

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 + <u>www.myfcc.info</u> All the Members, Ministers Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME + AUGUST 8, 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!

Playing the Chimes and Prelude

Welcome and Greeting



Call to Healing and Opening Prayer

Hear these words from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians: So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

When in this past week have we not spoken the truth? When have we clung to bitterness, wrath, and anger? When have we failed to imitate God?

Let us pray.

Bread of life, you taught us to put away bitterness and anger, and with tenderhearted kindness to share the fruit of our labor with those in need. Strengthen us by your grace, that in communion with you, we may give up complaining and live in love as Christ loved us. Amen.





I will bless God at all times, and praise shall ever be in my mouth. I will glory in the Holy One; let the humble hear and rejoice.

I will bless the Lord at all times, God's praise shall always be on my lips.

Proclaim with me the greatness of God; let us exalt God's Name together. I sought, and God answered me and delivered me out of all my terror. Look upon the Most High and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.

I will bless the Lord at all times, God's praise shall always be on my lips.

I called in my affliction and God heard me and saved me from all my troubles. The angels encompass those who fear God, and God will deliver them. Taste and see that God is good; happy are they who trust in the Most High!

I will bless the Lord at all times, God's praise shall always be on my lips.

Gospel

Mark 6:35; 41-52

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that came down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Reflection



Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

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.

Musical Offering

Offered by Erik Haeger

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 <u>www.myfcc.info</u>



Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray.

Generous, transforming God, thank you for the blessing these gifts which life and labor have brought into our hands to share with those in need. We dedicate them now as an expression of your love for the world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Benediction

CALENDAR

- Sunday, August 8 10:15am Worship on the Lawn
- Wednesday, August 11 10:30am Book Group on the lawn
- Thursday, August 12 5:30pm Governing Board on Zoom
- Sunday, August 15 10:15am Worship on the Lawn