



*August 16, 2020*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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Pastor  
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*Sunday Morning Thought*

*See the light in others and treat them as if it's all you see.*

*- Dr. Wayne Dyer*

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

August 16, 2020  
Grace 11:00am

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude*

*Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

How good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

**It is like a summer rain which restores the parched earth.**

It is like a cool breeze at the shore of a lake, at the top of a mountain or through a crowded city street.

**God meets us here.**

We have gathered to worship the Maker of Our Days, the Restorer of Our Souls and the Breath of Our Lives.

\* *Opening Hymn*    “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”                      vs 1,2,4  
Mt Hope VH #251                      Greenfield CH #581                      Grace VH #251

*Gathering Prayer*

Maker of Our Days, you created each of us unique beings with differing strengths and weaknesses. Help us not only to use our strengths to assist others but also to allow others to use their strengths to meet our weaknesses.

**Restorer of Our Souls, you have seen the parched places we have made in our lives, along with the devastation thrust upon us by the action or inaction of others. Meet us in the places of our deepest pain so that our facades of self-sufficiency might fall away, and we might be drawn into right relationship with you and one another.**

Breath of Our Lives, without you we are but a mound of clay. Fill us with your presence, invigorate our worship, set us on fire so that others might be drawn into your light and nurtured by the warmth of your loving care.

### *Prayer of Confession*

When we try to go it on our own lacking faith in divine providence,

**Lord have mercy.**

When we have not recognized God at work in the faith of others,

**Christ have mercy.**

In all that we have done and all that we have left undone,

**Lord have mercy.**

### *Words of Assurance*

God calls each of us by name and cries out with tears of joy as we recognize God in our admission of need.

**Praise be to God who welcomes us as we are,  
challenges us to let go of our guilt  
and provides a way for us to walk on together.**

### *The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

\* Doxology

\* Offertory Prayer

TH # 551

**Holy God, you are our provider. We dedicate to your service our lives and these offerings from your blessing and our labor. Work in us and through us to extend your love and care, here and around the world. Amen.**

### *Psalm Reading*

*Psalm 133 NRSV*

#### *The Blessedness of Unity*

<sup>1</sup> How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup> It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.

<sup>3</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the LORD ordained his blessing,  
life forevermore.

*Epistle Reading*

*Romans 11:1-2, 29-32 NRSV*

*Israel's Rejection Is Not Final*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

<sup>29</sup> for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now<sup>[a]</sup> receive mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

*Matthew 15:21-28 NRSV*

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

TH #497

*The Canaanite Woman's Faith*

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

*Meditation Hymn*

*"It Is Well With My Soul"*

*Mt Hope VH #270*

*Greenfield CH #705*

*Grace VH #270*

*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*

*"Standing on the Promises"*

*Mt Hope* VH #171  
vs 1,3,4

*Greenfield* CH #410  
vs 1,4,5

*Grace* VH #171  
vs 1,3,4

\* *Benediction*

You have been reconciled with Christ.

Do the work of Christ in the world:

extend support to those in need,

speak up for those cast aside,

build bridges of reconciliation,

strengthen bonds of community,

knowing that

the Maker of Our Days,

the Restorer of Our Souls

and the Breath of Our Lives

will be with you this day and ever more.

In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. **Hallelujah! Amen!**

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

**TH # 558**

\* *Postlude 2/Exiting the Church*