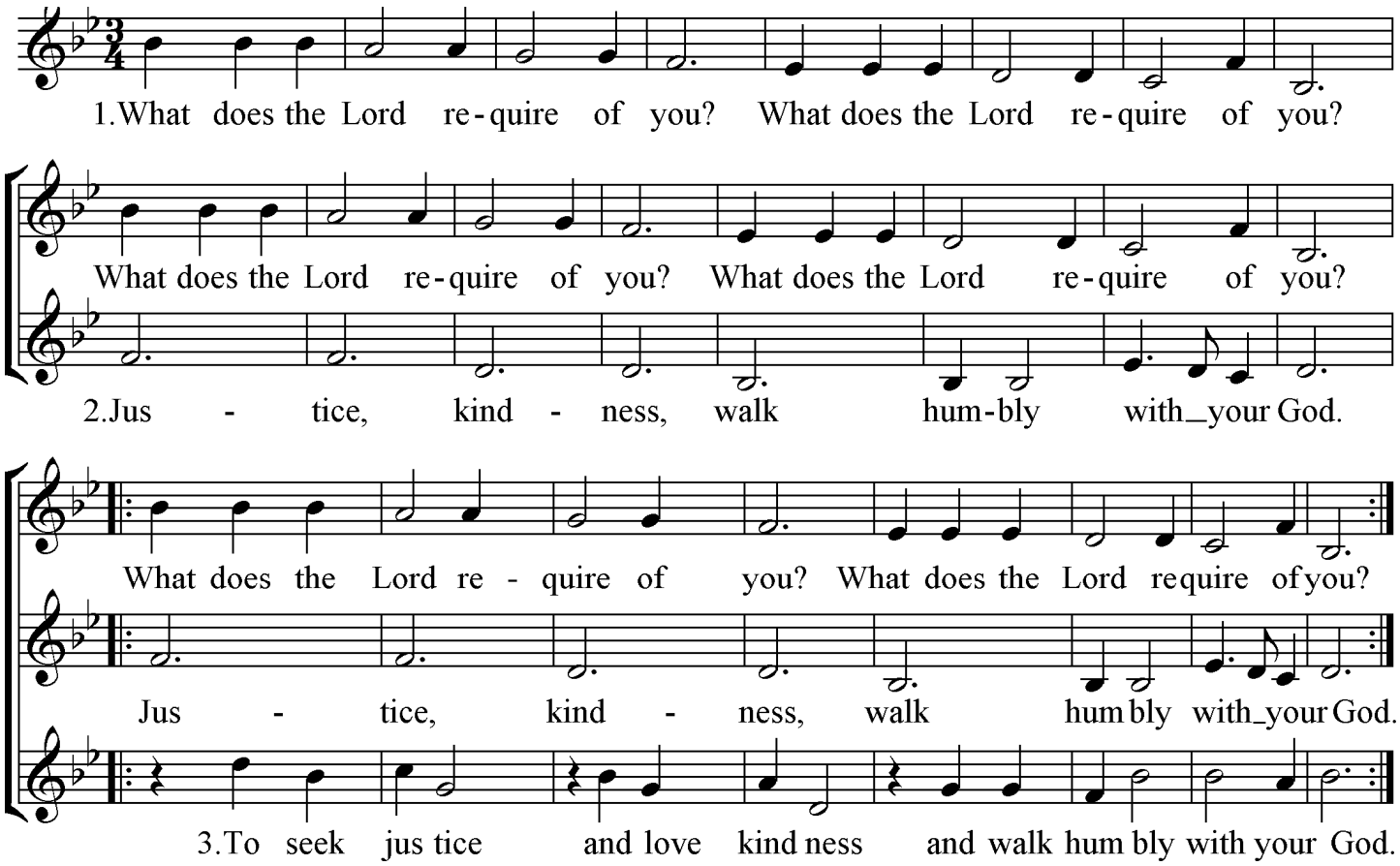
SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-16, 18 Ward Kradjel

Matthew 25:14-30 Rev. Nada Sellers

SERMON **"Resistance is Possible"** Rev. Nada Sellers

HYMN *What Does the Lord Require of You?* **No.661**



SHARING OUR GIFTS

Call to Generosity Ward Kradjel

❖**DOXOLOGY** *(Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)* **No. 48**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One!

