



*November 24, 2024*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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*Centering Words*

The eye with which I see God is the same with which God sees me. My eye and God's eye is one eye, and one sight, and one knowledge, and one love.

*Meister Eckhart*  
*Meister Eckhart's Sermons (14<sup>th</sup> century)*

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Mt Hope 8:30am                      Greenfield 9:50am  
Reign of Christ Sunday / Testify to the Truth

November 24, 2024  
Grace 11:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

**Inspired by Psalm 132**

Rise up, O God, dwell in the praise of your people. Make your home in our worship.

**Let your people be clothed with righteousness and let your faithful shout for joy.**

Rise up, O God, remind us of your covenant and your commands. May your presence be a balm and your direction our guide.

**Let your people be clothed with righteousness and let your faithful shout for joy.**

Rise up, O God, reign with power, wisdom and love. May your kingdom come full and complete.

**Let your people be clothed with righteousness and let your faithful shout for joy.**

\* *Invocation*

Sovereign God, the wind blows, the water flows, and the sun shines. All creation declares your majesty. In you, we move, live, and have our being. Be glorified in our worship. Be known by our testimony. We proclaim your goodness from the east and the west, from the north and the south. On country sides and city blocks, you reign. In deep valleys and skyscrapers, we declare that your realm extends from everlasting to everlasting. We worship you, Holy One, in spirit and in truth. Amen.

\* *Opening Hymn*    **“God of Grace and God of Glory”**

*Mt Hope PH #366*

*Greenfield CH #435*

*Grace TH #287*

## *Prayer for Transformation and New Life*

**Magnificent God, your greatness humbles us. Your love can be overwhelming and incomprehensible. Your attentive care takes our breath. We recognize that we sometimes suppress the holiness you have embedded in us. We keep silent when our witness could make a difference. We turn away when the pain we observe in others becomes more than we can bear. Renew our spirits, strengthen our resolve, and fortify our compassion to put testimony on our lips, in our posts, and through our lives for your kingdom. Amen.**

## *Words of Grace*

Dear one, God is sovereign and has chosen you to be a vessel of love, hope, and healing in the world. The Creator has prepared you, and the Spirit journeys beside you. And, as a community, we engage in this work collectively. You are not alone. Heaven and earth join you with strength and grace. Rest in the peace and joy **the** reigns in Christ and through Christ as the kingdom comes.

## *Old Testament Reading*

**2 Samuel 23:1-7 NRSV**

### *The Last Words of David*

<sup>1</sup> Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,  
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,  
the anointed of the God of Jacob,  
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the Lord speaks through me;  
his word is upon my tongue.

<sup>3</sup> The God of Israel has spoken;  
the Rock of Israel has said to me:  
“One who rules over people justly,  
ruling in the fear of God,

<sup>4</sup> is like the light of morning,  
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,  
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.”

<sup>5</sup> Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,  
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper  
all my help and my desire?

<sup>6</sup> But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away,  
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

<sup>7</sup> to touch them one uses an iron bar  
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**John 18:33-37 NRSV**

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

**TH #497**

<sup>33</sup> Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Meditation Hymn*    **“Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor”**

*Mt Hope PH #291*

*Greenfield NCH #258*

*Grace TH #344*

*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

**Generous God, we give you thanks for the opportunity to give our offering, to participate in ministry through our material resources, and to show our trust in your provision. Help us be good stewards and generous givers in your name and for your glory. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*                      *“Come, Thou Almighty King”*  
Mt Hope PH #246                      Greenfield CH #8                      Grace TH #4

\* *Benediction*

Go,  
Hold fast to the reign of Christ  
Proclaim the good news through word and deed  
Make your life the demonstration  
Keep love as your hope and guide  
Testify to the truth  
And the Sovereign God will be with you  
Now and forever.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

**TH # 558**

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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*Testify to the Truth: Service Prayers for Reign of Christ Sunday Year B* was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.