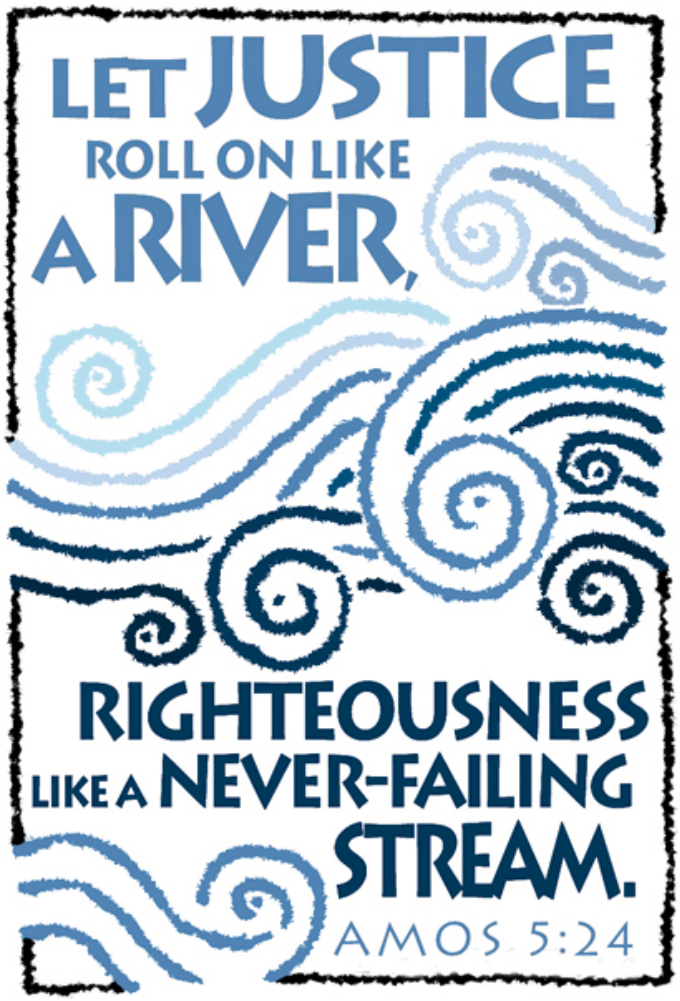
MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
be inclusive. do justice. honor diversity.



November 8, 2026

11 A.M. Worship Service

Gathering Meditation

"The weight of the memory of the tough times will lighten through gratitude, leading to renewed appreciation for who you are now and how you've grown."

- Rev. Teresa Burton

Order of Worship
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming the Hour
Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome Mary Ludwick

The Community Gathers

Prelude *Come, Thou Almighty King* arr. Cindy Berry

***Call to Worship** Carol Hargis-Nation

Leader: Hear this word, a lament over the house of Israel:

People: The Lord who made the Pleiades and Orion, who turns darkness into dawn and day into night, calls us to account.

Leader: Seek the Lord and live, lest He sweep through your assemblies like fire.

People: We come to seek the One who built the starry skies and commands the waters of the earth.

Leader: The Lord hates and despises your hollow festivals; He takes no delight in your solemn assemblies.

People: Take away from us the noise of your songs; we will not listen to the melody of your harps.

Leader: Instead, what does the Lord require of His people?

People: "Let justice roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream!"

Leader: May our worship not be a mere song on our lips while our hearts are far away.

People: Let our lives reflect mercy, fairness, and truth this day and forevermore. Amen.

***Opening Hymn 668** *For the Healing of the Nations* CWM RHONDDA

Invocation Rev. Carissa Robinson

Musical Response 248 *Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove* (verse 3) ST. AGNES

Dismissal for Children's Church
Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

The Community Proclaims God's Word

Scripture Reading Amos 5:1, 8-24 Carol Hargis-Nation

Hear this word that I take up over you in lamentation, O house of Israel: The one who made the Pleiades and Orion and turns deep darkness into the morning and

darkens the day into night, who calls for the water of the sea and pours it out on the surface of the earth, the Lord is his name, who makes destruction flash out against the strong, so that destruction comes upon the fortress. They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live, and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: In all the squares there shall be wailing, and in all the streets they shall say, "Alas! Alas!" They shall call the farmers to mourning and those skilled in lamentation to wailing; in all the vineyards there shall be wailing, for I will pass through the midst of you, says the Lord. Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (NRSVUE)

