

**Centering & Breath Prayer** Cole Arthur Riley Juli Otis  
*Where are you emotionally and spiritually this morning? What is weighing you down? What is lifting you up? Take a moment to check in with yourself.*

Inhale: When life feels overwhelming | Exhale: Keep my heart soft  
Inhale: I can feel and not be consumed | Exhale: God, with you I am known

*Moment of Silence*

↑**Passing the Peace** Juli Otis  
One: We are invited to feast at the table of God's Shalom, to seek the well-being and the wholeness of all creation. Peace for our bodies Peace for our souls,  
**All: Peace in our relationships. Peace in our world.**  
One: May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
One: Let us share the sign of peace with one another.

**Choral Anthem** "Joyful Thanksgiving" Joseph M. Martin  
Mount Hollywood Choir

### **We Share the Word**

**Time with our Young People and Young at Heart** Rev. Ashley  
*All are invited to come forward and sit in the front if they feel led. Afterwards grades K-5 are invited to Godly Play next door, and will come back for communion.*

↑**Hymn** #490 vs. 1 & 2 I Want Jesus To Go With Me

**Reading** Luke: 4:24-30 Juli Otis  
And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

**Reflection** Rev. Ashley

### **We Pray and We Give**

**Sharing Our Joys, Concerns and Discoveries** Rev. Ashley  
*It is our practice to share our Gratitude and Joy, Concerns and Discoveries*

**Our Common Prayer** (*unison, please use the words that are most meaningful for you*)  
Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.  
-New Zealand Prayer Book

**Invitation to the Offering** Juli Otis

**Offertory** "In The Bleak Midwinter" Gustav Holst  
Chris Carlson, soloist

**Prayer of Dedication (unison)** Juli Otis  
Generous God, take these fruits of our labor and inheritance and use them to bless us and our neighbors with love. Amen.

### **We Break Bread Together and Are Sent**

**Communion Song** Words by Jim Burklo Deeper Love  
*For deeper love we share the bread, I won't be full till all are fed  
Till every soul has home and bed, the rest of us can't move ahead  
For deeper love we share the wine, I cannot taste the love divine  
Till every soul has walked the line, and you've had yours as I've had mine*

We follow where the Christ has led, to table that for all is spread  
And no one's sitting at the head, but deeper love in wine and bread

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Ashley

This is an open table. No matter where you are on Life's Journey, you are welcome! We use grape juice for communion, and have a gluten free option. After the elements are blessed, you are invited to come forward. We are also happy to bring it to you, simply raise your hand. **We will partake together in our seats after everyone is served.**

**Remembering the Story Sharing the Elements**

**Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

As one body, we lament with those who lament. We hope with those who hope. We live with suffering. We live with beauty. Let us go from this table as a renewed community, doing the radical work of Jesus that calls us to live justice-making lives of faith. We are followers of God's Way. We give thanks. Amen.

↑**Sending Hymn**

#451 vs. 1 & 3

Be Now My Vision

↑**Closing Blessing**

Rev. Ashley

**Postlude**

Joe Lawrence

All Members, Ministers  
Rev. Ashley Hiestand, Pastor  
Joe Lawrence, Music Director  
Clay Widdifield, Moderator  
Vincent Lopez, Technical Director



**MOUNT HOLLYWOOD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**February 2nd, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.**

*"All that you touch You Change. All that you Change Changes you. The only lasting truth is Change. God is Change."*

— Octavia E. Butler, *The Parable of the Sower*

**We Gather in Community**

**Welcoming Music**

Joe Lawrence

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Ashley

**Ringing of the Bell**

Young Person

**Unison Gathering Prayer** *Thomas Merton Prayer, adapted for community* Juli Otis  
God, we have no idea where we are going. We do not see the road ahead of us. We cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do we really know ourselves, and the fact that we think that we are following your will does not mean that we are actually doing so. But we believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And we hope we have that desire in all that we are doing. We hope that we will never do anything apart from that desire. And we know that if we do this you will lead us by the right road, though we may know nothing about it. Therefore we trust you always, though we may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death, we will not fear, for you are ever with us, and you will never leave us to face our perils alone. Amen.

↑**Gathering Hymn**

#521

*I Love to Tell the Story*

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↑Please stand in mind, body, or spirit as you feel led.