❖**PRAYER FOR OFFERINGS** (*together*)

Generous God, receive our gifts on behalf of those who haven't heard about your love. May we all receive glimpses of what peace with justice can mean as we give from we have. May we all share in the abundance that comes about by your grace. In gratitude for your blessings we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer ending with The Lord's Prayer…

Our Father/Mother, 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, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

❖**CLOSING HYMN** *Precious Name* **No. 625**

❖**BENEDICTION** Rev. Nada Sellers

POSTLUDE *Song of Rejoicing* Robert J. Hughes

We invite you to join us here, in Fellowship Hall,
after the service for coffee hour.
This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get acquainted
and for our members to connect with each other.

Liturgical Resources: Front image by Annette Gandy Fortt. *Parable of the Talents*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/
Original source: annettefortt.com.
Call to Worship is adapted from *Worship Ways* 11-15-26 & Gathering Prayer by Rev. Audrey deCoursey *2014 OGHS resources*, both at *ucc.org;*
Words for Doxology by Mary Luti

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Land Acknowledgement: Our buildings stand on the ancestral land of the Munsee Lenape, Lenape Haki-nk (Lenni-Lenape). We acknowledge these Indigenous Peoples and decry the unjust taking of their land, the unfulfilled promises of U.S. treaties granting land access, and the still unresolved traumas of forced migration, genocide, and theft. We acknowledge and affirm Native American values and Indigenous cultures while holding space for atonement and healing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for visiting with us today! It is a pleasure to have you here. Feel free to get information about our church from the table by the church entrance. Please sign our guest book by the door, so that we can send you our monthly newsletter and other information (make sure to include an email address!).

Thanks to today's **Worship Leaders**:
Rev. Nada B. Sellers, Minister; Susan F. Davies, Minister of Music;
Amanda Spagnolia, Children's Minister; Ward Kradjel, Liturgist;
Vera Kradjel, Greeter/Usher; Matt Snodgrass, Sound Board Operator;
Michelle Ucciferri, Slide Changer

Reminders and Information

Holmdel Community UCC is part of a cooperative of churches that support the **Calico Cat Food Pantry** located in Middletown. We are collecting **canned corn, ramen noodles, side dishes (like a Knorr's packet), Chef-Boyardee, mac & cheese cups, dish detergent & paper towels** for food dedication on **November 22!**

Pastor.....Rev. Nada B. Sellers
Minister of Music ..... Susan F. Davies
Children's Minister.....Amanda Spagnolia
Nursery Caregiver ..... **Seeking Employee**
Office Administrator ..... Lynn C. Hudzik

Church Office Hours: 9:30am – 2:30pm Tuesday – Friday
(732) 946-8821; Administrator@HolmdelUCC.org
www.HolmdelUCC.org

Pastor's Office Hours: 10am – 3pm Tuesday,
10am-1pm Thursday *and as arranged*
ALL ARE WELCOME

TODAY!!

2nd Hour November 15th
11:30am
Belinda Ruiz
Village Foster Closet of Holmdel


YOUTH GROUP
Sunday, 11/15
6pm-7:30pm
FRIENDSGIVING
Gathering for fun, games and a meal together where we'll be giving thanks for all of our blessings!


Winter Coat Drive
for Village Foster Closet of Holmdel
New coats needed for boys and girls in all sizes.
Winter hats and gloves needed too.
Choose your size and deliver your coat between
Nov 8 and November 30
to Holmdel Community UCC,
40 Main Street, Holmdel.
For info, call 732-946-8821



SAVE the DATE: **December 5, 2026 5:30 pm**



HCUCC Christmas Potluck Party

All ages are welcome at this family event.

There will be

Christmas carols, festive crafts, and scrumptious food!

Check your bulletin throughout November for more information. Question? Contact Regina at regcris35@gmail.com or (732) 320-6210.

A Taste of Holmdel

Delicious Pies

40 Main Street

Order now for Thanksgiving

Please indicate how many of each item:

_____ 10” Apple crumb $17

_____ 10” Pumpkin $12 GF

_____ 10” Pecan $17 GF

_____ 10” Blueberry $17 GF V

_____ 10” Cherry $17 GF V

GF Available Gluten-Free upon request

V Available Vegan upon request

When will you pick up your pies?

