July 5, 2026
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

www.greenfieldcharge.org
greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com
Facebook: Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

Pastor
Wendy Farber
(c) 814-937-0465

farberhome@atlanticbb.net

Audio Tech
Jeff Farber (Greenfield)

Sunday Morning Meditation

"The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous."

- Frederick Douglass

Welcome

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ **July 5, 2026**
Joint Service **Greenfield 10:00am**
6th Sunday after Pentecost | Drink | 250th Celebration

Community News
Prayer List and Prayers of the People
Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* Call to Worship

Today we give thanks for the blessings of this land and the generations who came before us.

We remember their courage, their sacrifices, and their dreams.

We celebrate liberty, knowing that freedom carries both privilege and responsibility.

May we use our freedom to seek justice, show mercy, and love our neighbors.

Though we may not always agree, we are one people, called to listen with respect and serve with compassion.

May our differences become opportunities for understanding rather than division.

As we look toward the future, may God guide our nation in wisdom and peace.

May we be faithful citizens of our country and faithful disciples of Christ.

***All*: We give thanks for 250 years of history, entrust the years ahead to God's care, and pray that our lives may reflect hope, justice, and love. Amen.**

* Invocation

God of all nations and all peoples, bless us as we gather in your name. Open us to vessels in building your kingdom and spreading the good news of life and liberty. May we drink from the well of your abundance. May our cups overflow with your love. May our hearts burn in your presence. Be with us in this time and place. Amen.

A Prayer for Our Nation at 250

For fields well-tended,
for mountains and streams,
for cities alive with hope,
and towns that remember our roots,
we give thanks.

For those who built,
those who served,
those who welcomed,
and those who dreamed,
we give thanks.

Teach us, O God,
to cherish freedom with humility,
to seek truth with courage,
to offer grace before judgment,
and to love our neighbors without condition.

May the next chapter of our nation's story
be written with justice,
strengthened by compassion,
and guided by Your enduring peace.
Amen.

* Opening Hymn ***"This Is My Song"*** NCH #591

Prayer for Transformation of New Life

Holy One, we come before you from different perspectives. Some come in a spirit of celebration. Others bring lament and despair. All of us benefit from the power of transformed lives, individually, relationally, and communally. We pray in the assurance that new life is available. We ask for the strength, courage, and persistence to seek your kingdom, peace, justice and righteousness in any and all circumstances and for all people and creation. Amen.

Words of Grace

The God of the covenant is still with us. By the power of the Spirit, we receive the fruit necessary to fuel our shared commitment and commission to building the world as God would have it over the world we inherit. God has given us everything we need to contribute, including the community of faith so that we do not labor alone.

Epistle Reading **Romans 7:15-25a NRSV**

15 I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I
do the very thing I hate. **16** Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the
law is good. **17** But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells
within me. **18** For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is,
in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the
ability. **19** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is
what I do. **20** Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it
but sin that dwells within me.

21 So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies
close at hand. **22** For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, **23** but I
see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making
me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. **24** Wretched
person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? **25** Thanks
be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

* *The Gospel Reading* **Matthew 11:25-30 NRSV**

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.) **TH #497**

Jesus Thanks His Father

25 At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and
earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the
intelligent and have revealed them to infants; **26** yes, Father, for such
was your gracious will. **27** All things have been handed over to me by
my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one
knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son
chooses to reveal him.

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy
burdens, 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."

* Gloria Patri

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* Meditation Hymn **"*For the Beauty of the Earth*"** CH #182

Today's Message **"To Form a More Perfect Union"**

Worship Reflection

"To form a more perfect union..."

Not because we have arrived,
but because we continue the journey.

To seek justice,
to establish peace,
to care for one another,
to protect the vulnerable,
and to preserve liberty for generations yet to come—

May God strengthen us for this holy work,
that our love of country may never exceed our love of God,
and that our love of neighbor may always reflect the love Christ has shown us.
Amen.

* 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

Giving God, make us a people who not only receive your gifts, but empower us to give in mutual measure so that all needs are met. Bless these gifts and amplify their impact as a witness to your goodness and so all may flourish in your name. Amen.

* Closing Hymn ***"God of Grace and God of Glory"*** CH #435

* Benediction

As you go,
Celebrate liberty and pursue justice
Pray for the land on which you are planted
And open space for neighbors seeking a home
Remember the challenges and blessings of the past
Work for the promise and hope of the future
Knowing that the God of the Covenant
Lives, reigns, and abides with us
As the journey continues
Go in peace and go for peace
To love and to serve

* Three-Fold Amen **TH # 558**

* Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle

***Drink*:** Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.