



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

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Ministers: All the Members of the Church

Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JULY 7, 2024

Today's Worship Leader: Rev. Lois Happe

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

Cheryl Chase

Opening Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry

CH 21

Opening Prayer (Psalm 136, adapted)

O give thanks to God, for God is good.

O give thanks to God, the One above all other gods.

O give thanks to God, for God is good.

Who does great wonders;

O give thanks to God for God is good.

Who with Wisdom made the heavens;

O give thanks to God for God is good.

Who spreads out the earth and the waters;

O give thanks to God for God is good.

Who made the great lights of heaven,

the sun to rule by day,

the moon and stars by night;

O give thanks to God for God is good.

It is God who remembers our low estate

who rescues us from our enemies

who feeds us and keeps us.

O give thanks to God for God is good.

We come, O God, recognizing that we often fall short of the mark, that we justify ourselves too easily, that we may choose convenience when compassion is needed. We would do better, but our weariness invites us to resist knowing, feeling, trusting as we ought. We ask that you grant us, again, the full measure of the power of love, that we may offer to each other an experience of what you intend for the whole world.

Silence

We are not alone. As we open our hearts, the Spirit fills us and renews us with her presence. Thanks be to God.

Song of Praise

Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. A small number '7' is placed above the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics continue below the second staff.

Hebrew Scripture

Ezekiel 2:1-5

When I saw the vision, I fell on my face,
and I heard the voice of someone speaking,
“O Mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.
And when God spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet;
and I heard God speaking to me.
“Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel,
to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me;
they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day.
Their descendants are impudent and stubborn.
I am sending you to them,
and you shall say to them,
‘Thus says the Lord God.’
Whether they hear you or refuse to hear
(for they are a rebellious house)
they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.”

Gospel

Mark 6:1-13

Jesus 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 the 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 Jesus went 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 that 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

The Rev. Lois Happe

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price

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.

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/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 Hymn *Thanks Be, O God* (Tune: Doxology; Words: Bob Gardiner)

Thanks be, O God, for living bread
On this your holy table spread.
May we, by this your holy food,
Be fed, empowered and renewed

Thanks be, O God, for living wine —
Of saving grace and love the sign.
O grant that we, as You have willed
Might by that grace and love be filled.

Thanks be, O God, for every need
That prompts our souls to come and feed.
Your Spirit strengthens; may it be
Made flesh in this community.

Thanks be for hearts where you reside,
With lesser things dissatisfied.
O grant us here a mighty thirst
To seek and love your kingdom first!

Hymn of Dedication *We Give Thee But Thine Own (verse 1)* CH 382

Prayer of Dedication

We bring these tithes and offerings to you, O God, for your blessing, that we may extend the ministry we offer to this place. May we serve our neighbors, embrace our children, and bear witness to your Presence among us. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Communion Prayer

God is with you.

And also with you.

Open up your hearts.

We open them up to God and one another.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

... And so, with the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name, singing:

Musical Response

Santo Santo Santo

Traditional Argentine

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: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

Sharing the Bread and Cup

All are welcome at Christ's table; we offer non-alcoholic juice and gluten-free bread.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bountiful God, we give you thanks

for we have been refreshed at this table of blessing.

We have remembered and have been re-membered

**for through sharing this bread and this cup,
we have been renewed as your body, the church.**

As we go from this place,

may we be the church

**revealing the compassion and care
you have for all your people.**

**We give you thanks for the presence of the Spirit,
who strengthens and guides us,
keeps and protects us.**

**May we grow in faith,
in love for one another
and in courage to serve in an uncertain world;
through God the Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn

Once to Every Man and Nation

insert (PH441)

Benediction

The Week Ahead...

Sunday, July 7

10:15am Worship and Worship Circle

Tuesday, July 9

5:30pm Governing Board

Wednesday, July 10

1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 14

10:15am Worship and Worship Circle

Two Opportunities For Summer Fun and Fellowship

Wednesday, July 17, 4-8 PM

&

Wednesday, August 14, 4-8 PM

Playscape Pavilion at Bicentennial Pond
230 Clover Mill Road, Mansfield

Bring your own picnic and beverage

Picnic tables are available

Use of grill is available – bring charcoal, lighter fluid, matches and grilling utensils

Use of playscape for kids

Swimming available – lifeguard is on duty until 7PM

Fishing available – you must have a CT Fishing License

There is a power source for music if you wish

(see flyers posted around church for Town of Mansfield park rules and regulations)