Escuchen, israelitas, esta palabra, este canto fúnebre que por ustedes entono: El que hizo las Pléyades y el Orión, convierte en aurora las densas tinieblas y oscurece el día hasta convertirlo en noche. Él convoca las aguas del mar y las derrama sobre la tierra. ¡Su nombre es el Señor! Él trae una destrucción repentina sobre la fortaleza y sobre la plaza fuerte, destrucción. Ustedes odian al que defiende la justicia en el tribunal y detestan al que dice la verdad. Por eso, como oprimen a los pobres y les exigen un impuesto sobre el grano, no vivirán en las casas de piedra labrada que han construido ni beberán del vino de los selectos viñedos que han plantado. ¡Yo sé cuán numerosos son sus delitos, cuán grandes sus pecados! Ustedes oprimen al justo, exigen soborno y en los tribunales atropellan al necesitado. Por eso en circunstancias como estas guarda silencio el prudente, porque estos tiempos son malos. Busquen el bien y no el mal, y vivirán; y así estará con ustedes el Señor Dios de los Ejércitos, tal como ustedes lo afirman. ¡Odien el mal y amen el bien! Establezcan la justicia en los tribunales; tal vez así el Señor, el Dios de los Ejércitos, tenga compasión del remanente de José. Por eso, así dice el Señor y Dios, el Dios de los Ejércitos: «En todas las plazas se escucharán lamentos y gritos de angustia en todas las calles. Llamarán a duelo a los agricultores y a los llorones profesionales para hacer lamentación. Se escucharán lamentos en todos los viñedos cuando yo pase en medio de ti», dice el Señor. ¡Ay de los que suspiran por el día del Señor! ¿De qué les servirá ese día si va a ser de

oscuridad y no de luz? Será como cuando alguien huye de un león y se le viene encima un oso, o como cuando al llegar a su casa, apoya la mano en la pared y lo muerde una serpiente. ¿No será el día del Señor de oscuridad y no de luz? ¡Será por cierto sombrío y sin resplandor! «Detesto y aborrezco sus fiestas religiosas; no me agradan sus cultos solemnes. Aunque me traigan holocaustos y ofrendas de cereal, no los aceptaré; no prestaré atención a los sacrificios de comunión de novillos cebados. Aleja de mí el bullicio de tus canciones; no quiero oír la música de tus liras. Pero ¡que fluya el derecho como las aguas y la justicia como arroyo inagotable! (NVI)

Special Music

Sermon "Mourning at Midnight" Rev. Carissa Robinson

Musical Response 546 *Amazing Grace* (verse 1) NEW BRITAIN

Prayers of the People Carol John

The Lord's Prayer Congregation

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Giving Kathy Corporon

Responsive Hymn 606 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* NETTLETON

The Community Is Empowered at the Table

Passing of the Peace Rev. Carissa Robinson

During this time, please give your prayer requests to a choir member or Jeff Crouse at the piano. These will be placed on the table prior to communion.

Communion Hymn 127 *Creator of the Stars at Night* CONDITOR ALME

Invitation to the Table Mark Holmgren

Prayer over the Elements Mark Holmgren

Words of Institution Rev. Carissa Robinson

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Those who are able are invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive the elements and partake by intinction. Those serving will tear a piece of bread. You will dip it in the cup. You may return to your seat via the side aisles. The Table of the Lord is open to all. Christ invites us into communion.

The Community is Sent to Restore God's World

Invitation to Join Mark Holmgren

***Invitation Hymn 72** *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***Benediction** Rev. Carissa Robinson

Postlude

*Please rise in either body or spirit.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."

BIENVENIDA CONGREGACIONAL

"Reafirmando nuestra propia fe en Jesucristo, les damos la bienvenida a esta expresión de la iglesia universal de Dios. Los recibimos con amor, nos comprometemos a su cuidado y celebramos su presencia en nuestra congregación. Mediante el poder del espíritu de Dios, hagamos juntos justicia, amemos la misericordia y caminemos humildemente con Dios, quien nos fortalece para servirnos unos a otros."

VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to **be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity**. We are an Open and Affirming congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger and social issues that affect our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Jeff Crouse
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons
Administrative Assistant

Douglass Anne Cartwright
Bookkeeper

TECH CREW
James Lackey
John Leslie

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE
Kate Lynch

NOVEMBER 8 DEACON
Clayton Cunningham

NOVEMBER 8 ELDER
Mark Holmgren

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter and Friday Flash emails for details and more.)

