

Grace

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Grace United Church of Christ

October 2, 2022

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

* When a portion of the service is preceded with an *, you are invited to stand in body and/or spirit.

Words printed in bold are an invitation for you to join in the spoken or sung response.

PRELUDE

Sonatina 1 - Muzio Clementi
Performed by David Mohn

*WORDS OF WELCOME

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

People: In this safe space, may God grant us the vision to see the Holy in each other and the Holy in ourselves.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Increase our faith!

People: Let our worship uncover clearer understandings of you.

Leader: Increase our trust!

People: Let our worship unearth stronger connections to you.

Leader: Increase our hope!
People: Let our worship unleash fresher possibilities from you.

***GATHERING PRAYER**

People: Meet us here with all our questions and insecurities. Challenge our knowledge and certainties. Transform our beliefs and perceptions. Influence our commitments and actions. Meet us here, God, where we need you. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

People: We don't always get what you mean, Storytelling Jesus. We want to be better followers, so we exclaim, "Increase our faith!" Your response exposes our flawed approach, well-intentioned though it may be. Forgive us for transacting our faith for your favor.

ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

A GIFT OF MUSIC

Do Not Forget the Workings of the Lord - DeFrange

SACRED TEXT 2 Timothy 1:1-14 NRSV

CENTERING HYMN

Praise the Source of Faith and Learning

SACRED TEXT Luke 17:5-10 NRSV

REFLECTION

***SUNG RESPONSE**

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey
now and ever, now and ever, Now and evermore.**

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

OUR STORY OF COMMUNION AND CONNECTION

Leader: First, God created one person.

People: But it was not right for that one person to be alone.

Leader: That person had God, but needed an equal, so God made animals.

People: God made a giraffe, a raven, a dog, a cat.

Leader: But it still wasn't enough, so God made another person, an equal, someone to share with, and talk with.

God created relationship.

God created communion.

People: This at last is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!

Leader: And then God took it one step further. God looked at the many people living in relationship with one another and decided to join the community! God came to be with us as one of us, and his human family called him Jesus. This at last is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!

People: This at last is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!

Leader: And one night, when Jesus sat with his community, he took bread, and broke it, and blessed it, saying, "This is my body." Then he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood."

People: This at last is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, and make us one body of Christ.

People: This at last is bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!

Leader: Bone of our bone; flesh of our flesh: one with each other and all humanity: the Body of Christ.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Please proceed down the center aisle to receive bread and cup. Eat the bread as you receive it, carry the cup as you return to your seat. We will all drink the cup together. Elements will be brought to you if you prefer to remain seated. All bread is gluten-free.

Communion Meditation Music:

Israel – Jim Brickman, performed by David Mohn.

GIVING THANKS

People: We give you thanks, O God, for creating community and for inviting us to be one with each other, and one with you. Nourish us with these gifts. Nourish our bodies, and nourish our spirits. Let us go forth remembering that together, we are all Bone of our bone; Flesh of our flesh; The Body of Christ. Amen.

***INVITATION TO FAITHFUL SHARING**

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

***DEDICATION OF GIFTS**

People: God of all creation, we thank you for these gifts of money, time, and selves that we cheerfully give to you. Breathe your life-giving breath upon these gifts that they might be a blessing to all flesh. Expand and bless every single one in service to you and the work you've called us to do. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

**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.**

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES

***SENDING HYMN In Christ There is No East or West**

***WORDS OF SENDING AND PEACE**

***SENDING RESPONSE Sent Forth by God's Blessing**
**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 hearts 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 realm and to answer the call.**

POSTLUDE Be Bold, Be Strong - Chapman

Grace United Church of Christ
13275 Cleveland Ave NW
Uniontown, OH 44685
330.699.3255
gracetown.com

Worship was influenced by both *Increase Our Faith: Service Prayers for after Pentecost*, written by The Rev. Phiwa Langeni, the Ambassador for Innovation & Engagement for the UCC's CARDD, and the Founder and former Director of Salus Center in Lansing, MI. and *This at Last! An Intergenerational Liturgy for World Communion Sunday, Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost*, written by the Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri.



Live stream can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/gracetown/live>

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday:	7pm	Catching Our Spiritual Breath on Zoom
Tuesday:	9am-noon	Tuesday Crew meets here to do work on our building and grounds. You are welcome to join in!
	9am-noon	Office Hours
Wednesday:	9am-noon	Office Hours
	10am	Yoga in the Family Activity Center
	7pm	Consistory
Sunday	9:15am	Adult Sunday School in HeBrews Café
	Following Worship	After Thoughts: How to Welcome All

WORSHIP LEADERS

Doug McKita is helping lead worship as our liturgist. Altar flowers are presented by **Dave and Nancy Forman** in honor of family.

Our greeter this morning is **Nancy Forman**.

Dave Forman, Mike Pirogowicz, Paul Sodergren, and Jim Lynn serve as our Livestream and Sanctuary Technicians and **Tom DeFrang** serves as musician and accompanist.



NO MATTER WHO
YOU ARE, OR WHERE
YOU ARE ON LIFE'S
JOURNEY, YOU ARE
WELCOME HERE!

AFTER > Thoughts!

> **OCTOBER 9**

Topic >

**How to
Welcome All**

A poster for a 'Scrapbook Crop' event. The background is a light pinkish-beige color with scattered brown dots. A dark grey rectangular area is centered, held in place by four wooden corner tabs. The text is written in a mix of cursive and sans-serif fonts.

Scrapbook Crop

Saturday, October 15th

**Purchase raffle tickets or sign
up to volunteer in the narthex!**

A poster for a 'Trunk or Treat' event. The background is a light yellow color with scattered autumn leaves in shades of orange and red. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. A red starburst shape contains the date and time.

Trunk or Treat

**Grace
United Church of Christ**

13275 Cleveland Ave NW
Uniontown, OH 44685

**Sunday
October 23
5 - 6:30 pm**

Sign up today to participate in this year's Trunk or Treat!
Sign up information is in the narthex. Questions? See Jerry Mohn.