Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Culmore United Methodist Church

Welcome and Good Morning!

Welcome and Announcements

Art by Sue Carroll

Me got cookies.
THANK YOU!

Communion

Happy Birthday!

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.

Holy, Holy, Holy – UMH 64 (verses 1,2,4)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty.
Early in the morning our song
shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before thee,
Who was and is and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Psalms 31 and 103 (selected verses)

Art by Sue Carroll

Love the Lord, all his faithful people.

Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.

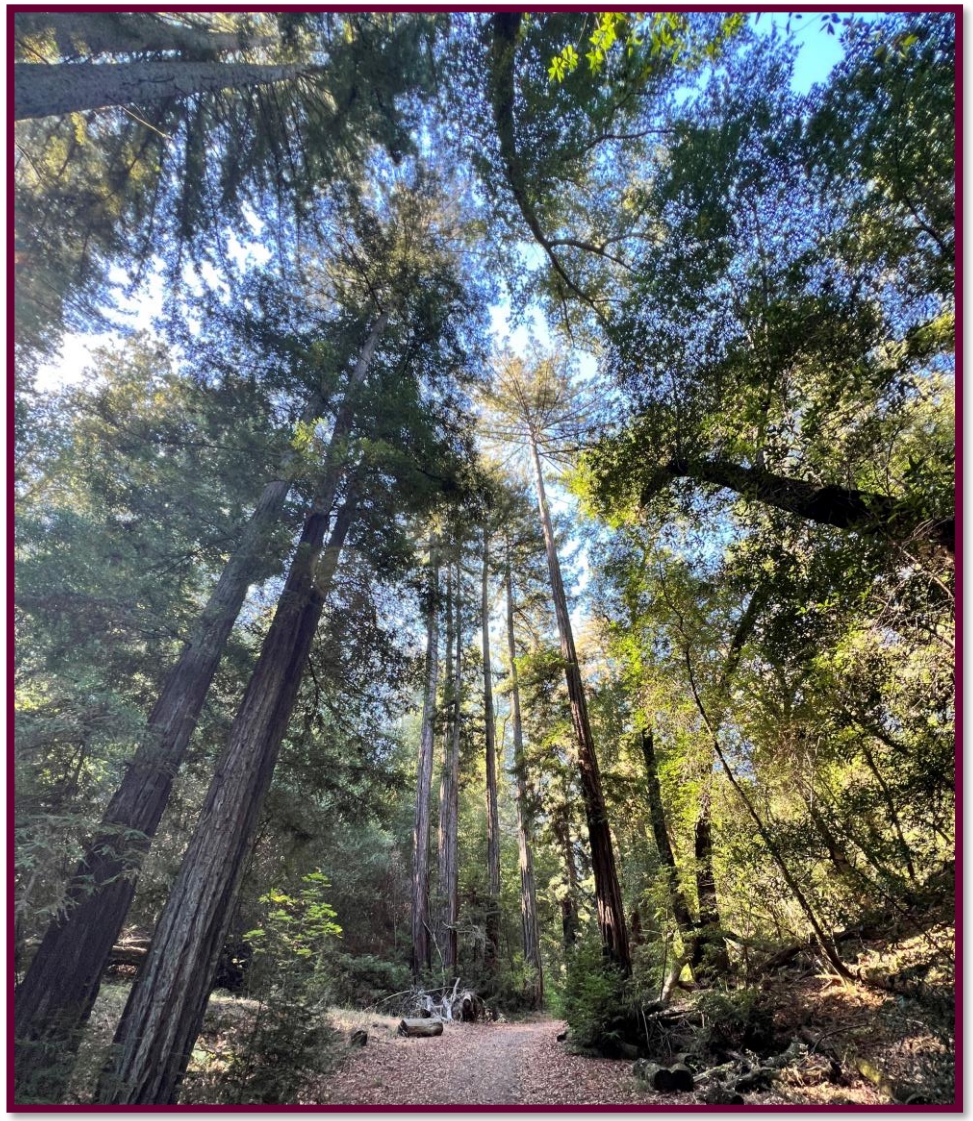
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me,

bless his holy name.