We welcome Rev. Carissa Robinson as guest preacher today.
She is a newly ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and an active member of Galileo Christian Church. She is a recent graduate of Brite Divinity School, where she earned her MDiv. During her four years in seminary, she served three Fort Worth-area Disciples congregations (Galileo, Westwind, and Ridglea) as a children's and youth minister, an interim pastoral coordinator for pastors on sabbatical, and a coordinator of church ministries. Carissa is a former teacher and freelance writer who lives in the Fort Worth area with her spouse, Ryan, and their three children, Aydon, Emma, and Jasper. In her spare time, Carissa loves learning new things. Right now, that means watercolor painting, writing poetry, and reading works of history, philosophy, and theology.

Mike's Kids big bin is in the entry to the church, Nov. 8 - Dec. 6.
Now is the time to donate to improve the life of a child on the border. This year Mike's Kids is a family affair. The Celiz parents and children will be involved in set up, collection, packing up and delivering the bounty of toys, underwear, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste and more that fill the bin each year. We are so happy to get children involved in helping children.

First Tuesday Ladies' Lunch is Dec. 1, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.
Chocolate Angel Cafe & Tea Room, 635 W Campbell Rd, Ste 310, Richardson.

Be part of worship this Advent and Christmas.
We're looking for individuals, couples, families, and groups who would like to help light the Advent wreath or share other readings during Advent and our Christmas Eve service. You don't need any special experience to participate! We'll provide the readings and instructions ahead of time, so all you need to bring is yourself. Click the link in The Echo to let us know which opportunities interest you.

Mark your calendar:
Trustees Meeting - November 8, 3:00 p.m.
Finance Committee - November 12, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting - November 15, 12:15 p.m.
Elders Meeting - November 29, 12:30 p.m.
Cabinet Meeting - December 3, 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Alcove - Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adult Book Discussion - Sundays, 10:00 a.m., room 1

Scan this QR code to make a financial contribution to Midway Hills Christian Church:

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet after worship with the Elder offering the invitation, or contact the church office any time.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Please pray for these in our church family:
Lynne Stokes and her daughter Claire; Dan Gaylord, Johnny Mercer, James Lackey

Please pray for our extended church family concerns:
Mary Ludwick's sister, Alice Collins; Robin Copeland's brother Wade Keller; Rev. Robert Schomp; Joan Hammons

Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:

Nina Boothe	Gay and Jim Gilmore	Bryen Lackey
Frank and Millie Martin	Jeryl Crawford	Lynne Stokes
Judy Mank	Chris & Jayne Sparrer	Elaine & Don Manworren

Sympathy to:
- ❖

Let's celebrate with joy:
- Val Cunningham's brother was released from the hospital
- John O'Neal & Lowery Ferguson on beginning a new life in Mexico
- Our guests/visitors in worship in the sanctuary and online

Please pray for our city and state:
- Those facing the difficulties of losing their employment
- Muslim community
- Religious freedom legislation
- Legislative sessions
- Texas faith-based non-profits serving immigrants and refugees

Please pray for our nation and world:
- **Being inclusive, pursuing justice, embracing diversity**
- For our city, state, and nation, prayerful engagement & participation in our democratic process
- Those working for peace in places of conflict and those caught in the cycles of violence
- Justice for the people of Ukraine and others struggling against oppression
- Justice for the Palestinian people
- Those who have limited access to health care and those working to expand access
- Those experiencing discrimination and oppression because of their gender identity, sexual orientation or gender expression
- Those struggling with food insecurity and those working to overcome it
- Those who work to create a larger Welcome Table

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost — November 8

9:45 a.m. Choir practice
10:00 a.m. Adult Book Discussion, room 1
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:00 a.m. Children's Church
3:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Monday — November 9

8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room

Tuesday — November 10

8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room
9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 4:00) exterior gardens
10:00 a.m. Raincatchers (until 2:00) kitchen
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Wednesday — November 11

8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room

Thursday — November 12

8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room
6:00 p.m. Prayer Alcove, narthex
7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Friday — November 13

8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost — November 15

9:45 a.m. Choir practice
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday Book Discussion, room 1
12:15 p.m. Board Meeting, community hall
11:00 a.m. Children's Church
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Prelude: *Come, Thou Almighty King,* arr. Cindy Berry. ©2013 Alfred Music.

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