

Community United Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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



July 5, 2026

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 AM

Pastor Joy L. Johnson

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

Centering Music "Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty" #19

Blessed be the Lord God almighty,
Who was, and is, and is to come;
Blessed be the Lord God almighty,
Who reigns forevermore.

(Repeat)

Invocation

One: The colors before us have changed to shades of green, and the beauty of summer's blossoms as we enter more deeply into the season of growth.

All: There is a time for every purpose under heaven; this is the season to be rooted, to grow, and to bear fruit.

One: Like trees planted beside streams of living water, we seek lives grounded in God's grace and nourished by God's love.

All: Jesus reminds us that the holy is found not only in great moments, but in listening, serving, loving, and being fully present each day.

One: Every ordinary day is filled with God's extraordinary presence.

All: We come to worship, to grow together, and to be sent into the holy work of everyday life. Amen!

***Opening Hymn** "Morning Has Broken" #35

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Spring in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

***Opening Prayer**

***The Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ be with you, all!

All: And also with you!

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

Song

“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is” #396

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace.
Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.
There is comfort in life’s darkest hour,
There is light and life, there is help and power
In the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.

(Repeat)

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³moreover, it is God’s gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

Responsorial

Psalm 65:9-13

One: You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

All: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

One: The pastures of the wilderness overflow; you set the hills to dancing,

All: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks; the valleys deck themselves with grain; they shout and sing together for joy. 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, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus’ 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!

Children’s Message

Song of Preparation

“Through it All” #452

Through it all, through it all
I’ve learned to trust in Jesus,
I’ve learned to trust in God;
Through it all, through it all,
I’ve learned to depend upon God’s Word
(Repeat)

Message

The Holy Work of Ordinary Days

Pastor Joy



Hymn of Response “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” #705 v. 1,2,5

Refrain

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

Refrain

With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude,
That you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food.

Refrain

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

Refrain

Celebration of Communion

Pastor: Beloved children of God, as we gather at Christ’s table this morning, we proclaim that this table is open to all people – no matter who you are or what you believe or what you’ve been told. At this table we remember the simple gathering of a chosen family all those centuries ago that came together for a meal that proclaimed a new way of being in this world.

All: We remember God’s radically inclusive love made real in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We remember the One who befriended the forgotten, embraced the outcast, and saw the image of God in all people.

Pastor: It is here at this table that we find hope and imagination to see God’s promise of wholeness, and the strength we need to continue the work of justice. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, and broke it and said, “This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup, saying, “This is my blood, my very life, poured out for you. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

All: God, we thank you for breathing creation into existence and declaring it good. We celebrate the rich diversity of your world-- every soul, every life shaped by your grace. By your Spirit, in this holy meal, assure us that nothing can separate us from your love. Amen.

Pastor: People of God, come to the table!

Communion Music “One Thing Remains, Your Love Never Fails” Cheryl Strecker



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

One: The Lord be with you.

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

One: People of God, let us center our hearts and extend the spiritual power that is within us. *Let us pray:* For the prayer requests that have come to us today, whether joys or sorrows.... [prayer requests are presented]. We also pray for all who have asked to be on our prayer list—and so we ask: Holy and Loving God, in your wisdom, meet all of these needs in the perfect way of your grace. We pray together:

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 financial contributions to the church are what allow us to support our ministries. As you can give, please do so joyfully!

If you are not in the sanctuary, online donations can be made at:

www.communityunited.church

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/Ministry of Music "Remember Me" Dina Johnson & Cheryl Strecker

Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Congregational Response #147**

"Praise God, from whom all blessings 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: Gracious God, grant us peace as we go forth, and hold us close in your love.

All: **May we bear fruit in faithfulness and walk in gentle strength.**

One: Bless us with steady purpose, justice, and fairness in all that we do.

All: **In all seasons may we flourish in the light of your presence. Amen!**

*Blessing

***Closing Hymn** “God of Grace and God of Glory” #569 v. 1,2,4

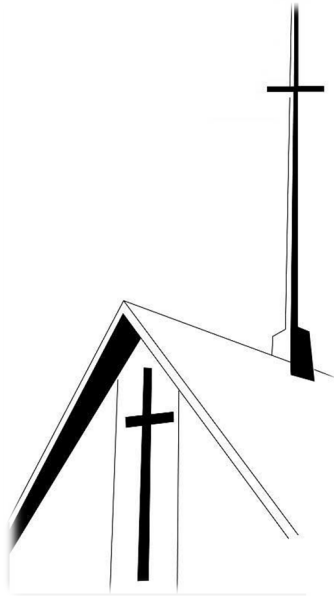
God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
Crown your ancient Church’s story, bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn your Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us—free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.



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



Next Week:
Sunday, July 12, 2026
11:00 AM

Readings:

Genesis 29:15-28

Romans 8:26-39

Psalm 105:1-6,45b

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Theme: Go Big or Go Home

***Need to contact us for prayer, conversation, or to connect
online 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 by
Ron and Penny Churley in honor of the wedding anniversaries of
Ronald and Jacqi (21 yrs.) and Ron and Penny (55 yrs.)
*Congratulations!***

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 12: Congregational Meeting immediately following Worship

July 14: Women's Group Luncheon at noon in Fellowship Hall

July 14: Liberty House ministry

July 19: Service Sunday

***Need hearing assistance? We have four available units. Please talk to our tech crew
in the back of the sanctuary.***

WE REMEMBER THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:

Jackson Feiock (Army), Jacob Snyder (Army), Nick Duncan (Army), Brittany Duncan (Army),
Matt Duncan (Army), Tyler Anderson (Army National Guard), Shelby Wescott (Army),
Jaden O'Hara (Army), Toby Charlton (Marines), Cole Posnett (Army), Hunter Miaczynski (Army)
Mathew Anderson (Army), Zachary Oliver (PA Army National Guard),
Aran Maloney (Air National Guard), and Connor Bille (Army)

PRAYERS FOR:

Linda Hilbert, Anna Silvia, Dew Johnson, Ethel Davis, Celeste Eller & Family,
Michele Serafin, Toni Stevenson, Sandra Ganley, Dorothy Moyer, Celeste Peck,
Linda Foll Johnson, Shirley Carrier, Debra Jackman, Zoey Cathie Witmire,
Laura Will, the Smith and Schmidt families, Linda Weber, Veronica, Patty Puzar,
Joan Schultz, family and friends of Kim Normandy, Michelle and Melissa, Randy Koziol,
Barbara Thompson, Tanisha and Jaeda, family and friends of Lois Simmers,
Barbara Hickey, Lorre Rapp, Sandy Gool, Jim Haglund, Rosie Goss,
Ruth Zavaglia, Brad Stewart and Cain Hickey

Your 2026 Council Members:

Thea Hyatt, President, Ginnie Burger, Vice President, Tracy Davis, Treasurer, Juli Tonks, Secretary,
Michele Vahey, Justin Graff, Angel Conrad, Chuck Becker, and Don Cameron

You may call the church office at 814-864-4429 for pastoral and administrative matters
or use email: communityunitedchurch@yahoo.com

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