



*October 30, 2022*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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Pastor  
Mrs. Mary Hendricks

Pianist  
Sylvia Olewinski (MH)

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### *Sunday Morning Meditation*

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be  
alive without breathing.

Martin Luther

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ      October 30, 2022  
Mt Hope 8:30am      Greenfield 9:50am      Grace 11:00am  
21st Sunday after Pentecost / Reformation/All Saints' Sunday

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

Inspired by Psalm 96

One: O sing to God a new song!

Many: **Sing to God, all of us throughout this earth.**

One: Sing throughout our lives. In our song, bless the name of God.

Many: **Exclaim God's salvation from morning until night.**

One: Declare God's glory and marvelous works

Many: **For great is God, and with excitement, we join in praise.**

\* *Opening Prayer (in Unison)*

God of all time and spaces, we know that through your magnificent creative Spirit our world and our lives came into being. And yet, you are not completely finished with creation. You continue to speak. As you nudge us to newness, grant us renewal as we observe creation with refreshed souls. Help us to appreciate the boldness of Jesus, Martin Luther, and other reformers throughout history. Give us the courage to change what needs to be transformed in order for your Church to grow. Amen.

\* *Opening Hymn*      "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*Mt Hope* VH #23

*Greenfield* CH #21

*Grace* VH #23

## *Call to Prayer & Prayer of Reconciliation*

Just as the world continues to revolve and evolve, the church is called to move in new directions. Yet we do what we can to place brakes on change and silence newness. The winds of the Holy Spirit are still blowing in our direction, nudging us to move forward, but we have chosen to close doors, shut windows, and ignore its urging.

**Forgive us when we limit you, God and when we place you and your ideas into boxes. Open our souls to the expansiveness of faith. May we incorporate the new winds and bold ideas even when we are set in our old ways and content with our monotonous routines. Amen.**

## *Assurance of Grace*

No matter how many times we have slammed the door on God, God continues to knock and wants us to answer.

**We are grateful for the saturating grace that God continues to pour over us. Amen!**

## *Old Testament Reading*

**Jeremiah 31:31-34 NIV**

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,

“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant

I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to<sup>[a]</sup> them,<sup>[b]</sup>”

declares the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor,

or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the LORD.  
“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**John 8:31-36 NIV**

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

**TH #497**

*Dispute Over Whose Children Jesus’ Opponents Are*

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

<sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children’s Message*

\* *Meditation Hymn*      **“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”**

*Mt Hope* VH #29

*Greenfield* CH #151

*Grace* VH #29

*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

As God calls us to cultivate the Church, God asks us to share our time, talent, and treasures. As we give our treasures, let us spend moments reflecting upon where God may be calling us to share our time and talents.

Offertory (MH)

\* Doxology

TH # 551

\* Offertory Prayer

**Through the gifts that we have placed in the plates and the offerings that we give of our time and talents, we seek to grow the Church, God. Let us continue to find creative ways to contribute. And may our Still Speaking God's call entice us to not only build but reform Christ's church. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

**"Onward Christian Soldiers"**

*Mt Hope* VH #384

*Greenfield* CH #731

*Grace* VH #384

\* *Benediction*

May we leave this place understanding that this is the beginning.

**May we depart today knowing that the best of our faith is yet to come.**

And may the exhilarating mystery of God, the courage of the Great Reformer Jesus, and the dynamic nudging of the Spirit excite us as we become reformers for the Divine. Amen!

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

**TH # 558**

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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\*Liturgy written by [Michelle L. Torigian](#)