

Community United Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

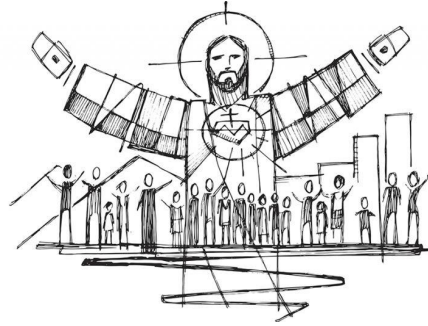


October 2, 2022

11:00 AM

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

From the Day of Pentecost until the day before Advent, the Church is in the Season of Pentecost. Having moved beyond the holy days of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, we tend to call this long stretch of months: Ordinary Time. In truth, there is nothing "ordinary" about Ordinary Time. It is meant to be a period in the Church year when we intentionally seek to grow and flourish in faith. The green colors throughout the sanctuary symbolize that. So let us grow together in both Spirit and Love.

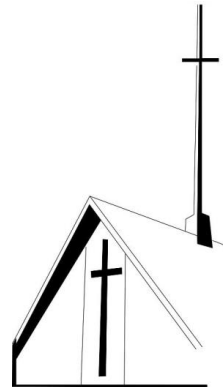


Today's Readings:

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Psalm 37:1-9

Luke 17:5-10



Theme: Doing the Basics

Pastoral Team:

Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty, Senior Pastor
Pastor Joy Johnson, Associate Minister

*Whoever you are, and wherever you
are on life's journey, you are welcome
here!*

Centering Music

Invocation

One: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you, from God our Creator, Christ our Savior, and the Holy Spirit, our eternal Advocate and friend.

All: And also with you.

One: Holy and loving God, some people ask you for power for the sake of power. Some people ask for special gifts in order to be famous. We ask for your presence and wisdom so that we might be filled with sincere faith, discernment, and above all—unconditional love.

All: As we listen for your still-speaking voice, help us to find understanding from scripture, not just its memorization. Help us to find grace at the table, not just tradition. Help us to find meaning in our gathering, not just obligation. Transform us, as a faith community, so that we might become a home for many more people who yearn to know your love, as we find it in Jesus Christ, the Holy One of heaven and earth. Amen!

*Hymn “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” #93

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the One who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert’s burning sand.
From this well comes living water quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.

***Opening Prayer**

The Sign of Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share with one another a sign of peace.

(You may choose to shake hands, hug, or simply acknowledge one another without physical touch based on your comfort and/or health needs.)

First Reading

Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Responsorial

Psalm 37:1-9

One: Do not fret because of those who do wickedness; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

All: Trust in the LORD and do good; live in the land and enjoy security. Take delight in the LORD, and God will give you the desires of your heart.

One: Commit your way to the LORD; trust in God, and God will act. The Holy One will make your vindication shine like the light and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

All: Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for God; do not fret over those who proposer in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

One: Refrain from anger and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

All: For wickedness shall one day be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. Amen!

***Gloria**

“Glory Be to God, Creator” #145

Glory be to God, Creator, glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, known as Three, yet God the One

As it was in the beginning, it is now and so shall be,
In a world without an ending, glory through eternity.

Holy, holy God Almighty! Holy, holy Prince of Peace!
Holy, holy Wind of Presence! Holy, holy, holy! Amen!



***Gospel**

Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the servant for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless servants; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

One: This is the gospel of Christ for the people of God.

All: **Come Holy Spirit! Thanks be to God!**

Message

“Doing the Basics”

Pastor Rich

Chorus:

*Lead me, guide me, along the way,
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you,
Lead me my whole life through.*

I am weak and I need your strength and power
To endure with grace my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness your face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(Chorus)

Help me walk in the paths of righteousness;
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am trusting you—whate'er may be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(Chorus)

I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without your light to see.
Lord, forever may I your servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(Chorus)



COMMUNION LITURGY

Pastor: People of God, come to the table! Christ promised that as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we not only remember him, but we commune with him by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

All: This is a table of grace. There is room around it for every soul that was, and is, and is to come. At this table, all who are far off are made very near. We come to the table as people who are learning the way of Christ. We confess that we are not always right. But we share this faith: that those who trust in Christ Jesus will grow in the assurance of God's eternal love.

Pastor: And so, here at this Table we take bread and cup and ask the Holy Spirit to make it for us: communion with Christ, who gave his life as the bread of heaven and as the cup of eternal life.

All: Here at this Table we remember that Christ gave his entire life as an outpouring of God's Love—a love that will, one day, renew all things. Amen.

Pastor: People of God, come to the table!

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer ("Debts and Debtors")

One: The Lord be with you.

All: ***And also with you.***

One: *Let us pray:* For the prayer requests that have come to us today, whether joys or sorrows.... [*prayer requests are presented*] ... Holy and Loving God, in your wisdom, meet all of these needs in the perfect way of your grace.

All: God hear our prayer!

One: That people of faith learn to seek empowerment over the pursuit of raw power.

All: God hear our prayer!

One: That our faith would grow so that we can be the presence of Christ on earth.

All: God hear our prayer!

One: For all that we hold in the silence of our hearts, we come to you in the confidence of quiet, O God, and lift our petitions privately to you. (*Silent prayer*)... Almighty God, Sovereign of Heaven, shower your blessings upon all people! Move the mountains in our lives, or help to move us so that we might be fully at peace. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

All: "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, the Power, and the Glory forever." Amen.

Offering

Our offerings are first and foremost what we give to the world through justice, kindness, and mercy—and these we can do every day. Our offerings can also take the form of financial contributions to the church to support our ministries.

Financial offerings are now accepted online at:

www.communityunited.church/donate/

Or, if you prefer to mail in a check, that can be addressed to the church at:
1011 West 38th Street – Erie, PA 16508

Offertory Music and Time for Contemplation

As the offertory music is played, let us stay together in a spirit of prayer and worship. Open your hearts now to what Spirit is saying to you—and moving you to do in the days that we have been given.

*Congregational Response (BLUE) #147

***“Praise God, from whom all blessing flow:
Praise God, all creatures high and low:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known!
Creator, Word, and Spirit one!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!”***



*Departing Prayer

One: God of all the ages, you have revealed your grace in our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: As we wait patiently on your mercies, strengthen us to live in your justice so that we might accomplish your will, through Christ, who lights the way to everlasting life. Amen!

*Blessing

*Closing Hymn “We Are Called to Be God’s People” #580

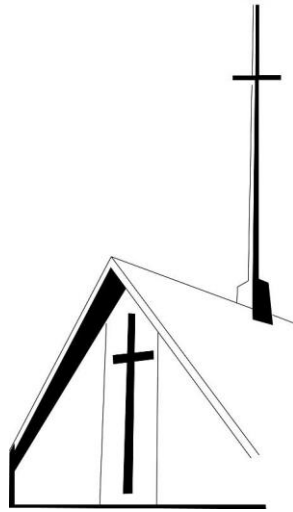
We are called to be God’s people, showing by our lives his grace,
One in heart and one in spirit, sing of hope for all the race.
Let us show how God has changed us, and remade us as his own,
Let us share our life together as we shall around his throne.

We are called to be God’s servants, working in God’s world today;
Taking his own task upon us, all God’s sacred word obey.
Let us rise, then, to God’s summons, dedicate to God our all,
That we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now God’s call.

We are called to be God’s prophets, speaking for the truth and right,
Standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil things to light.
Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill,
That the world may know the blessing of the doing of God’s will.



**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning at
Community United Church!**



Next Sunday, October 9:
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Restoration, Gratitude, and Faith

11:00 AM

Readings:

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Psalm 111

Luke 17:11-19

***Need to contact us for prayer, conversation, or to connect
with a small group or church ministry?***

1011 West 38th Street – Erie, PA 16508

(814) – 864 – 4429

www.communityunited.church



Community United Church

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS MORNING ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD
FROM TOM AND THEA HYATT

THE SECOND VASE IS IN CELEBRATION OF LOGAN'S BAPTISM FROM
DINA (GRAMMY) AND PASTOR JOY (GIGI)

This Week:

October 5: RESONATE 7 PM
October 8: Trinity Soup Kitchen
October 9: Sunday School at 9:45, Sunday Worship 11 AM

WE REMEMBER THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:

Jacob Snyder (Army), Nick Duncan (Army), Samantha McHenry (Army), Shelby Wescott
(Army) and Mathew Anderson (Army)

PRAYERS FOR:

Rod and Dew Johnson, Dan Wingerter, Jill, Phillip Harris, Harry Lamb, Jimmyo, Jimmy
Gillespie, Sue Scheiwer, Jesse, Brenda, Grace, John, Julie Davis, Diane Walker, George
Churley, Rose, Dick, Skinny, Tammy McIntyre, Robin Adams, Joannie, Brandie, Kathy
Koziol, Ralph Kester, Sharon Cooper, and Jerry and Kathy Koziol.

Council Members:

***Debbie Anderson (President), Bob Martin (VP), Dina Johnson (Secretary), Ginnie Burger (Treas.),
Mike Pruzinsky, April Knapp, Patti Rogers, Carol Rodgers, and Angel Hall***

Community United Church's

Fall

Fest



Face Painting, Food, Crafts & fun!

Sunday,
October

16

2022

12:30-2:30pm

1011 WEST 38TH STREET
FREE TO EVERYONE

We can't wait to see you there!

A watercolor illustration of autumn leaves and flowers, similar to the one at the top of the page, positioned at the bottom of the flyer.