



Christ Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Creating Beloved Community
Love One Another

9:55 a.m.

September 30, 2018

Welcome to worship! As you settle in for worship, please feel free to light a candle of prayer in the chapel area (right side of sanctuary). The children will be with us for the first part of the service, then may go to their classes. There is nursery care available throughout the service, and a crying room at the back of the sanctuary for those who become inconsolable.

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

Demetri Sampas, Guest Organist

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adam Mitchell, Moderator

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing' No. 16

GATHERING PRAYER

INTROIT

'Will the Circle Be Unbroken'

arr. J. David Moore

A WORD ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN

SINGING THE CHILDREN OUT

'Go Now in Peace'

No 437

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Sunday School



*Asterisk indicates all who are able may stand
Bold print indicates congregational response

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (*Mark 9:38–50*)

God of unity,

**we live in a world where our lives move
between inclusivity and exclusivity.**

We often move toward the latter,

trying to oust from our circles

those who do not think like us,

act like us,

or look like us.

Forgive our need to reject

and to always be on the lookout

for those things that make us different.

Give us the eyes of our Teacher,

who knows unconditional love and compassion

and sees us all as one,

for it is in his name that we pray. Amen.

KYRIE

‘Lord Have Mercy Upon Us’

No. 300

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*RECEIVING AND SHARING GOD’S LOVE

(by handshake, embrace, or with hands folded)

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*GLORIA

‘Holy, Holy, Holy’ verse 1

No. 4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

PSALM 124

ANTHEM 'There is More Love Somewhere' arr. Clif Hardin

There is more love somewhere. I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more love somewhere.

There is more hope somewhere. I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more hope somewhere.

There is more joy somewhere. I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more joy somewhere.

There is more peace somewhere. I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more peace somewhere.

There is more love somewhere. I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more love somewhere.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

SERMON

Rev. Patricia Hayes

ANTHEM 'It Gets Better' Andrew Lippa

I thought there was something wrong with me. Something that everyone could see. Something that made me cry. Made me try disappearing. Why? Why did they treat me like they did? I was a scared and lonely kid. Deep in the darkest hole. No control. Something whispered:

It gets better, it gets better when you get past this time. It gets better when you outlast this time. Go on scream at the moon if you want to. Go and run just as far as you can. But it gets better. It gets better and better.

So though everyday feels like a chore. Wondering, "Can you face one more." Ready to shed your skin, let them win, just give in to pain. Pain that you think won't go away. But if you lift your head and pray, one day, the final straw will be yours to draw. Don't you know that:

It gets better, it gets better when you get past this time. It gets better when you outlast this time. Go on scream at the moon if you want to. Go and run just as far as you can. But it gets better. It gets better and better.

Loves out there waiting to banish the hating and smother the sorrow. Now is dramatic but you'll be ecstatic, emphatic tomorrow. There are people who care. There are friends everywhere. There are hands to be held. There are hearts to be swelled. Points of view rearranged. There are minds to be changed. And it's going to change.

MORNING PRAYERS

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*DOXOLOGY 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' No. 46
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 'Pass It On' No. 477

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

(please be seated for the closing music)

CLOSING MUSIC

Please join us for coffee and fellowship following the closing music in the fellowship hall on the lower level. If you are visiting with us for the first time, welcome! We invite you to enjoy a free cup of coffee or tea and a donut, and hope that you will return next week.

Participating in today's service are:

Rev. Patricia Hayes, Senior Minister

Erin Reardon, Minister of Visitation

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Guest Organist

David Wilcox, Sign Language

Loren Stott, Sign Language

SPECIAL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN NEXT WEEK

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities

Last year our own World Voices was granted \$10,000 from Neighbors in Need - it is great to give and receive!

In Sunday School today, the children continue to discuss Jesus' teachings about belonging, inclusion, and diversity. The kids will talk about bullying. Memory Verse: **Love One Another**.

At home or at Wednesday dinners, consider times you have been treated poorly. What strategies have you used to maintain your dignity or stepped in when others have been bullied.

