



October 11, 2020
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Pastor
Mrs. Wendy F.

Pianist
Sylvia O.

Sunday Meditation

*You are Braver than you Believe. Stronger than you Seem.
Smarter than you think. And Loved more than you'll ever know.*

*A.A. Milne
Winnie the Pooh Library*

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am

October 11, 2020
Grace 11:00am

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

In the name of the Creator, the Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Gather at the mountain of God's holiness.

Today is a day to celebrate God.

Gather aware of those you left behind to be here.

Today is a day to stand in the gap between God and God's children.

Gather to share God's presence.

Today is a day of transformation for us and for God's world.

* *Opening Hymn*

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Mt Hope VH #45

Greenfield CH #370

Grace VH #45

Gathering Prayer

Living God, at times you seem so distant; help us know you are near. At times we stray; welcome us home. Standing in your presence, we know there are other people we could be with; help us bridge the gap between your presence and the people we love.

We pray in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

God pours blessings upon us, even as we choose to go our own way. God is present and seeks to bring healing and wholeness to all. Therefore, I invite you to confess all that would separate you from God or one another.

Let us pray.

When we have fashioned idols of our own desire or worshiped the temples of our own tradition,

Lord, have mercy.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

When we have denied your invitation to the banquet of love and justice, or failed to extend the invitation to others,

Christ, have mercy.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

When we have adorned ourselves with worry rather than joy or failed to be gentle, knowing you are near,

Lord, have mercy.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

Amen.

Words of Assurance

Praise be to God, our sins are forgiven.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Praise God!

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

* Doxology

* Offertory Prayer

TH # 551

Gracious God, receive the gift of our lives and this offering of our service to carry your love from this place to a world in need. This we pray in the name of Christ, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever. Amen.

Words of Encouragement

⁴ Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! ⁵ Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Matthew 22:1-14 NIV

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

TH #497

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ “Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ ¹⁰ So the

servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

13 “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

14 “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message

* *Meditation Hymn* “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

Mt Hope VH #26

Greenfield CH #352

Grace VH #26

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

* *Closing Hymn* “*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*”
Mt Hope VH #503 *Greenfield* CH #630 *Grace* VH #503

* *Benediction*

Go forth, strengthened to do the work of Christ,
standing in the gap,
extending the invitation to the eternal banquet,
rejoicing in God,
let your gentleness be known to everyone
and don't worry about anything.
The God who created you,
the Christ who redeems you
and the Spirit who empowers you
is with you today and ever more.

In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. **Hallelujah! Amen!**

* *Three-Fold Amen*

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle* TH # 558

* *Postlude 2/Exiting the Church*