



July 21, 2024
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Sunday Meditation

So often our primary ambition is to escape pain or feel good or be delivered from a problem when instead we need to keep our focus on the big picture of what God is doing in our life and the lives of others through pain or problems. Our primary aim should be to glorify God, not be honored or to be healthy or to be happy.

Anne Graham Lotz
Trusting God When You Don't Understand (2004)

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
9th Sunday after Pentecost / Coming and Going

July 21, 2024
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

Inspired from Psalm 89

Holy One is with us. God's hand remains with us.

**God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest
in God's presence.**

Holy Love keeps their covenant from generation to generation and
establishes our future.

**God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest
in God's presence.**

Let us worship God together and praise the Holy Name!

**God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest
in God's presence.**

* *Invocation*

Wonderful Creator, you come to us with power and gentleness,
strength and compassion, peace and joy. We come to you with
hope and hopelessness, love and heartbreak, thanksgiving and
lament. You fortify us as we go on our journey, assured of your
presence and renewed by your love. Give us rest in our coming and
in our going. Give us joy in ministering in your name. May our
worship restore our soul as we dwell in your presence. Amen.

* *Opening Hymn*

"The Church's One Foundation"

Mt Hope VH #161

Greenfield CH #401

Grace VH #161

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Holy God, we confess that our lives keep us consumed more with doing than with being. We trust in the chariots and horses of our times—our tools, our schemes, our positions. We acknowledge that you call us to rest in your truth, your love, and your peace without abdicating our responsibility to embody your good news in the world. We struggle to balance the rhythms of rest and renewal in our lives and seek your guidance and direction toward a life where you are our peace, our hope, and our standard. Guide us on this path, we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, you do not journey alone. In community with the Holy One and one another, we find grace and strength to heed the call to discipleship. In Christ, we carry the good news and reflect a God who is near to us, faithful to redeem, and affirms our rest and renewal. Amen.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 89:20-37 NRSV

- ²⁰ I have found my servant David;
with my holy oil I have anointed him;
²¹ my hand shall always remain with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.
²² The enemy shall not outwit him;
the wicked shall not humble him.
²³ I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.
²⁴ My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him,
and in my name his horn shall be exalted.
²⁵ I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.
²⁶ He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!’
²⁷ I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
²⁸ Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him,
and my covenant with him will stand firm.

²⁹ I will establish his line forever
and his throne as long as the heavens endure.
³⁰ If his children forsake my law
and do not walk according to my ordinances,
³¹ if they violate my statutes
and do not keep my commandments,
³² then I will punish their transgression with the rod
and their iniquity with scourges,
³³ but I will not remove from him my steadfast love
or be false to my faithfulness.
³⁴ I will not violate my covenant
or alter the word that went forth from my lips.
³⁵ Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness;
I will not lie to David.
³⁶ His line shall continue forever,
and his throne endure before me like the sun.
³⁷ It shall be established forever like the moon,
an enduring witness in the skies.”

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 NRSV

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

TH #497

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things.

Healing the Sick in Gennesaret

⁵³ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴ When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him ⁵⁵ and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he

was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* *Meditation Hymn* “*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*”

Mt Hope VH #150

Greenfield CH #390

Grace VH #150

Today's Message

* *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

Generous God, we give these gifts to you through this faith community. May you lead and guide us with discernment so that our ministry would give you glory, honor your name, and benefit your creation. Amen.

* *Closing Hymn*

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Mt Hope VH #236

Greenfield CH #688

Grace VH #236

* *Benediction*

In your coming and going, may you encounter Jesus on the journey. In your coming and going, may you touch the source of power and healing. In your coming and going, may you find rest. Come and go in peace.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

Coming and Going: Service Prayers for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Year B was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.