

**First Congregational Church UCC
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 29, 2021**



The Spirit of God makes us one in Christ.

**stand in body or spirit*

Preparing for the Word

PRELUDE *How Great Is Our God* by Chris Tomlin

RINGING OF THE BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

God is great and greatly to be praised!

We thank you, God, for families and friends. We thank you for the warmth of kitchens, and cool breezes of summer and for those homes that welcome us in.

God, how great is your name throughout the earth!

We thank you God for newborns, and wise elders, for leafy trees and sunlight and the green grasses.

Blessed be God, the rock of our salvation!

We thank you God for the sound of laughter and loving touches, for brand new mornings and for dreams held close.

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving: let us use our voices to sing God's praise. Come! Let us worship God.

OPENING MUSIC *Here I Am To Worship* by Tim Hughes

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what has been, help us find our way back to you away from aimlessness and sin. Direct what we shall be so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Listening for the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue,

and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised,

but who honor those who fear the Lord;

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.
Those who do these things shall never be moved

The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles. So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

*Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

What We Share

Responding to the Word

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY (*unison, sung quietly*)

This is my offering, dear Lord. This is my offering to You, God. And I will give You my life for it's all I have to give because You gave Your life for me.

I stand before You at this altar. So many have given You more. I may not have much I can offer, yet what I have is truly Yours.

This is my offering, dear Lord. This is my offering to You, God. And I will give You my life for it's all I have to give because You gave Your life for me.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING MUSIC

Forever

by Chris Tomlin

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION** *The Blessing* Insert

POSTLUDE

Do Lord

Today, August 29

Worship 9:30a w/Praise Band at Bill and Emily Peterson's home.

Pastor: Grace Anderson
Greeters: Al and Jacqui Broin

Monday, August 30

Pr. Grace - 10:00a - 3:00p
Kileen - 10:00a - 3:00p

Tuesday, August 31

Pr. Grace - 10:00a - 3:00p
Bible Study - 10:00a

Wednesday, September 1

Pr. Grace - 10:00a - 3:00p
Praise Band 5:45 p

Thursday, September 2

Kileen - 10:00a - 3:00p

Sunday, September 5

Pastor: Grace Anderson
Greeters: Bruce and Mavis Johnson

Pastoral Care

Contact Pastor Grace in the event of an emergency.
Cell: 651-367-9328. Email: pastor.cannonfallsucc@gmail.com.

Adult Education

Adult Education after worship on Sundays will begin in October. Stay tuned for more details.

Bible Study

Join us for Bible Study each Tuesday at 10:00 am. This week we will be discussing Mark 7:24-37.

Prayer Partners

We pick members and staff to lift in prayer each week. This week we pray for: Jim Johnson, Gary and Linda Sheridan, Byron and Karen Nowariak.

Prayer Chain

Morning, Bonnie Hvistendahl
263-4120

Evening, Mavis Johnson
263-2857

When you are in need of prayer for yourself or others, your request will be passed along through the prayer chain.

Aid for Haiti

As news continues to provide the impact of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, aid is desperately needed for its victims. The National Office of the United Church of Christ and in partnership with Global Ministries, Church World Service and ACT Alliance made the appeal to raise \$100,000 for disaster relief for this besieged country.

If you would like to donate, please visit the UCC.org website: (<https://www.ucc.org/ucc-haiti-appeal/>) or the Church World Service website (<https://cwsglobal.org/donate/haiti-2021/>) for more information or to donate electronically. Donations for the UCC Disaster Relief Appeal can also be mailed to:

United Church of Christ
Financial Services Attention:
Haiti Relief
700 Prospect Ave, 6th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44115

Donations for Church World Service can also be mailed and payable to:

Church World Service Attn:
Haiti Relief
P.O. Box 968
Elkhart, IN 46515

Calling All Book Lovers!

So many members love books! Each month, our newsletter will include recommendations of books that speak to our faith and our spirits. If you have an idea, please contact Ki in the church office, or Pastor Grace.

Outreach

We are looking for people who are willing to learn how to record the services. Contact Cindy Mae for more information.

2021 Ministry Leads

*Ideas? Questions? Want to Help?
These are the people to talk to!*

Moderator: **Bill Peterson**

Treasurer: **Jon Sagers**

Historian: **Glenda Cooper**

Head Ushers: **Byron**

**Nowariak &
Jim Hvistendahl**

Trustees chair: **Roman
Mercier**

Pastoral Relations co-chairs:
**Linda Hindal & Patrick
Hemmah**

Community Churches
Interaction Committee
representative: **Ray Meglic**

Outreach Ministry Lead:
Cindy Mae Nelson

Church Community Ministry:
Linda Hindal

Worship Ministry: **Jacqui
Broin**

Mission Ministry: **Sandra
Meglic & Cindy Mae Nelson**

Christian Education Ministry:
Pr. Grace Anderson