



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

549 Storrs Rd. P.O. Box 36 Mansfield Center, CT 06250

860.423.9008 + www.myfcc.info

All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME + JULY 4, 2021

Welcome to Our Guests!

We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...

if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!

Welcome and Greeting

Opening Hymn

This is My Song

CH722

***This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.***

***My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.***

***This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
myself I give you; let your will be done.***

Call to Healing and Opening Prayer

Hear these words from Psalm 47:

Our great Lord deserves great praise in the city of God:

Holy mountain, beautiful height, crown of the earth!

Zion, highest of sacred peaks, city of the Great Ruler!
God enthroned in its palaces becomes our sure defense!

Watch the foreign kings massing to attack;
seeing what they face, they flee in terror.

Trembling grips them, anguish like childbirth,
fury like an east wind shattering a merchant fleet.

What we see matches what we were told,
“This is the city the Lord protects; our God is strong forever.”
In your temple, Lord, we recall your constant love.

Your praise, like your name, fills the whole world.
Your right hand holds the victory.
Mount Zion and the cities of Judah rejoice at your justice.

March around Zion, make the circuit, count each tower.
Ponder these walls, observe these citadels, so you may tell your children:
“Here is God! Our God for ever!
God who leads us even against death!”
When in this past week have we forgotten God’s constant love?
When have we not worked for and rejoiced in justice?

Let us pray.

God of grace and powerful weakness, at times your prophets were ignored, rejected, belittled, and unwelcome. Trusting that we, too, are called to be prophets, fill us with your Spirit, and support us by your gentle hands, that we may persevere in speaking your word and living our faith. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Traditional

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ, the Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three - in - One; as it
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was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

Gospel

Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Beisig

Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou - bles, and our cares.
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Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

-For the Church that we might be like those first disciples, sent out from this place to bring healing and wholeness to a hurting world...

-For Creation that we might be faithful stewards of the earth upon whose bounty we depend... may we act for the good of all you have made and work to correct the effects of human driven climate change...

-For the World that where there is violence, pain, and oppression your peace with justice might prevail...

-For our Nation on this Independence Day... that we might lean ever more fully into our founder's vision of freedom and hope, expanding that vision beyond what they even imagined... We pray for our Congress, for our President Joe and Vice-President Kamala, for our Courts and our judiciary...

-For those in Need that we might become aware of our interdependence and know that what harms or hurts one, harms and hurts all... We pray for our partners at WAIM, the Covenant Soup Kitchen, the Community Supper Program, Holy Family Shelter, the Domestic Violence Shelters, and, in particular, the No Freeze Project as they seek a new home...

-For those who are cast out that they might know the embrace of your care and that we might reach out in friendship...

-For those who are Ill that we might be agents of your healing and comfort... we commit ourselves to working for covid-vaccine equity though out our world that all might benefit from the ingenuity and protection that has resulted from human ingenuity...

-For those who mourn that your Spirit might surround them with your comfort and we might embrace them with our consolation...

Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.

The following are offered as examples...

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,
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/sins/trespasses,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

Welcome

Mark Miller

*Offerings may be placed in the collection boxes at the entrances to our worship space,
mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250,
or given online at www.myfcc.info*

Fed for the Journey

The Great Thanksgiving

Christ is with us here,
so let us open up our hearts to God and one another,
giving thanks to the Spirit with joy!

Great are you LORD and greatly to be praised.

You are the beauty and the joy of all the earth you have made.

When we strayed from your love you guided us faithfully home to your care.

In Jesus your wisdom and power became flesh,
proclaiming Good News, healing all brokenness.

We remember how,
on the eve of death and yet living resurrection,
Jesus gathered with his disciples.

Taking bread and cup, he gave you thanks, shared them, and said,
“Eat and drink and remember me.”

Awaken us to the presence of your Spirit that, as we share this grape and grain, we
might be sent out in community to be your healing and your Word in our world.

All this we ask, joining with all that has life and breath, in praising your holy name...

Musical Response

Santo Santo Santo

Traditional

San - to, san - to, san - to. Mi co - ra - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

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co - ra - zon te sa - be de - cir: San - to eres, Se - nor!
heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly Lord!

All are welcome to Jesus' Welcome Table.

We share Communion with gluten free bread and non-alcoholic grape juice.

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

About This Morning's Hymn. "A Song of Peace: A Patriotic Song" also known as "This is my song" is a poem written by Lloyd Stone (1912–1993). Lloyd Stone's words were set to the hymn tune Finlandia composed by Jean Sibelius and set in an a cappella arrangement by Ira B. Wilson that was published by the Lorenz Publishing Company in 1934. This third verse is by the Rev Dr. Georgia Harkness, the first woman to hold a full professorship in an American Theological Seminary, the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California.

WAIM Back to School Program provides vouchers from WAIM to eligible school families for school clothing and uniforms. Last year we assisted 401 students returning to classes with a brand new uniform or outfit for the first day of school. The BTS program assists Windham/Willimantic area families who are struggling financially and need to purchase uniforms or school clothes. Families and receive vouchers later so that each child will have a uniform,/new outfit for the first day of school. Vouchers are for \$25 per child. If you would like to donate to this program you can send a check to WAIM/BTS at P.O. Box 221, Willimantic, CT

The **No Freeze Shelter** is in need of sunscreen, insect repellent and camping supplies in these warm months when many without homes are camping.

First Church Giving Opportunities

1st Sunday of the Month- Supportive Friends Sunday

- First Church Deacon's fund
- The Community Meal program
- "Love Offerings" honoring our friends and family

2nd Sunday of the Month- Sheltering Sunday

- Holy Family Shelter & the No-Freeze Shelter
- Our First Church Building fund

3rd Sunday of the Month- Sustenance Sunday

Welcoming gifts of food items and funds for:

- The Soup Kitchen

- Our First Church Blessing Box
- Tuna Church for Access Agency

4th Sunday of the Month- School & Service Sunday:

- Items for Church World Service School Kits and Hygiene Kits

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 4 10:15am Worship with Holy Communion on the lawn

Wednesday, July 6 10:30am Book Group on the lawn

Sunday, July 11 10:15am Worship on the lawn