Be sure to thank this month's teachers: Tracey Hixon, Matt Howard, Deana Colby, Debbie Bowman, Cara Harrigan, Tammy Blackler, and Mary Poole. We are set for October teachers, but consider teaching in November. The November theme will be caring – for the elders, for the sick, for the homeless.

As members of the Pilgrim Association, we pray each week for a sister UCC Congregation. This week, you are invited to pray for:

First Nation (American Indian) Sunday

WEDNESDAY DINNER: 6PM

This week we will be having American Chop Suey with Caesar salad. Sign up at the information counter. All invited!! Cost \$5.00 or pay what you can.

UPCOMING DATES

Oct. 3rd: Young At Heart

Oct. 7th: Confirmation Kick-off w/Family 6:00pm

Oct. 14th: Blessing of the Animals 11:45am

Oct. 17th: Midday Music Organ Concert w/Dick Hill

Oct. 20th: Dine with 7 @ 7

Oct. 26th: Silent Film Night "Phantom Of The Opera"

Oct 27th: Diversity Reading Group "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson

Oct. 28th: Trunk or Treat: Kids come in costume, following worship.

Nov. 3rd: HARVEST FAIR

NEW MEMBER CLASSES will be offered in October and November. We offer a 3 session opportunity to learn about the church, about Christian faith, and about each other. Our dates will be October 20th, 27th and November 10th, Saturdays at 9 am (running 90 minutes), and on Friday, November 16th there will be a new member dinner at the parsonage at 6pm. Mark your calendars AND please sign up at the information counter in the lower lobby.



PRAYER CONCERNS

We pray for those who cannot be with us at church:

Ramona Adler, Jane Benson, Lois Cyr, Nancy Davis, Carole Duhamel, Louise Duhamel, Mary Geraigery, Russ Gillpatrick, Janet Hodnett, Ruth Melanson, Mildred Miele, Geneva Prince, Barbara Smith, Don Squires, and Viola Szydlowski.

And for those who are ill or need extra prayer:

Brian Benson (nephew of Sandra Hill), Luke Creedon, Florence Cronkhite, Dianna Dalida (Denise Cahill's friend), Denise Duhamel (granddaughter of Carole), Mark Duhamel (Carole's son), Dan Dunklee (friend of Ken & Paula Stevens), Brenda Eckstrom (Janet's niece-in-law), Mary Geraigery, Joanne Gratzner, Jennifer Hill (Shirley Strangis' daughter), Rebecca Lacourse, Linda Madden, Carl Manoogian (George's son), Nicky McNally (Shirley Strangis' grandson), David Milton, Joyce Morse (Lisa Sparling's Mother), Michelle Purssell, Fernanda Quimby, Hannah Ramos (Sandra Hill's grand-niece), David Ritchie (nephew of Donna Hefler), Linda Ritchie (sister of Donna Hefler), William Rotondi (uncle of Mary Poole), Poppy (Howard) Sennett, Norm Shippee, Helen Simms (Erin's grandmother), Danny Ray Simpson (brother-in-law of Barbara Moody), Evelyne Socha (great niece of Barbara Moody), Anna Thomas, Kevin Vogt, Lois & Vern Yingling (Bill Cockshaw's parents).

For those in the military, especially:

Scott Allen, Kathleen Crooker, Michael J. Harris, Andrew Johnson, Alex (Pasha) Ozelius, Derek Stanley and Bradford Townsend.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. 9/30

9:55am Worship

12:00pm Cooking w/Sequoria

Mon. 10/1

Office Closed

Tue. 10/2

9:30am Craft Group

6:30pm BIC Meeting

Wed. 10/3

10:00am Bible Study

12:00pm Young At Heart

6:00pm Dinner

6:45pm Adult Choir

8:15pm Adult Bells

Thur. 10/4

6:30pm BIC (Research Action Meeting)

7:00pm Deacons Committee Meeting

7:00pm Vitality Committee Meeting

Sun. 10/7

9:55am Worship

11:15am Christ Church Leaders For BIC Meeting

12:00pm Cooking w/Sequoria

6:00pm Confirmation Class Kick-Off w/Family



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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Welcome!