



January 21, 2024
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Sunday Morning Meditation

Deep down, you know there are people all around you who need the love, forgiveness, grace, power, strength, and comfort of God in Jesus Christ. Give one good reason why you wouldn't want to share it.

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
3rd Sunday After the Epiphany / 'The Waiting'

January 21, 2024
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

Inspired by Psalm 62

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our Mighty Rock. We will not be shaken.

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our hope. We place our trust in you.

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our refuge. We rest in your abiding love.

* *Invocation*

God of Many Seasons, we enter into your presence with joy and thanksgiving. We acknowledge all the ways that you meet us as we gather in your name. May our songs and prayers be a sweet sound in your ears. May we demonstrate our trust in you through both praise and lament. May our hearts yearn, our spirits stir, and our souls wait in holy hope and expectation. Amen.

* *Opening Hymn*

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

Mt Hope PH #375

Greenfield CH #724

Grace VH #394

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Holy One, we can be so impatient. We have become used to instant gratification and have forgotten the holiness of waiting. Help us to rest in your timing. Encourage us to persevere through struggles and storms. Reveal the unfolding of your kingdom before our eyes and empower us to be agents of transformation in the world as you infuse us with new life. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, while we wait, we have grace to love fully, pursue liberty, and seek a just world. The Holy One has given us the blueprint and invitation to the path of new life. Follow Jesus with grace and in truth.

Old Testament Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 NRSV

Conversion of Nineveh

¹ The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ² “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

Psalms Reading

Psalms 62:5-12 NRSV

⁵ For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.

⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷ On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰ Put no confidence in extortion,

and set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

- ¹¹ Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,
¹² and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.
For you repay to all
according to their work.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Mark 1:14-20 NRSV

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)

TH #497

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news^[a] of^[b] God ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; ^[c] repent, and believe in the good news.”^[d]

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* *Meditation Hymn* “We’re Marching to Zion”

Mt Hope VH #49

Greenfield CH #416

Grace VH #49

Today's Message

** The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, 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 as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sung Response

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

TH # 501

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

* Doxology

TH # 551

* Offertory Prayer

Eternal God, magnify these gifts that we return in gratitude and for your glory. Amen.

** Closing Hymn*

"Amazing Grace"

Mt Hope VH #77

Greenfield CH #343

Grace VH #77

* *Benediction*

May the grace of God, the hope of God, and the communion of God, rest and abide in you and shine through you as you arise in the world. Amen.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

The Waiting: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Epiphany was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.



Help Tackle Childhood Hunger

The Bulldog Backpack Program, which provides weekend meals to elementary children in need, is calling on local businesses and churches to participate in our **1st Annual Soup-er Bowl!**

The Bulldog Backpack Program helps over 120 students in the Claysburg-Kimmel schools by providing non-perishable food for them to take home on weekends.

We are hoping to collect at least 500 cans of kid-friendly, non-perishable, in-date soup, which will help feed kids in the district for 4 weekends.

Collect cans now through Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, 2024.

Donations may be dropped off at these locations:

- Dollar General** - 12792 Dunnings Highway
 - Former Cat's Meow** - 595 Bedford Street (leave on porch)
 - Claysburg Area Public Library** - 957 Bedford Street
 - Dollar General** - 138 Polecat Hollow Road
- Any other participating retailer, business, or church

OR You may email **Terri Lingenfelter** at ckbackpack@gmail.com to arrange a pick up of larger collections through February 18, 2024.

Please help us tackle childhood hunger this winter!