



# 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](http://www.myfcc.info)

All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME + OCTOBER 17, 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

-  
-  
-  
-

### Opening Hymn

### Be Thou My Vision

CH595

Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

5  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav' - ens joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

9  
thou my best thought by day or by night, wa - king or  
thou my re - deem - er, my love thou hast won, thou in me  
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart, Great God of  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall, still be my

14  
sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
hea - ven, my trea - sure thou art.  
vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

## Call to Healing and Opening Prayer

In our Gospel reading this morning, Jesus says to us and to his disciples, "whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

When in this past week have we wanted to be great?

When have we wanted to be first?

*Silence*

Let us pray.

**Redeeming Sustainer, visit your people and pour out your strength and courage upon us, that we may hurry to make you welcome not only in our concern for others, but by serving them generously and faithfully in your name. Amen.**

## Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex



## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 104:1-9; 24

Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty,

**wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent,**

you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,

**you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind,**

**you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.**

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

**You cover it with the deep as with a garment;**

**the waters stood above the mountains.**

At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

**They rose up to the mountains,**

**ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them.**

You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

**O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all.**

## **Gospel**

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

## **Reflection**

### **Call to Prayer**

Hear Us O Lord

Don Beisig and Nancy Price



### **Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus**

For the Church: with humility we may they seek to emulate the servanthood of Christ as we minister to others .

For the grace to surrender pride: that we may honestly appreciate our gifts and weaknesses, and surrender our false sense of self to God who heals all weaknesses

For all who exercise authority: that they may use their authority to free those who are unjustly restrained, call forth the gifts of others, and lead others to wholeness and service

For all who are oppressed: that God will bring refugees and victims of war to safety, help them find shelter, food and medical care, and inspire many of us to help lift their burdens through our efforts and resources

For all with mental or emotional illness: that God will grant them strength, guide them to life-giving resources, and help them to live life fully

For all who are caught in human trafficking: that God will free them, heal their wounds, and restore them to their loved ones

For all who are recovering from storms, floods and other natural disasters: that God will relieve their suffering, ease their fears, and give them strength to move forward

For greater awareness of the fragility of earth: that God will help us to be good stewards of the earth and work to preserve it for future generations

For all who are ill: that God will suppress the Coronavirus, heal the sick, and strengthen all who carry for the sick or seeking a cure

For all who have died: that they may find healing and mercy as they approach the throne of grace

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

*The following are offered as examples...*

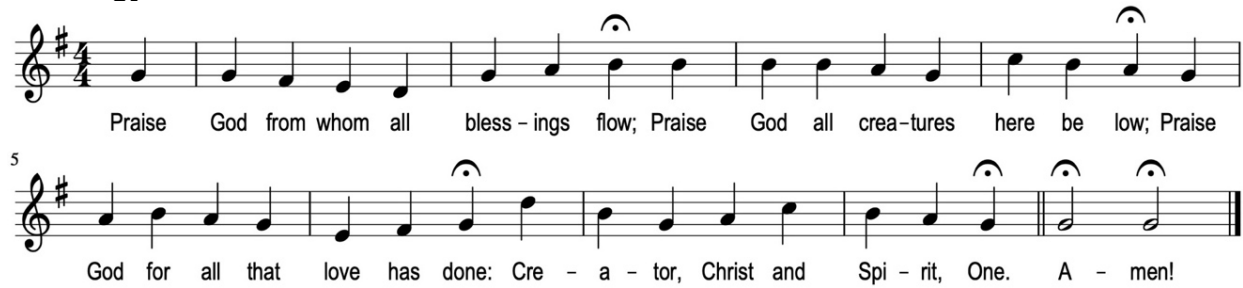
**Our Father/Mother/Creator,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts/sins/trespasses,  
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **Musical Offering**

*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](http://www.myfcc.info)

## Doxology



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise  
5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

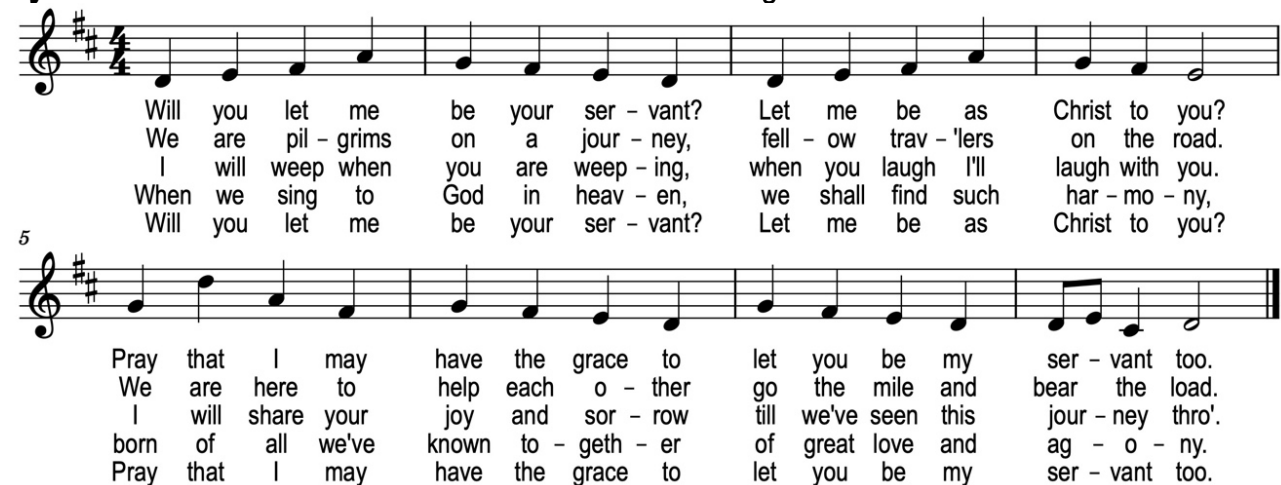
## Prayer of Dedication

**God of every heartbeat: Your work touches every corner of creation; as we bring these gifts before you, give us the eyes to see and the hearts to know that they will reach forth from here to places of need. Amen.**

## Hymn

### The Servant Song

CH490



Will you let me be your ser - vant? Let me be as Christ to you?  
We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fell - ow trav - 'lers on the road.  
I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such har - mo - ny,  
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant? Let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.  
We are here to help each o - ther go the mile and bear the load.  
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney thro'.  
born of all we've known to - geth - er of great love and ag - o - ny.  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.

## Benediction and Blessing of Winston on his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the gift of life. Hear our prayers for Winston, who celebrates today the day of his birth and rejoices in your gifts of life and love, family and friends. Bless him with your presence and surround him with your love that he may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Week Ahead...

Sunday, October 17 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle

Monday, October 18 10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center

Tuesday, October 19 6pm, Adult Education: Sermon on the Mount on Zoom  
7pm Prayers at the End of the Day on Facebook

Wednesday, October 20 1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 21 9:30am, Quilt Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 24 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle