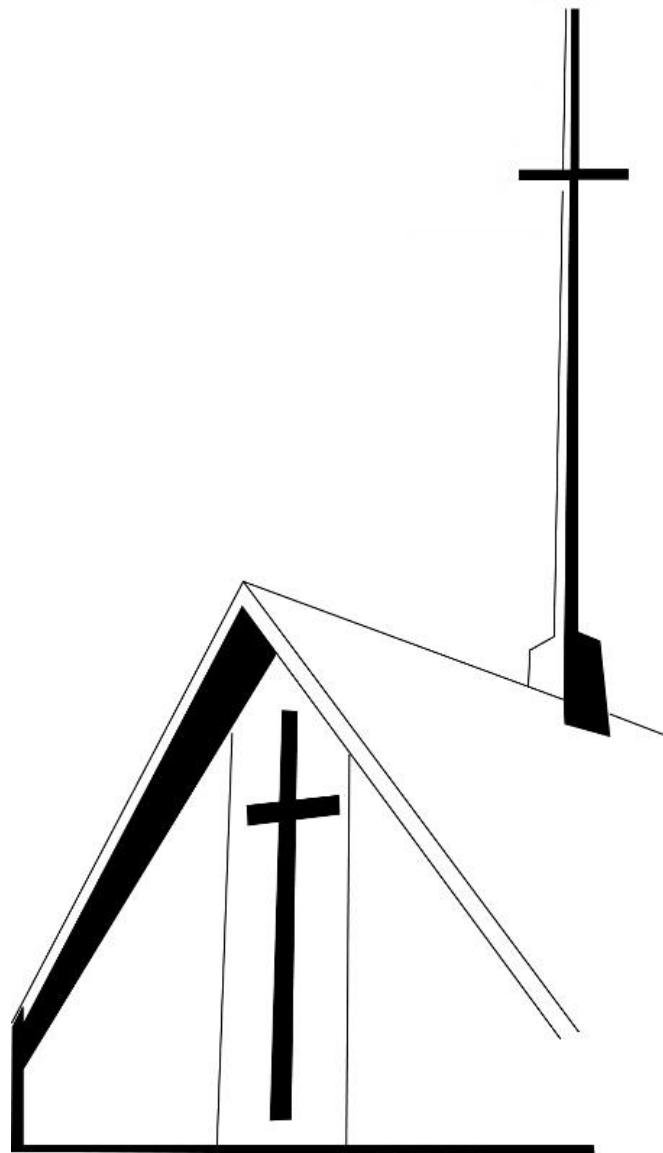


Community United Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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



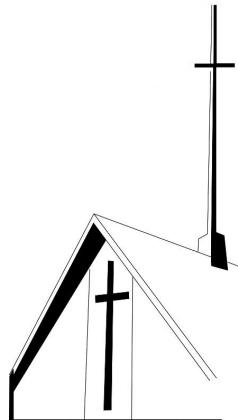
July 10, 2022

11:00 AM

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

From the Day of Pentecost until the day before Advent, the Church is in the Season of Pentecost. But 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 calendar 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:
Colossians 1:1-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Luke 10:25-37



Theme: “Love in Action”

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!

Prelude
Welcome, Prayer Requests & Announcements

Cheryl Strecker and Sarah Strecker

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, your Word is light and truth. Let your face shine on us!

All: Life-giving God, heal our lives, that we may acknowledge your wonderful deeds and offer you thanks from generation to generation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

*Hymn

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" #56

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

My soul with comfort rich he fills, and every grief he gently stills:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made, in mercy he is keeping;
By morning glow or evening shade his eye is never sleeping.
And where he rules in kingly might, there all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory!

We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness and came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord, who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

Let all who name Christ's holy name give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story.
Cast every idol from its throne; the Lord is God, and God alone:
To God all praise and glory!

***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 Letter to the Colossians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Responsorial

Psalm 25:1-10

One: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

All: **Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**

One: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

All: **Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!**

One: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore God instructs sinners in the way. The Holy One leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble the way of God.

All: **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and God's decrees. 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 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

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

Message

"Love in Action"

Pastor Rich

Song of Response

"Grace Alone" #436

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith;
Every difference we will make—is only by his grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine;
Every blessing left behind—is only by his grace.

Chorus:

*Grace alone which God supplies;
Strength unknown he will provide.
Christ in us, our cornerstone,
We will go forth—in grace alone.*

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach;
Everywhere we share his peace—is only by his grace.
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away;
Every sorrow turned to praise—is only by his grace.

(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: All who wish to enter more deeply into the mystery of God through the way of Christ are welcome at this table. So, as you are able, come to the table! Here, God meets us in Christ, through Spirit!

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: For the church worldwide, that all who follow Christ would always choose to lead with love.

All: **God hear our prayer!**

One: For those who have not been loved by the church: for those who have been exiled, shamed, abused, condemned, or ignored. May the wounds of religion be healed by the renewed presence of Christ.

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: Almighty God, you give the holy law to your people so that it will always be near us, and our children.

All: **Through our Lord Jesus who has fulfilled the law in every way, grant that we may love you with heart, soul, strength, and mind, and our neighbor as ourselves. Amen!**

*Blessing

*Closing Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" #712

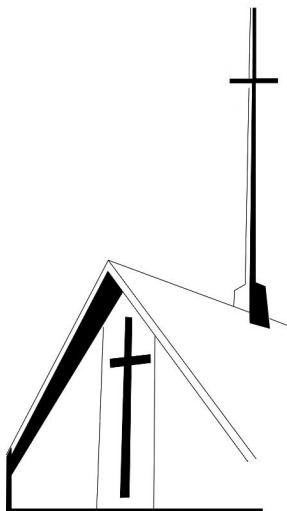
Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended:
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us:
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

Postlude

Cheryl Strecker

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



Next Sunday, July 17: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 AM

Readings:

Colossians 1:15-28

Psalm 15

Luke 10:38-42

Theme:

“Mary and Martha, Worry and Distraction”

***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 AND IN CELEBRATION OF KATHY AND JERRY KOZIOL'S 42ND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.



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

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Deacons:

July 10- Patti, Natalie
July 17- Patti, Sass
July 24- Angel, Patti
July 31- Sass, Becky

Coming Up:

July 12th- Liberty House Dinner
July 13th- Spirits and Spirituality 7 PM
At Calamari's
July 17th- Service Sunday benefiting the Upper Room
July 20th- RESONATE 7 PM
July 26th- Ladies Lunch 12 PM

WE REMEMBER THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:

Meagan Dawson (Army), Jacob Snyder (Army), Nick Duncan (Army), Matt Duncan (Army), Chris Duncan (Marines), Jeremy Cline (Army National Guard), Samantha McHenry (Army), Shelby Wescott (Army) and Mathew Anderson (Army)

PRAYERS FOR: Rod & Dew Johnson, Dan Wingerter, four year old Julie, Jill, Phillip Harris, Harry Lamb, Jimmyo, Jimmy Gillespie, Sue Scheiwer, Jesse, Brenda, Grace, John, Julie Davis, Joe O'Hara, Bill, Diane Walker, George Churley, Mandy, Diane, Rose, Dick, JoMarie, Skinny and The Family of Joe Armstrong, Tammy McIntyre.