

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 6, 2021

9:00 a.m.

+ Indicates those times where all who are able may stand.
Bold indicates congregational response.

Ringing of the Bell

Pastor's Welcome

Prelude "Sun of My Soul" Price

Call to Worship (*Adapted from Psalm 127*)

Unless the LORD builds the house...

Those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD guards the city,

The guard keeps watch in vain.

It is in vain that we rise up early, and go late to rest, and eat the bread of anxious toil,

For the LORD gives sleep to God's beloved.

Happy are those who dwell in the hope and peace of our God.

Happy are those who dwell in the steadfast love of the Lord!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray:

Gracious God, we have gathered before you, as a portion of your beloved community. Be with us now. Let us dwell in your love. Open our hearts and minds to your presence. As we gaze upon our world, we swell with pride over the beauty of your creation. Yet, we recognize the harm humanity has caused and so we seek to heal and restore as you redeem the creation to yourself. Let us not stray from your way, and guide us with your justice, mercy, and hope, this day and always. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Psalm 72 (*Common English Bible*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

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Call to Confession (*Inspired by 1 Samuel 8: 4-11*)

Prayer of Confession

When we forget that God's ways lead all to the blessings of justice and mercy:

Lord have mercy.

When we forget that God's ways lead all, especially the most vulnerable, to blessings of safety, health, meaningful work:

Christ have mercy.

When we forget that God's ways lead all to the blessings of the shared abundance of God's beloved creation:

Lord have mercy.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace (*Inspired by Mark 3: 34-35*)

Jesus reminds us: "Who is my mother, and who are my sisters and brothers? All those who do the will of God are my brother and sister and mother." In Christ all our failed efforts at community are forgiven, and we are invited afresh to rejoin the family of God, seeking blessing for all.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

Announcements

Giving from Our Hearts

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, take our gifts this day and use them so that we may be part of your great work in this world. Through our giving, bring justice and love closer to all, not just in our community but in the world beyond these walls. Strengthen our church and the whole United Church of Christ so that we grow together each day into a powerful voice for healing and peace. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture 1 Samuel 8:1-2; 11:14 & 15 (*Common English Bible*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Karen Stafford

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Sermon *“So We Can Be Like All the Other Nations”*

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, 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.

An Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

(The prepackaged communion cups are filled with grape juice and a wafer.
Gluten free wafers are packaged separately.)

Invitation

Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from the dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none. We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless. We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world. With the faithful in every time and place, we join our voices and praise with joy your holy name:

Holy, holy, holy, God of love and justice, the whole universe overflows with your glory, O God most high. Blessed is the one who come in name of our God. Hosanna in the highest!

Remembrance

Invocation

Bless us, therefore, by your Holy Spirit that as we receive the consecrated bread and fruit of the vine at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

