



## **Christ's Reformed Church – United Church of Christ**

*~ growing people of faith who live in Jesus, love one another and bear abundant fruit ~*

**June 11, 2023**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

This month we celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride as we work toward greater inclusion in every church, workplace, and family.

**We gather today to be refreshed, renewed, and strengthened in our faith and in our resolve for the work we must do together.**

Listen, there is a voice calling us.

**It is the voice of our Divine Beloved.**

The one who loves us invites us to mingle our voices together.

**We call out in worship and praise together.**

Bring your hopes, expectations, and longings that you have carried with you throughout the week.

**Here they are. We speak them in our spirit and with our words.**

Come and worship. Come and praise. Come and pray.

**We commit ourselves to this sacred time of celebration.**

### INVOCATION

Reveal Yourself

**Reveal Yourself now**

Rise up in this assembly

Show us a manifestation of who You are

I call forth a knitting together by Your Spirit

Of all created beings within the sound of my voice

Reveal Yourself

**Reveal Yourself now**

Awaken within each one of us  
Reach out from within each one of us  
So that your intangible essence will be felt and known

Reveal Yourself

**Reveal Yourself now**

You have promised to make yourself known  
I call forth the revelation of Your presence  
Of You as Presence within, between, and around us

We step into Your Sacred Circle  
We invite You into our Sacred Circle  
As we reveal ourselves to You  
We also reach out to You and call upon You

**Reveal Yourself now**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Draw the Circle Wide*

(See Attachment)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We acknowledge our suffering, brought about by queerphobic rhetoric in politics and in many churches.

**So many of us are sick, scared, dying, or trapped.**

Holy Love, we can't hold this alone.

**We are discouraged and calling out to you.**

We acknowledge racism and the increase in violence toward our black and brown siblings.

**This is unacceptable and sinful. We examine ourselves first for any prejudice which contributes to this violence.**

God of Mercy, change us where we need to be changed.

**God of the Resistance, we stand with you and with our black and brown siblings in rebellion against our racist system.**

Divine Beloved, we acknowledge that it is hard to see ourselves as you see us.

**Too frequently we put ourselves down or feel shameful about our personhood.**

We malign your excellence and creativity when we try to fit into boxes not made in our shape.

**Remind us of our goodness when we praise Your goodness.**

The extent of Your image is a mystery to us. Help us to see this great mystery in ourselves.

**Give us strength to claim our inherent sacrality.**

We become scared that others will mock us for seeing Your image as our intrinsic nature.

**Find us, O God, in the midst of our fear. Give us strength to proclaim, "We are made in the image of The Divine!"**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

All that The Creator made is good. Rest assured; The Creator made you. You are good. You are holy. You are sacred. Sometimes we have to be careful how we present to others and with whom we share our authentic selves. While not all people can be trusted, we trust God to love us and celebrate us for who we really are. Lift up your head. Be proud. Allow yourself to know who you are. We praise God when we

celebrate the diversity of humankind. Let us glorify God by celebrating the beautiful mystery and diversity that we each hold in ourselves. May your mind be at peace, your spirit soar, and your body be elated, as you feel Holy Love surrounding and uplifting you.

PRAYER RESPONSE

*Sanctuary*

(See Below or Attachment)

**Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, Pure and holy tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for You**

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 12:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak<sup>[b]</sup> of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup> And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. <sup>10</sup> And as he sat at dinner<sup>[a]</sup> in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting<sup>[b]</sup> with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>12</sup> But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

<sup>18</sup> While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." <sup>19</sup> And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. <sup>20</sup> Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, <sup>21</sup> for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." <sup>22</sup> Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. <sup>23</sup> When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup> he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. <sup>26</sup> And the report of this spread through all of that district.

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Rev. Mary Jane Norville

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Here I Am, Lord*

(See Attachment)

PASTORAL PRAYER with Psalm 33

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Beloved Father, dwelling in the heavenly realms, may the glory of your name be the center on which our lives turn. Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is in heaven. We acknowledge you as our Provider of all we need each day. Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. Rescue us every time we face tribulation and set us free from evil. For you are the King who rules with power and glory forever. Amen. *The Passion Translation (TPT)*

OFFERING

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication for Offering

We are all one human family. In your love you created us. Through your grace you reach out to us. You are great enough to hold us all in your arms at the same time. Help us to open our hearts to the world that you love. Teach us to weave our lives together. We yield to Spirit, offering what we have to the greater good. In this way, each day, we begin again in love.

\*HYMN OF SENDING

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

(See Attachment)

\*BENEDICTION

Go forth

When the light is too bright  
be comforted in the shadows  
When the dark is too dense  
be illumined by the light  
When the road is too rocky  
be soothed by the grass  
When the chill is biting  
be warmed by the breath of God

Go forth

Carrying with you and within you  
the strength of God renewed  
the power of God assured  
and the wisdom of God  
embedded within your spirit  
and inspired from God's Spirit

Go forth  
In the Name of Love

\*BENEDICTION SONG

*Halle, Halle, Halleluja*

(See Attachment)

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if you would like.

**Please lift the people below in your prayers.**

Bill & Ella Andrews  
Connie Boone (Friend of Gertie Mills)  
Paul and Becky Corderman  
Nina Crist  
Geraldine Cromer  
Kathy Fisher  
Terry Gearhart  
Web Harbaugh  
Larry Hoeck  
Georgiana Keller  
Dave Kolenc (Betty Spessard's Cousin)  
Kristi Lawson  
Bill Morgan (Friend of the Duffy's)  
Jamie Neff  
Ginger Nichols  
Kimberly Palmer (Sister of Stephanie Seward)  
Ed Poling  
Linda VanMetre  
New Graduates



*The altar flowers are placed to the Glory of God and  
in loving memory of Francis Newcomer  
given by Endowment Newcomer Fund*





Welcome to our Guests: We gather to praise “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). Because of Jesus, you can be at peace in the assurance of God’s forgiveness and love. Welcome to worship!! If you have come as a visitor, we hope that you’ll leave as a friend who’s been blessed by worshiping in this house of God. We look forward to seeing you again.

June 11	Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 11	Congregational Brainstorming Meeting after service
June 14	11 AM Lectionary
June 18	Third Sunday after Pentecost– Guest Speaker/Rev. Esther Ziegler
June 19	9:00 AM -Cleaning up Atrium
June 21	11 AM Lectionary
June 25	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost– Guest Speaker/Rev. Esther Ziegler
June 26	7 PM ATS Meeting
June 28	11 AM Lectionary
July 2	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost w/ Viqui Dill and Jim Dill
July 4	Independence Day – Office Closed
July 5	11 AM Lectionary
July 9	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist:	Gene Jones
Altar Preparation:	Cindy Murray
Flower Deliverers	Tom & Linda VanMetre
Ushers:	Matthew Hinz, Jackie Plume, Carrie Barkdoll, Tim Foltz, Ben Hinz, Emily Hinz, Becky Lohr

Financials for May 2023		YTD Jan-May 2023	
Offerings	\$ 8,870.27	Offering	\$ 49,246.24
Endowment Interest	\$25,000.00	Endowment Interest	\$ 55,100.00
ATS Repayment	\$0	ATS Repayment	\$ 0
Expenses	\$24,371.24	Expenses	\$116,926.06
Net Profit/Loss	<b>-\$ 9,499.03</b>	Net Profit/Loss	<b>-\$ 12,579.82</b>

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