



*February 4, 2024*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

[www.greenfieldcharge.org](http://www.greenfieldcharge.org)  
[greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com)

Facebook: Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

Pastor  
Mrs. Wendy Farber

Audio Tech  
Jeff Farber (Greenfield)

[farberhome@atlanticbb.net](mailto:farberhome@atlanticbb.net)

*Sunday Morning Meditation*

Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.

– Albert Einstein

**Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ**

**February 4, 2024**

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*                      *from Psalm 147:1-11, 20c & Isaiah 40:20-31*

To whom can we compare you, O Holy One?

**We lift up our eyes,**

**We wait upon the Eternal our God.**

How good it is to sing praises to our God.

**A song of praise is fitting!**

**Let us worship God together.**

\* *Invocation*

Everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth, you who spread the heavens like a curtain, and make us a tent to live in, gather us in the shelter of your love, and renew our strength, that with wings as eagles we might not grow weary as we walk with you. We pray in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

\* *Opening Hymn*                      **"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"**                      **VH #328**

*Prayer of Transformation and New Life*

God invites us to come to worship as our whole selves: God offers us a new beginning day by day and week by week. Trusting in God, we pray for transformation and new life:

**Holy One, we hope in your steadfast love, bringing our broken hearts and our wounded spirits. Make us aware of the hearts we break, the spirits we wound, of those we treat as outcasts, of those we tread down. Renew us in your grace, renew us in your strength. Amen.**

*Words of Grace*

Have you not known? Have you not heard? God does not grow weary with us, but loves, forgives, and renews us. Go with renewed strength in your walk of faith. **Alleluia! Amen!**

*Old Testament Reading*

**Isaiah 40:21-31 NRSV**

- <sup>21</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- <sup>22</sup> It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain  
and spreads them like a tent to live in,
- <sup>23</sup> who brings princes to naught  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
- <sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- <sup>25</sup> To whom, then, will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
- <sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?  
He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.
- <sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and assert, O Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- <sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.
- <sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint  
and strengthens the powerless.
- <sup>30</sup> Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted,
- <sup>31</sup> but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

*Psalm Reading*

**Psalm 147:1-11, 20c NRSV**

*Praise for God's Care for Jerusalem*

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God,  
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD builds up Jerusalem;  
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- <sup>3</sup> He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.
- <sup>4</sup> He determines the number of the stars;  
he gives to all of them their names.
- <sup>5</sup> Great is our Lord and abundant in power;  
his understanding is beyond measure.
- <sup>6</sup> The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;  
he casts the wicked to the ground.
- <sup>7</sup> Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make melody to our God on the lyre.
- <sup>8</sup> He covers the heavens with clouds,  
prepares rain for the earth,  
makes grass grow on the hills.
- <sup>9</sup> He gives to the animals their food  
and to the young ravens when they cry.
- <sup>10</sup> His delight is not in the strength of the horse  
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner,  
<sup>11</sup> but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who hope in his steadfast love.
- <sup>20c</sup> Praise the LORD!

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Mark 1:29-39 NRSV**

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

**TH #497**

*Jesus Heals Many at Simon's House*

<sup>29</sup> As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup> And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

*A Preaching Tour in Galilee*

<sup>35</sup> In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” <sup>38</sup> He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do.” <sup>39</sup> And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Meditation Hymn “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” PH #20*

*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

**Holy One, we bring our gifts and pray that they may be for  
the building up and lifting up of your people, for the  
binding of wounds and the healing of hearts, for shelter and  
for covering and clothing for those in need. With these gifts  
we offer our songs of praise as we hope in your steadfast  
love. Amen.**

## \* *Closing Hymn*

*“I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”*

VH #60

## \* *Benediction*

May Holy One, Creator of the End of the earth,  
Lift up your spirit, bind up your soul,  
And renew your strength.  
Go with hope in the steadfast love of God.  
Amen!

## \* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

## \* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

---

*The Lifting: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Year B* was written by The Rev. Stephanie Perdew, PhD, Director, The Damascus Project, Shared Theological Education Ministry of the Wisconsin & Minnesota Conferences of the United Church of Christ.