



AS A FATHER  
HAS COMPASSION  
ON HIS CHILDREN,  
SO THE LORD  
HAS COMPASSION  
ON THOSE WHO  
FEAR HIM.

PSALM 103:13

CrossCards

*June 18, 2023*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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Pastor

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Today's Services led by  
Church Members

Pianist

Sylvia Olewinski (MH)

Organist

Gary McIntyre (Grace)

*Sunday Morning Meditation*

Is anything too wonderful for God? What shall we return to God  
for all God's bounty?

**Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ**

**June 18, 2023**

Mt Hope 8:30am

Greenfield 9:50am

Grace 11:00am

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

People of God, run to our welcoming God.

**Holy One, you never pass us by.**

People of God, proclaim our love for the God of Love.

**Beloved One, you hear our voices;**

**you answer our cries and receive our praise.**

People of God, sing God's good news to the world.

**Empowering One, you give us power to be signs of the kingdom of heaven.**

\* *Invocation*

Loving God, you remind us that the kingdom of heaven has come near. Open our eyes, our faith, and our hearts, that we may perceive and celebrate your presence. Give us eyes, as Abraham and Sarah before us, to see you on our doorsteps, as you promise us unimaginable joy. Give us the faith of Paul to trust your eternal and unfailing love. Give us hearts empowered by your Son, Jesus Christ, to show your compassion to the harassed and the helpless. We ask in the name of Jesus, who reconciles us to you and sends us forth to be your reconciliation in the world. Amen.

\* *Opening Hymn*

***"Praise Him! Praise Him!"***

*Mt Hope VH # 31*

*Greenfield CH # 12*

*Grace VH # 31*

*Prayer of Confession*

Ever-present, ever-listening, and ever-empowering God,

**we often fall short when responding to your love.**

You promise us blessings,

**yet we often laugh in cynicism and disbelief.**

You always love us,

**yet we often act distant and even hostile.**

You empower us to be your loving presence,  
**yet we often seek this power for ourselves.**

We call upon you now,

**knowing that you hear our voices and our supplications.**

We call upon you in this place,

**knowing that no accomplishment is too wonderful for you to accomplish.**

For there is no limit to your love for all people,

**and there is no end to your mercy.**

In Jesus's name, we pray.

**Amen.**

### *Words of Assurance*

People of God, the Holy Spirit pours God's love into our hearts.

In Jesus Christ, we share the grace and glory of God.

### *Psalm Reading*

**Psalm 116:1-2. 12-19 NIV**

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;  
he heard my cry for mercy.

<sup>2</sup> Because he turned his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.

<sup>12</sup> What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his goodness to me?

<sup>13</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup> Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful servants.

<sup>16</sup> Truly I am your servant, LORD;  
I serve you just as my mother did;  
you have freed me from my chains.

<sup>17</sup> I will sacrifice a thank offering to you  
and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup> in the courts of the house of the LORD—  
in your midst, Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD.

### *New Testament Reading*

**Romans 5:1-8 NIV**

## *Peace and Hope*

**5** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we<sup>[a]</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we<sup>[b]</sup> boast in the hope of the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we<sup>[c]</sup> also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;<sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope.<sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.<sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Matthew 9:35-10:8 NIV**

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

**TH #497**

### *The Workers Are Few*

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.<sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.<sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

### *Jesus Sends Out the Twelve*

**10** Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

<sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. <sup>6</sup> Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come

near.’<sup>8</sup> Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy,<sup>[a]</sup> drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

\* *Meditation Hymn* “*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*”

*Mt Hope* VH # 236      *Greenfield* CH # 688      *Grace* VH # 236

*Today's Message: Are We Offering the Right Cup?* By King Duncan

*A Prayer for Father's Day*

Loving God, our Lord Jesus Christ called you Father. Remembering his love for you, we pray today for all human fathers. May they be like Abraham, welcoming you with hospitality and laughter, and receiving in return a legacy of faith for generations to come. May they rely upon your grace as they answer the call of parenting. And may they show to their children the compassion of Jesus Christ, who responds to human suffering and need with limitless love. In Jesus’s name, we pray. 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

**Loving God, what shall we return to you for your great  
bounty in our lives? Your generosity knows no limits. Your  
loving compassion pours into our hearts and our very  
beings. We thank you. We call upon you, trusting your  
love. We offer you all that we have and all that we are,  
hoping for your glory and desiring your kingdom. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*    *"Faith of Our Fathers"*  
*Mt Hope* VH # 246    *Greenfield* CH # 404    *Grace* VH # 246

\* *Benediction*

May Jesus, who sees the crowd and has compassion, have  
compassion on you.

May Jesus, who sees a plentiful harvest, send you out as laborers in  
his fields.

May Jesus, who sees the kingdom of heaven draw near, make you  
a sign of God's love for all people. Amen.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*    TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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