_____ Sunday, 11/22/2026

_____ Tuesday, 11/24/2026

Name: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Please note if you need vegan or gluten-free.

Questions? crafts@holmdelucc.org

You may also sign up on our website: www.holmdelucc.org

Deadline for ordering Wednesday 11/18/2026

Keep these items out of the landfill!

The Justice & Peace Committee is collecting items that are not accepted at curbside recycling. They are **oral care** and **eye care products (including eyeglasses)**, and **Swiffer refill pads**. All items must be dry. Place them in the blue recycling bins on the counter in the kitchen.

Questions? Contact Regina at regcris35@gmail.com.




EYE CARE PRODUCTS

All brands of contact lenses and cases, lens blister packs, and eye drop single dose vials. There is a separate bin for eyeglasses.

SWIFFER REFILLS

All types of Swiffer duster, dry pad, and wet pad refills. **Must be dry.**





TOOTHPASTE CONTAINERS

Toothpaste tubes and caps, toothbrushes, plastic outer packaging, and floss containers. **Not accepted:** Electric/battery toothbrushes, or their parts. Remove as much toothpaste as possible.

NOVEMBER						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am Worship Service 11:30am 2nd Hour: Village Foster Closet of Holmdel 6pm Friendsgiving	6:30pm New Directions Book Group	7:15pm Scouts	8pm Lifeline Group of AA	9:30an - 4pm Pie Baking Workshop 7:30pm Choir	9:30an - 4pm Pie Baking Workshop	9:30an - 4pm Pie Baking Workshop
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10am Worship Service with Food Dedication 4pm Interfaith Service 7pm Girl Scouts	10am Bayshore	7:15pm Scouts	8pm Lifeline Group of AA			COLOR KEY Fellowship Hall Sanctuary Conference Room Zoom or Other

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY

No one in the wealthiest nation on Earth should have to wonder where their next meal will come from. Yet millions of our neighbors face that uncertainty as sweeping cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) enacted in the 2025 One Big Beautiful Bill Act threaten access to the food they need to survive and thrive.

The law slashes nearly $187 billion from SNAP over ten years, representing the largest reduction to the nation's most important anti-hunger program in its history. These cuts impose new barriers to food assistance, expand punitive work requirements, reduce benefits, and shift billions of dollars in costs onto already-strained state governments.

As Christians, we cannot accept hunger as the price of balancing a federal budget. Christ calls us not merely to offer charity to those who hunger, but to pursue justice by challenging the policies and systems that perpetuate poverty and food insecurity.

The United Church of Christ has long affirmed that access to adequate, nutritious food is a fundamental matter of human dignity and economic justice. Feeding the hungry is not simply an act of compassion. It is a moral responsibility shared by our communities and our government.

Congress has the power and the obligation to reverse these cuts before more families lose access to essential nutrition assistance. Lawmakers must restore SNAP funding, eliminate harmful eligibility restrictions, protect benefit adequacy, and preserve the federal government's longstanding commitment to fighting hunger.

Our neighbors cannot afford to wait. Tell your members of Congress to reverse the SNAP cuts enacted in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and protect every person's right to nutritious food.

https://www.votervoice.net/JAWM/Campaigns/140513/Respond

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

FOR AN ACADEMIC RESEARCH SURVEY

Religious and Spiritual Experiences, Social Needs, and Psychological Well-Being



Researchers at Montclair State University and Marist University are studying how religious and spiritual experiences and contexts, health-related social needs, psychological distress, and flourishing are associated among adults.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

You may be eligible if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Currently live in the United States
- Can read English and provide informed consent
- Currently identify as religious or spiritual, or previously had meaningful religious or spiritual involvement
- Identify as LGBTQ+/queer or as cisgender and heterosexual

WHAT WILL I DO?

Complete an online survey with about 100 questions. The survey takes approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete.

Some questions may concern interpersonal safety and religiously framed messages about LGBTQ+ communities. You may skip any question or section.

INTERESTED?

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to take the survey:

https://montclair.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_di3LNEETnLeFqdw

OPTIONAL GIFT-CARD DRAWING

Participants who complete the survey may enter a separate drawing for one of twenty $15 Amazon gift cards.

Drawing entry is optional. Contact information is collected through a separate form and is not linked to survey responses.

YOUR CHOICE AND PRIVACY

Participation is voluntary. You may decline to answer questions or stop participating at any time.

Survey responses will not collect names, IP addresses, or GPS location data. Any administrative identifiers needed for payment or duplicate-response prevention will be maintained separately from research responses.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Principal Investigator:

Thomas Killian, PhD
Assistant Professor, Montclair State University
killiant@montclair.edu

OFFICIAL STUDY TITLE:

Religious and Spiritual Determinants and Processes Associated With Queer Mental Health

Montclair State University and Marist University

Saturday, November 21, 2026 7:00pm in the Social Hall

Brotherhood Temple Shalom
PRESENTS





OPENING ACT
THE MINISTER, PRIEST AND RABBI WALK INTO A BAR – OUCH!

TICKETS: $25

CLASSIC ROCK CONCERT

The popular classic rock cover band from the Jersey Shore has appeared around Monmouth County for years, playing hits from the 60's to today. Everything from The Beatles, The Who, and Hendrix to Tom Petty, Blondie, and The Killers.

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF GREAT MUSIC, DANCING, WINE, SNACKS, AND DESSERT.
PROCEEDS GOING TO TEMPLE EDUCATION AND FACILITIES.
DOORS OPEN AT 7:00

TSBrotherhood.RSVP@gmail.com

Come listen live & in-person!

Citizens for Informed Land Use presents

Holmdel's Revolutionary War Patriots & The Dutch Contribution to American Freedom

Monday
November 16
@ 7:30pm

Holmdel Conference Room at Bell Works (near the library)

Registration not required, just show up!

Celebrate the Holmdel Heritage Committee's work! Join CILU and local resident, Michele Donnelly, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, as she shares stories of Holmdel's patriots and Dutch contributions in the fight for American Independence. After the presentation, CILU will provide updates on the Bell Works datacenter application and the former site of Vonage.
This is a great opportunity to meet like-minded neighbors over coffee and light snacks!

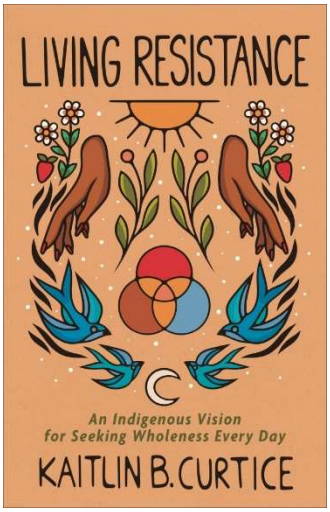
www.holmdel-cilu.org



New Directions Book Study

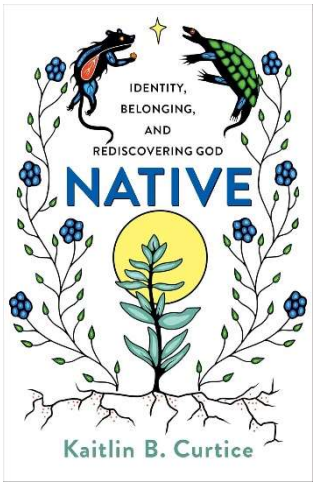
6:30pm Monday,
November 16th
Conference Room

Reading - *Finding Phoebe: What New Testament Women Were Really Like* by Susan E. Hylen



About Kaitlin B. Curtice…

Kaitlin Curtice is a Native American Christian author, speaker and worship leader. As an enrolled member of the Potawatomi Citizen Band and someone who has grown up in the Christian faith, Kaitlin writes on the intersection of Native American spirituality, mystic faith in everyday life, and the church. She is an author with Paraclete Press and her recently released book is *Glory Happening: Finding the Divine in Everyday Places*. She is a contributor to *Sojourners*, and you can also find her work on *Patheos Progressive Christian*. https://www.kaitlincurtice.com/



I highly recommend any of her books!

Pastor Nada