



*August 21, 2022*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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### *Sunday Morning Meditation*

“The mind can go in a thousand directions, but on this beautiful path, I walk in peace. With each step, the wind blows. With each step, a flower blooms.”

– Thich Nhat Hanh

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Mt Hope 8:30am                      Greenfield 9:50am  
11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / 'To Build and to Plant'

August 21, 2022  
Grace 11:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

Our God knows us intimately.

**God, you knew us before we knew ourselves.**

Our God is holy.

**Holy God, you consecrate us.**

Our God will reassure.

**Holy God, you will give us words to speak.**

\* *Invocation*

Holy God, we rejoice that you placed us in the womb and called us forth. You called us forth to build and to plant. Give us the blueprint as we build, and bless our hands as we plant. We rejoice in knowing that our steps are guided by you, and you are reliable. We delight ourselves in your presence and give thanks as you deliver us from fear and let your love have its way in us. Embolden us to speak your truth and let the power of your truth always be evident in us. Amen.

*The Call of Jeremiah*

<sup>4</sup>The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

<sup>6</sup>“Alas, Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

<sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

\* *Opening Hymn*    “*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*”

*Mt Hope* VH #12

*Greenfield* CH #11

*Grace* VH #12

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life*

**Transforming God, too often we have been afraid to speak out against the injustices of this world. We have worshipped in ways that made us feel good rather than honor you in our words and deeds. Show us the path to faithful living. Show us how to build beloved and just communities. Teach us how to do your work in this world. Empower us to plant seeds of love, faith, and hope. May we bloom where we have been planted to your glory.**

*Words of Grace*

The Mystery we name God, leads us into all truth. Feel the gentle nudges without and within, helping us to course correct. Life in the Spirit is not static, and neither are we. Let the grace of God help us to build that which lasts and plant what nourishes.

*Psalm Reading*

**Psalm 103:1-8 NIV**

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
<sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits—  
<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup> The LORD works righteousness  
and justice for all the oppressed.  
<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:  
<sup>8</sup> The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Luke 13:10-17 NIV**

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

**TH #497**

***Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman on the Sabbath***

<sup>10</sup> On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, <sup>11</sup> and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” <sup>13</sup> Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

<sup>14</sup> Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

<sup>15</sup> The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? <sup>16</sup> Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”

<sup>17</sup> When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

\* *Meditation Hymn*

*“Lord, Speak to Me”*

*Mt Hope VH #215*

*Greenfield CH #667*

*Grace VH #215*

*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

**Fount of Every Blessing, receive these gifts in the joy in which we bring them. May they bless your church universally, our community and our world. May none suffer lack and may we always give from generous hearts. May we always take joy in being blessed to give and to share with you and each other. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

**“How Great Thou Art”**

*Mt Hope* VH #505

*Greenfield* CH #147

*Grace* VH #505

\* *Benediction*

As you depart from this sacred space, do so fearlessly for God’s word is in you. Go and build a beloved community wherever you roam and plant seeds of love, faith, and hope. Amen.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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To Build and to Plant: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Pentecost were written by Rev. Teña T. Nock-Hope, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.