The Lord works vindication
and justice for all the oppressed.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

Bless his holy name.

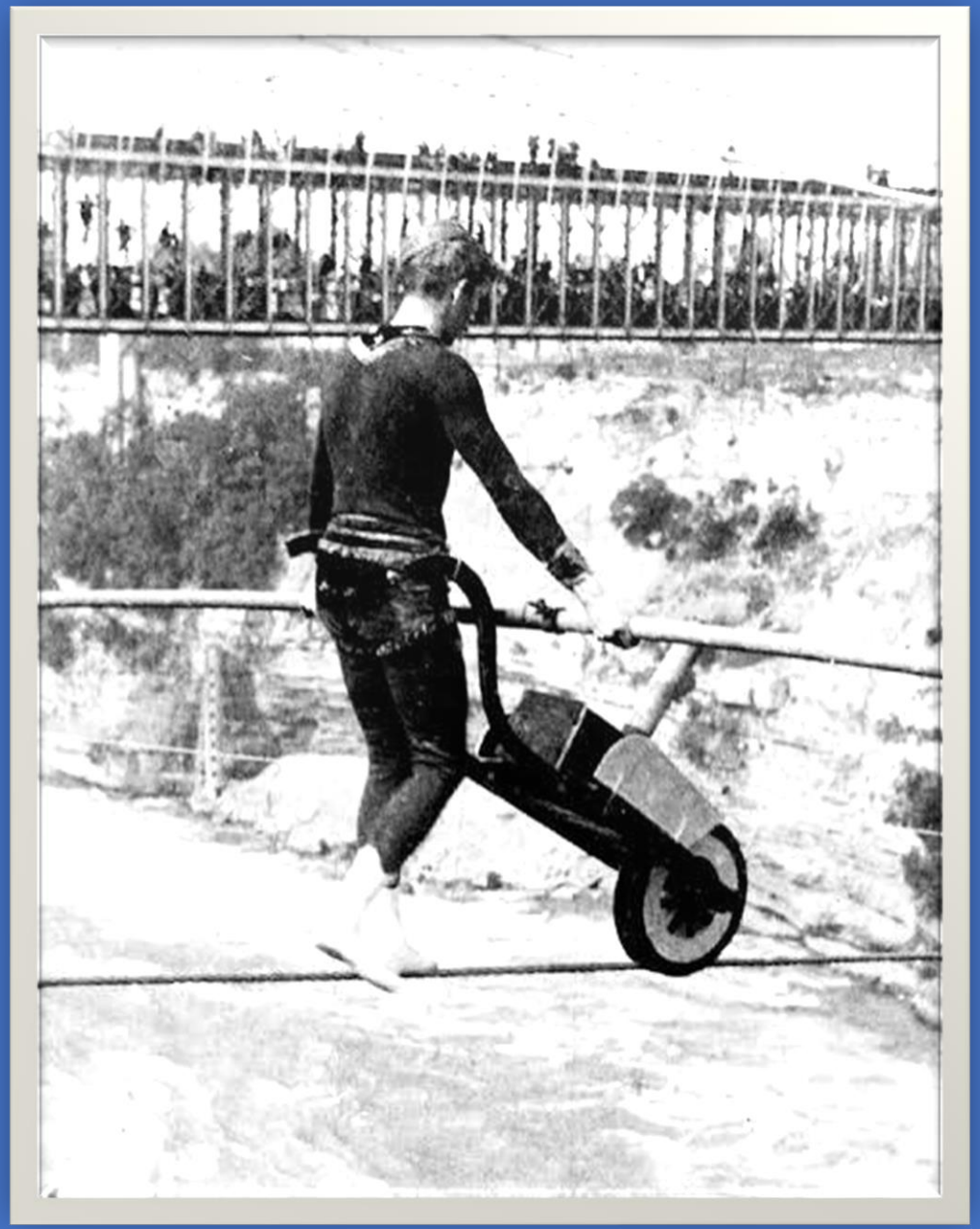


1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith;

be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.



