



*November 14, 2021*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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*Centering Meditation*

"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."

*Ella Wheeler Wilcox*

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Mt Hope 8:30am                      Greenfield 9:50am  
25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 28  
Harvest Home Sunday

November 14, 2021  
Grace 11:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

Come into this time of worship by the new and living way in Christ Jesus.

**We come with true hearts in full assurance of our faith.**

Come with joyful expectation.

**We gather in full confidence of the gospel's promise.**

Let us praise God together and open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit

**That we may encourage and support each other to love our neighbors as ourselves and to be God's instruments of grace.**

*Prayer of Invocation*

In you, O God, we find refuge from our turbulent world. We work each day to bear witness to your justice through our ministries.

While the journey towards true peace that lies ahead is long, our incremental steps continue to take us closer to that promised day.

Renew in us the strength, faith, and courage we need to persevere so that the promised day will come when your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

\* *Opening Hymn* "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Mt Hope PH #461

Greenfield CH #797

Grace TH #434

## *Prayer of Confession*

The church year begins with Advent's hope, the coming of Christ and the reign of God. The last liturgical season, Pentecost, is a time to grow spiritually and faithfully. Today, we are almost at the end of the church year. Despite our labors, individually and collectively, Advent's hope remains far away. Let us take this time to confess our sins of omission and commission that keeps afar that day when the sound of weeping across the land will be no more.

Despite our best efforts, O God, we have not always lived as we should. Our own short-sightedness and impatience have led us to make choices based upon our immediate needs over your desires.

**Forgive us for our selfish ways.**

Many of the challenges we have faced have evoked fear in us. We have let these fears at times overwhelm our faith and trust in you.

**Forgive us for our lack of faith in you.**

We don't always recognize or acknowledge that our reticence to embrace the stranger comes from our own prejudices, O God. When we do not embrace the stranger, we lose the blessings and richness of your beloved community.

**Forgive us for our biases.**

We see injustices all around: in the papers, on television, on the web, or walking through our community. Yet we often cannot bring ourselves to speak out or take action against them.

**Forgive us for our silence.**

Let us take this time to pray silently for God's forgiveness of our sins.....

Amen.

## *Words of Assurance*

A cord of love binds us to God.

God will not allow us to enter Sheol or to see the Pit.

We are forgiven and saved by God's love for us.

Thanks be to God.

## *Psalm Reading*

## **Psalm 16 The Message**

<sup>1-2</sup> Keep me safe, O God,  
I've run for dear life to you.  
I say to GOD, "Be my Lord!"  
Without you, nothing makes sense.  
<sup>3</sup> And these God-chosen lives all around—  
what splendid friends they make!  
<sup>4</sup> Don't just go shopping for a god.  
Gods are not for sale.  
I swear I'll never treat god-names  
like brand-names.  
<sup>5-6</sup> My choice is you, GOD, first and only.  
And now I find I'm *your* choice!  
You set me up with a house and yard.  
And then you made me your heir!  
<sup>7-8</sup> The wise counsel GOD gives when I'm awake  
is confirmed by my sleeping heart.  
Day and night I'll stick with GOD;  
I've got a good thing going and I'm not letting go.  
<sup>9-10</sup> I'm happy from the inside out,  
and from the outside in, I'm firmly formed.  
You canceled my ticket to hell—  
that's not my destination!  
<sup>11</sup> Now you've got my feet on the life path,  
all radiant from the shining of your face.  
Ever since you took my hand,  
I'm on the right way.

## \* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Mark 13:1-8 NIV**

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

**TH #497**

### *The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times*

As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!"

<sup>2</sup> "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

<sup>3</sup> As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>“Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them: “Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

\* *Meditation Hymn*      “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

*Mt Hope PH #225*

*Greenfield CH #89*

*Grace VH #459*

*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

**We return a portion of what we have received from you, O  
God, in gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us.  
Bless this offering. Grant that it may continue to sustain  
and support the ministries of this church to bring the light  
of Christ into this community and the world beyond.  
Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*      *"Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah!"*  
*Mt Hope VH #2*      *Greenfield CH Insert*      *Grace VH #2*

## \* *Benediction*

What endures is not the edifices we build, but the work of God that we accomplish through our ministries in the name of Christ Jesus. Let us go forth from here empowered by the Holy Spirit to be God's instruments of justice rooted in love to further the work of Jesus and to move us closer to God's reign of peace.

In the name of the triune God: the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*      TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*