



July 5, 2020
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

www.greenfieldcharge.org, God Is Still Speaking

Lay Speaker
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Pianist/Organist

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Sunday Morning Thought

Lord Jesus, thou who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to do what is right.

Peter Marshall

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
5th Sunday after Pentecost/4th of July Weekend

July 5, 2020
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

based on Matthew 11:16-19

Jesus says Come to me—Everyone!

When I play a joyful tune
we'll dance!

When I sing a lament
we'll weep!

When I chant for justice
we'll sing along!

* *Opening Hymn*

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

vs 1,2,4

Mt Hope PH #246

Greenfield CH #8

Grace TH #4

Gathering Prayer

Come to us, Holy One,

And immerse us in the beauty of life with you!

Come to us, Holy One,

And enliven our community with the intensity of your love

Come to us, Holy One,

**All: And embolden our community with the urgency of your
justice in the name of the One who calls us to play and to
work in community, Jesus, our beloved.**

Prayer of Confession

based on Romans 7:15-25 The Message

I know that all God's commands are spiritual,
but I'm not.

I decide one way,

but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise.

I decide to do good,
but I don't really do it;

I decide not to do bad,
but then I do it anyway

I truly delight in God's commands
But the power of sin sabotages my best intentions

My decisions to good don't result in actions:
Sin is there to trip me up.

I've tried everything ...
Who can help me?

Words of Assurance

The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does help us. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different. He calls us: Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy burdened. I will share your yoke and make it light; I will lead in the Way you desire to travel.

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

** Doxology*

** Offertory Prayer*

TH # 551

Take and receive these gifts dear God, bless and multiply them that they may show the world your glory, shining through our lives. Amen.

Reading

Romans 7:15-25 NIV

¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on

doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Matthew 11:25-30 NIV

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

TH #497

The Father Revealed in the Son

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

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

Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message

Meditation Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Mt Hope VH #503

Greenfield CH #630

Grace VH #503

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* “God of Our Fathers” vs 1,2,4
Mt Hope PH #433 Greenfield CH #809 Grace TH #440

* *Benediction*

Go forth in peace to live into Jesus' most joyful command:
Come to me!
And may we follow him into a rest that bears fruit
in justice, love, and peace
for each of us, and all of us.