



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

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

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022, THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

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

Greeting and Welcome

Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art

CH 33

Confessing our Brokenness and Opening Prayer

Let us join together in confessing our brokenness before God and one another.

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:
in the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. Amen.**

**Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:
in the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. Amen

silence

Let us pray.

**Beckoning God, as you moved in the lives of your people of old, move in our
lives, inviting us to journey to unknown territory, to listen for your voice, and
to speak your prophetic word in a world that does not want to hear.
empowered by your Spirit, grant us the courage we need to journey, trust,
listen, speak, and accept your commission to be your faithful servant
people. Amen.**

Song of Praise

Gloria Patri

H.Greatorex

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ, the Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three - in - One; as it
7
was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

Hebrew Scripture

Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me,

“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

Psalter

Psalms 103:1-5, 11-18

CH 752

Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰ Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Reflection

Howard Drescher

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price

9 Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou- bles, and our cares.

Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff. A small number '9' is positioned to the left of the first line of lyrics. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

You crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God.

You satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds. Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive.

You make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality.

You provide justice for all who are oppressed and relief to all who are afflicted. Heal those who are bent over by addiction, depression, and anxiety. Set free all who cry out under the weight of mental, emotional, or physical distress (especially).

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Renew our bodies, minds, and spirits in this worshiping assembly. Give rest to all who lead our congregation in worship, study, and service.

Generations bless your holy name. We give you thanks for the communion of saints who have gathered in prayer and praise in this place. Support us in your love until we rest forever in you.

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

We ask these things, with hope in our hearts, as we join our voices together in the words Jesus taught us:

*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/trespases,
 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 Music

*Offerings may be placed in passed plates, mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC.
 Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250, or given online at 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

**Loving God, may these gifts, given gratefully, be brought to life through the
 power of your creative Spirit. Multiply and use them to bring the word and
 the touch of Jesus to your people in this place and throughout the world.
 Amen**

Hymn

This Is God's Wondrous World

Voices United #296

Benediction

The God of peace,
 bless you, comfort you,
 and show you the path of life
 this day and always.
 Amen.

May the love, peace, and grace of Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us share a sign of that peace!

CALENDAR

Today 10:15am Worship & Worship Circle
Monday, Aug 22 10:00am First Church leads worship at St. Joseph's Living Center
Sunday, Aug 28 10:15am Worship & Worship Circle

Year of Sharing

Our community support for the month of August is dedicated to School Kit supplies for Church World Service. If you wish to purchase school supplies to help in this effort, this is what we still need:

36 Crayons, boxes of 24
30 Blunt tipped scissors
25 Erasers
36 Rulers with both inches and centimeters marked
37 Pencil sharpeners
60 Spiral bound notebooks 70 pages

These items can be left in the Sewing and Service box located on the bench by the Browns Road entrance or in the basket beneath the Welcome Table.

Our Blessing Box is in need of pasta, instant rice and quick rice meals, canned vegetables, individual small boxes of breakfast cereal and oatmeal packets, canned beans, tuna, canned meals such as stews, ramen noodles.

Read What Pastor Joe is Reading this Month

– *"Tiny Homes in a Big City"* the story of how a mainline faith community invested in building tiny home villages to house people experiencing homelessness and used some of its own underutilized resources.

Pastoral Care

If you have pastoral needs this summer, contact the church office - phone and email are being monitored.

Phone: (860) 423-9008
Email: FirstChurchMansfield@snet.net