Charles Blondin

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord,

Trust doesn't come easy to us, as You know so well. We want concrete assurances, rock-solid proof that our trust is well placed…that others won't let us down. And yet it happens to us time and again. Life teaches us to be wary and consider well where and in whom we are placing our trust.

It's not surprising, then, that we sometimes struggle to trust You, given how others let us down. We may worry, *Will it be the same with You, God?*

Father, remind us that You never let us down. Renew our trust and faith in You, then let us dare to live out this trust, even when the path is hard.

Give us the courage and the confidence to follow You, wherever that road takes us. ***AMEN.***

King Nebuchadnezzar

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace,
the God we serve is able to save us from it,
and he will rescue us from your hand,
O king.

But even if he does not,
we want you to know, O king,
that we will not serve your gods
or worship the image of gold you have set up.

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

A headmaster's challenge to his male students: Speak up about rape

Angered by the silence of fraternity brothers at Cornell, he asks the young men at his Toronto school to act bravely in difficult moments.

The nail that stands up gets hammered down

—Japanese proverb

Integrity
N
SW
SE
Privilege
W
E
Obligations
NW
NE
Silence

Courage to Do Justice
—*Alan Paton*

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see

the needs of others.

Open my ears that I may hear their cries.

Open my heart so that they need not be alone.

Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.

Show me where love and hope and faith are needed and use me to bring them to those places.

And so open my eyes and my ears that I may this day

do some work of peace for Thee.

Covenant Prayer W&S 3115

Lord, I am not mine, but yours alone.
Let your will be done and not my own.
Put me where you will, and let me serve;
in everything I do, let me endure.

Father, Son, and Spirit hear my cry,
forever I am yours and you are mine.
Father, son and Spirit hear my cry,
forever I am yours and you are mine.

This is my prayer, Lord, to you.
My promise and my vow, strong and true.
And the covenant I make on earth,
let it be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.

Let me be employed for you, laid aside for you,
lifted high for you or brought low.
Let me be full, let me empty.
Let me have all things or nothing.

Community Prayer

Father God, we often associate the two words "trust and obey" because of a familiar hymn with that title. When we trust in You, it should follow naturally that obeying You is the clear option.

Exhibiting courage further implies that there is use of perception and making more independent choices that are in line with God's instructions but go further. Courage is needed when we take actions that may prove to be controversial in some ways.

Father, when we get into situations requiring courage, we need to be so careful to listen for Your voice instead of putting ourselves and our thoughts forward. It also requires deep trust in God to proceed as well as staying humble in our actions. We should never take actions in behalf of others, acting as if we are more important than they are.

So much care is needed to keep our choice in line with Your character and plans. We also need to consider Your grace and mercy, demonstrating them in whatever we do.

AMEN

Offering and Doxology
UM Hymnal 95

We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Communion

Art by Sue Carroll

Holy Communion

All are welcome to this, Christ's table, as we come together as one holy family. In this sacred space, let us look to Christ, our Good Shepherd, as we open our hearts and minds to Him.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Our heavenly Father, You know how often we stumble.

We don't come to this table trusting in ourselves;

but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, which proves

His love and grace. We are a forgiven people. ***Amen***

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

People: ***and also with you.***

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you. Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes
Blessed is the one who comes

In the name of the Lord.
In the name of the Lord.

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna in the highest.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said, "*Drink from this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as your drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

… And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Photo by James Gardner

All honor and glory is yours,

almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. ***Amen***

Breaking of the Bread

Lifting of the Cup

Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.

Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share

is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements

Benediction

Photo by James Gardner