

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

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME + JUNE 11 2023

Chimes and Prelude

Welcome and Greeting

Hymn

The God of Abraham Praise

The God of A-braham praise, all prais - es to God's name, who was, and is, and
God's Spi - rit free - ly flows, high surg - ing where it will; God spoke of old in
God has e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul; God's love shall be our
The God of Sa - rah praise, all prais - es to God's name, who was, and is, and

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is to be, for - e're the same! The One e - ter - nal God, be - fore what now a -
pro - phet's word; that word speaks still. Es - tab - lished is God's law, and changeless it shall
strength and stay, while ag - es roll. All praise the liv - ing God! Ex - tol that haHowed
is to be, for - e're the same! The One e - ter - na, God, be - fore what now a -

13
ppears; the First, the Last: be - yond all thoughtthrough time - less years.
stand, deep writ - ten on the hu - man heart, in ev - ery land.
name, who was and is and ev - er shall be still the same.
ppears; the First, the Last: be - yonf all thoughtthrough time - less years.

Confessing our Brokenness and Opening Prayer

Hear these words from the Gospel according to Matthew: Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind Jesus and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." and instantly the woman was made well.

When in this past week have we found it difficult to reach out to God?

Silence

Beckoning God, you promise long journeys and new names. Call us out to risk holy adventure with unusual table companions. Linger with us so that we may be faithful disciples, touching the fringe of your healing on behalf of all your children. Amen.

Song of Praise

Gloria

Christopher Grundy

9

Glo - ry to the Cre-a - tor, and the Christ, and the Spir-it so near, as it was from the start so it shall be for - ev-er one God, al-ways here.

Christian Scripture

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") --in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of

God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Psalter

Psalm 33: Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

CH2

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 12:1-9

Yhwh said to Avram: Go-you-forth from your land, from your kindred, from your father's house, to the land that I will let you see. I will make a great nation of you and will give-you-blessing and will make your name great. Be a blessing! I will bless those who bless you, he who curses you, I will damn. All the clans of the soil will find blessing through you! Avram went, as Yhwh had spoken to him, and Lot went with 'him. And Avram was five years and seventy years old when he went out of Harran. Avram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, all their property that they had gained, and the persons whom they had made-their-own in Harran, and they went out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Avram passed through the land, as far as the Place of Shekhem, as far as the Oak of Moreh. Now the Canaanite was then in the land. Yhwh was seen by Avram and said: I give this land to your seed! He built a slaughter-site there to Yhwh who had been seen by him. He moved on from there to the mountain-country, east of Bet-El, and spread his tent, Bet-El toward the sea and Ai toward the east. There he built a slaughter-site to Yhwh and called out the name of Yhwh. Then Avram journeyed on, continually journeying to the Negev.

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

CH305

9 Lord, li-sten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spi-rit in this place.

Lord, lis-ten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Sendus love, sendus power, sendus grace.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

One God, giver of life, you established peace through your Son and gave your church the hope of building your realm. Enliven us by your Spirit to speak and act in love for the sake of the world.

Creator of all, you rejoice in creation and have given humankind responsibility for the works of your hands. Instill in everyone your Spirit of care for the earth, especially in areas threatened by ecological devastation

Loving Redeemer, you delight in the human race. Move the hearts of world leaders to seek wisdom, speak truth, and care for all endangered by poverty, prejudice, or violence. Further the work of international collaboration and peacemaking. Companion all refugees and those call from their homes by violence or economic concerns.

Abiding Comforter, you call out to all who live. Restore severed relationships and protect children who lack trustworthy caregivers. Grant hope to those who are experiencing fear, pain, or grief.

Holy Three, you are community and you create community. Build up ministries that support those who are isolated or lonely. Give endurance as we nurture vital relationships in our congregation and beyond.

Holy God, we remember your saints for their strong faith and witness, even unto death. Console grieving families and equip us to provide your comfort.

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

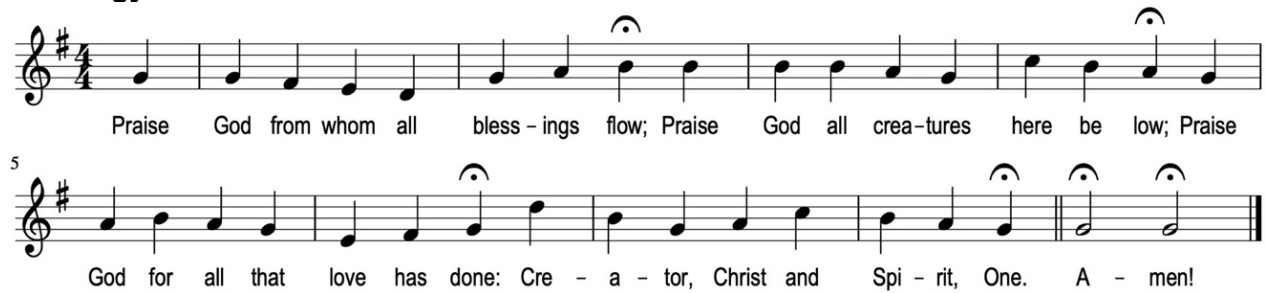
The following are offered as examples...

**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

*Financial offerings may be placed in the collection plates,
mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250,
or given online at www.myfcc.info*

Doxology



Prayer of Dedication

Tender God, you call us to follow you into unknown places and promise blessing in return; in response to this call, we offer ourselves, our gifts, and our commitment to follow where you lead. Amen.

Hymn

Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

CH16

Benediction

God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others.
Let us go out to follow Jesus in the world —
to show and tell the Spirit's good news of love and justice to everyone.

Postlude

The Week Ahead...

Sunday, June 11	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle 3pm Take Note Concert
Monday, June 12	10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center 7-9pm Take Note in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, June 14	1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall First Church hosts the Community Dinner at First Baptist Willimantic
Thursday, June 16	9:30-4:30 Quilt Group in Fellowship Hall 12:15pm Contemplative Communion in Yellow Office
Sunday, June 18	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle