



July 28, 2024
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Prayer of the Day

Wondrous God, we praise you and bless you for the gift of your only begotten Son, the true light who enlightens everyone that has come into the world. May all who receive him and believe in his name be born anew as beloved children of your redeeming purpose. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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

July 28, 2024
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

**And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

* *Invocation*

Loving God, before time and space, your living Word was with you creating all things. In the fullness of time, he came to bring peace and to show us how to love. By the anointing of your Holy Spirit, inspire us to share his light wherever we go as we carry your good news of salvation to the ends of the earth. Amen.

* *Opening Hymn* “*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*”

Mt Hope PH #120

Greenfield CH #277

Grace TH #102

Prayer for Confession

**Faithful God, you love righteousness and hate wickedness,
yet we have not lived lives of integrity and truth; we have
failed to honor you. We repent of these faults and turn to
you in love. Pardon our offenses and purify our hearts,
that our lives may glorify you to the ends of the earth, for
the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, receive the good news: the light of Christ shines in our darkness, to bring light and life to all. By the gift of Christ, your sins are forgiven. Praise God for our victory in Christ.

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10 NRSV

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy,
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹ Break forth; shout together for joy,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 1:1-12 NRSV

God Has Spoken by His Son

¹ Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The Son Is Superior to Angels

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son;
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,
“I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son”?

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

⁷ Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds
and his servants flames of fire.”

⁸ But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰ And,

“In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;

¹² like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end.”

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

John 1:1-14 NRSV

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

TH #497

The Word Became Flesh

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who

received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* *Meditation Hymn* "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Mt Hope VH #95

Greenfield CH #251

Grace VH #95

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

**O Majesty on high, whom angels worship in thanksgiving for
your Son, bless these gifts we offer that they may bring
light to the darkened corners of our world; in Christ's
name we pray. Amen.**

* *Closing Hymn*

“Joy to the World”

Mt Hope VH #88

Greenfield CH #270

Grace VH #88

* *Benediction*

Go in peace to bring comfort and healing and to announce good
news in the name of Christ. Amen.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

*Nativity of the Lord / Proper III / Christmas Day / Year B taken from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion,
Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 Advent Through Pentecost, editor Kimberly Bracken Long.*