



Happy Father's Day

Direct your children onto the right path,  
and when they are older, they will not leave it.

PROVERBS 22:6

*June 21, 2020*

*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

[www.greenfieldcharge.org](http://www.greenfieldcharge.org), God Is Still Speaking

Lay Speaker  
Mrs. Wendy Farber

Pianist/Organist  
Lisa Calhoun

*Sunday Morning Prayer*

*Gracious God, bless fathers and all father figures with such love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in uprightness and joy. Bless those who long to be fathers and those for whom this day is difficult. Amen.*

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

June 21, 2020  
Grace 11:00am

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day  
Growing in the Wilderness

*Community News*

*Prelude*

*Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

The sun shines more brightly.  
Its warmth stays with us for so many more hours.  
**So we shake free of our routines.**

In this new moment, we wander about the wilderness:  
Hoping God will open our eyes praying God will make us  
worthy wanting to grow with God.  
**Let us grow together in the wild ways of our God.**

\* *Opening Hymn*

*"I Need Thee Every Hour"*

*Mt Hope VH #292*

*Greenfield CH #638*

*Grace VH #292*

*Gathering Prayer*

*(inspired by Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17)*

**Wild God, you do great and wonderful things.  
It's what makes you our God.  
There is nothing else in this world like you.  
There's nothing else like your love.  
Wild God, come and worship with us.  
Help us to grow in your love.**

*Prayer of Confession*

*(inspired by Genesis 21:8-21)*

Abraham was very distressed. Because his son, Ishmael, was cut out of the community. Because Sarah could no longer tolerate Hagar. So Sarah threw her out into the wilderness. And this is distressing. We are distressed whenever relationships are broken. Still, we confess to God that there are family and friends we have

cast out. Knowing this, you are invited to offer your silent confession to God.

*Silence*

We also know that in times of crisis, such as Covid-19, some communities are cut off from resources they need for survival, ---work, food, healthcare-- They suffer disproportionately because of race, or poverty, or lack of health insurance. We confess that all too often we fail to look beyond the boundaries of our own communities. Knowing this, you are invited to offer your silent confession to God

*Silence*

*Words of Assurance*

The God of Hagar and Sarah, the God of Isaac and Ismael continues to call us into community across boundaries, providing water in the desert and the promise of a future. Let us believe that grace is working in our lives, opening hearts, restoring justice, making all things new in Christ Jesus.

*The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

\* Doxology

\* Offertory Prayer

TH # 551

Let us pray ...

**Grow these gifts in your love, Wild God.**

**Bless our offerings, our hearts and our hopes in your love**

**To make us worthy of your work in this world.**

**Fill these gifts and each of us with your goodness. Amen.**

*First Reading*

**Genesis 21:8-21 NIV**

*Hagar and Ishmael Sent Away*

<sup>8</sup> The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. <sup>9</sup> But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, <sup>10</sup> and she said to Abraham, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.”

<sup>11</sup> The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. <sup>12</sup> But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. <sup>13</sup> I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.”

<sup>14</sup> Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba.

<sup>15</sup> When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. <sup>16</sup> Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there, she began to sob.

<sup>17</sup> God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. <sup>18</sup> Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.”

<sup>19</sup> Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So, she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

<sup>20</sup> God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. <sup>21</sup> While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Matthew 10:24-39 NIV**

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

**TH #497**

<sup>24</sup> “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

<sup>26</sup> “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. <sup>28</sup> Do not be afraid

of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. <sup>30</sup> And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup> "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to turn

“a man against his father,  
a daughter against her mother,  
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

<sup>36</sup> a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.’

<sup>37</sup> "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

*Recognition of Graduate*

KyLeigh Alexander – Portage

*Meditation Hymn* “Blessed Be The Tie That Binds”

Mt Hope PH #272

Greenfield CH #426

Grace Insert

*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*                      *"How Great Thou Art"*  
*Mt Hope VH #505*                      *Greenfield CH #147*                      *Grace VH #505*

*\* Benediction*

**Beloved in Christ, into your hands God gives strength and worth.  
Trust that this wild world is full of God's steadfast love.  
For you, dear servant, were made for this love.  
Go in this deep peace.**

*\* Three-Fold Amen*

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

*\* Postlude 2/Exiting the Church*