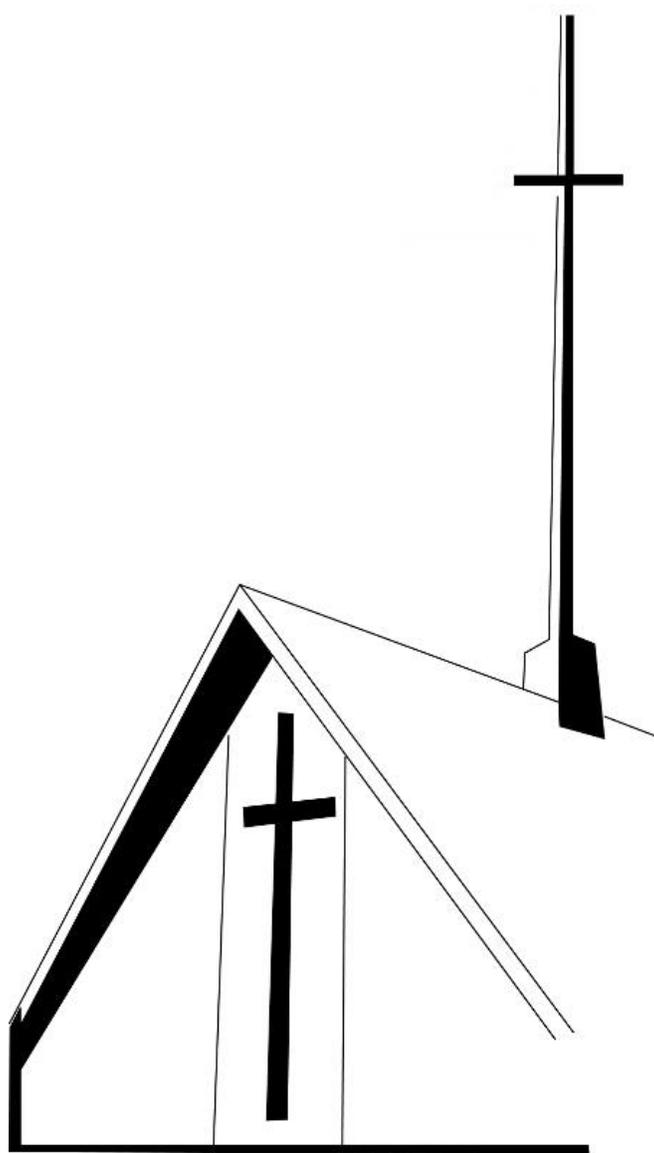


Community United Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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



July 17, 2022

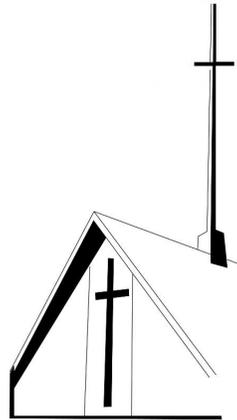
11:00 AM

The Sixth 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 1:15-28
Psalm 15
Luke 10:38-42



Theme: “Mary and Martha, Worry and Distraction”

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

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 Spirit gathers us together as followers of Christ—to rest, and to learn; and to be inspired by your grace to go back out into the world.

All: In this hour of worship, may we choose to be attentive to the truth you reveal to us, as we listen for your Word to speak; as we commune with you in prayer and sacrament, and as we feel your enlivening presence in song and reflection. Amen!

*Hymn

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” #87

Come, Christians, join to sing: *Alleluia! Amen!*
Loud praise to Christ our King: *Alleluia! Amen!*
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: *Alleluia! Amen!*

Come, lift your hearts on high: *Alleluia! Amen!*
Let praises fill the sky: *Alleluia! Amen!*
Christ is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll condescend
His love shall never end: *Alleluia! Amen!*

Praise yet our Christ again: *Alleluia! Amen!*
Life shall not end the strain: *Alleluia! Amen!*
On heaven's blissful shore—his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forever-more: *“Alleluia! Amen!”*

***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 1:15-28

[Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Responsorial

Psalm 15

One: O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

All: Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart...

One: Those who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends, nor heap shame upon their neighbors...

All: Those, in whose eyes wickedness is despised, but who honor those who revere the LORD...

One: Those who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent...

All: Those who do these things shall never be moved. 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 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, [Jesus] entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus’s feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.” ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

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

All: Come Holy Spirit! Thanks be to God!

Message

“Mary and Martha, Worry and Distraction”

Pastor Rich

Song of Response

“Cares Chorus” #493

I cast all my cares upon you,
I lay all of my burdens
Down at your feet
And anytime that I don’t know—
What to do...
I will cast all my cares upon you.
(Repeat all)

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!

Post Communion Hymn:

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" #705, Vv. 1, 2-5

Chorus:

*You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.*

As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
So when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.

(Chorus)

Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord?

(Chorus)

The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.

(Chorus)

You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

(Chorus)

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 all those "too busy," that they would learn to rest in the presence of Christ.

All: **God hear our prayer!**

One: For all who lack a sense of worth outside of work, that they would find it within.

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: Holy and loving God, awaken us to the workings of your will in our midst, and keep us attentive to the things that truly matter in the reign of God.

All: Guide us to what is meaningful in this life until the day when your mystery—hidden throughout the ages—stands fully revealed in the kingdom of all your saints. Amen!

*Blessing

*Closing Hymn

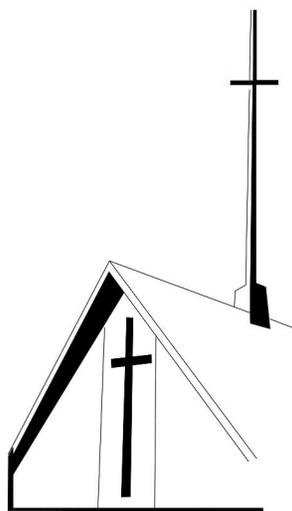
“We are Called to Be God’s People” #580

We are called to be God’s people, showing by our lives his grace,
One in heart and one in spirit, sign 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 his world today;
Taking his own task upon us, all his sacred words obey.
Let us rise, then, to his summons, dedicate to him our all,
That we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now his 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, July 24: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 AM

Readings:

Colossians 2:6-19

Psalm 138

Luke 11:1-13

Theme:

“Pounding on the Door of Heaven with Prayer”

*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



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

The Ladies Outreach Group will have their monthly meeting at the Crossroads Diner on Tuesday, July 26. We will meet at the church parking lot at 11:00 and car pool from there. Please contact Carol Rodgers at 814-450-0194 if you are able to attend.

Thank you to all who participated with our dinner at Liberty House, it was wildly successful! We'll be attempting to hold this dinner on a monthly basis, likely the second Tuesday of every month. We had so many volunteers that we were able to schedule volunteers for August too! If you are interested in participating in September or in the future please let Pastor Rich or Tracy know and we'll get you on the schedule.

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

Deacons:

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

Coming Up:

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), 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, The Family of Joe Armstrong, Tammy McIntyre, Robin Adams and the family of John Stempka.