

***Welcome To Worship***  
Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church  
October 22, 2023 ~ 9:30 am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sharla Worley

CALL TO WORSHIP: Sharla Worley

We gather today to remember and proclaim that we are God's people.

**We are God's people. God's presence is among us!**

God's goodness passes by us every day in the gracious gifts of creation and in the faces of our neighbors.

**God, help us notice your goodness in everything and everyone that we meet.**

When we notice God's goodness all around us, we recognize this truth: all things are God's.

**Let us give to God the things that are God's!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Sharla Worley

\*HYMN: "Take My Life and Let It Be" Hymnal 399

Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.  
Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

PASTORS GREETING: Pastor Jeff

PUBLIC READING OF THE SCRIPTURE: Donna Eichelberger  
Matthew 22: 15-22 (P.900)

### **The Question about Paying Taxes**

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. <sup>16</sup> So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ <sup>21</sup> They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: “Separation of Church and State” Pastor Jeff

ANTHEM: “Holy Spirit Come” Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Pastor Jeff

\*OFFERING WITH OFFERTORY PRAISE Hymnal 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Sharla Worley

**Holy God, source of every good gift: the tithes and offerings we bring to you are simply a token of our desire to walk more closely beside you. Bless what we give; may our offerings be used to provide compassion, mercy, and love to the world you created. We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus, whose light we seek to follow. Amen.**

\*HYMN “O Worship The King” Hymnal 73

1. O worship the King, all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;  
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,  
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

3. The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;  
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,  
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4. Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

**BENEDICTION:** Pastor Jeff