

A SERVICE OF THE WORD

November 15, 2020

9:00 a.m.

The most important thing a pastor does is stand in a pulpit every Sunday and say,
'Let us worship God.'

If that ceases to be the primary thing I do in terms of my energy, my imagination,
and the way I structure my life, then I no longer function as a pastor.

— Eugene Peterson

PRE-SERVICE

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

Bill Hampton & Andrea Allington

OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

A Family We Can Help.....

Women's Chili Supper Summary

"Inspired" by Rachel Held Evans---Monday Study Class---beginning November 23

Kids' Christmas Pageant and A Tour of the Sanctuary

Mickey Veleke

Amy LeGreve

Pastor Kim Henning

Pastor Colie Bettivia

PRELUDE

"How Great Thou Art"

ENTRY OF THE LIGHT

Owen Moore and Hallie Schroeter

CALL TO WORSHIP

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

Blessing and honor, glory and power be given to God in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Let us worship God.

Like Abraham and Sarah, let us trust the life-giving promises of God. God is holy.

Like Joshua, let us choose to revere and serve the Lord. God is holy.

Like Isaiah, let us recognize the gravity of our sin. God is holy.

I now invite you to join your voice with mine as we speak what we know to be true.

We believe in You, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to Your deeds we testify: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by Your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death, and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us Your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into Your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be Your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the Gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join Him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust You: forgiveness of sin and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, Your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in Your Realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto You. Amen.

HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

(If you are worshiping in the sanctuary, please do not sing.)

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!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CALL TO PRAYER

We come before God in a spirit of humility and remorse because we know the state of our humanity. From the greatest to the least of us, we are wounded ones in need of healing; we are sinful ones in need of forgiveness, and we are helpless ones in need of God's Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

"Surely, the Presence"

Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. (repeat)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Please pray with me,

Holy, holy, holy are you, O God of all life. You have unfathomable wisdom and indescribable power. You are the One who calls into being things that do not exist; you are the One who speaks truth in the midst of deceit; and you are the One who raises the dead. We come into your midst as ones who are unworthy.

We confess that we are a people of unclean lips. We boast of things we do not understand, and we speak prejudice without knowing the pain we cause others. Forgive us, Merciful God, for the arrogance that comes from us when we are caustic with our words, when we belittle others who are weaker than us; and when we forget that we are baptized into One we know as the Suffering Servant. God, in your mercy, grant us a deeper understanding of your holiness and also your grace so that we might more rightly serve you. We offer this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

GLORIA PATRI

No. 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PSALM 138

Aubry DeRosier

The chief purpose of human beings is to glorify God. As people of faith, we sing, we pray, we study, and we seek to bless God in all we do and say. Psalm 138 is titled, "thanksgiving for deliverance from trouble." Please pray with me.

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

A GOSPEL STORY

Luke 5:4-10

I'm about to read to you a fishing story. Jesus has just finished a teaching lesson. He then turned to Simon and told him to drop his net into the water. Simon listened.....and in no time at all that net overflowed with fish. Peter recognizes the awesomeness of that moment and he fell at the feet of Jesus in worship. Listen for God's Word.....

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"All the People Said Amen"

Adult Choir

THE PROPHETIC WORD

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.'

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

SERMON

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

THE OFFERING

We have been taught this by Jesus: "as you have done it onto the least of these, you have done it onto me; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Please pray with me,
Merciful God, breathe life into these tired bodies and bones. Strengthen our resolve to practice the way of justice and mercy; increase within us our compassion for the struggling; inspire us with your Holy Spirit so that our giving may be joyful and that our sharing may reflect the selflessness of Jesus. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "Here I Am, Lord"

***COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Holy, Holy, Holy"

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"We are a Christian Community Committed to Love, Service and Growth."

2801 Garfield Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241 (920) 553-1222

Website <http://www.graceucc.org>

Missionaries: Mark Knowles and Danielle Murry-Knowles, Serving in Lesotho, Africa

Ministers: *All the People of the Congregation*

Pastor: *Kim M. Henning*

Associate Pastor: *Colie Bettivia*

Moderator: *Betty Becker*

Administrative Assistants: *Debbie Augustine and Jean Schwalbe*

Organist/Choir Director: *Andrea Allington*

Organist: *Beverly Barnes Mark*

Maintenance: *Michael Timm*

Sound Board: *Bruce Suettinger*

Worship Technology: *Bill Heinsohn and Cal MacAuley*

Song Leader: *Fay Henning*

Liturgist: *Sue Crowley*

HOSPITALIZED

Buddy Davidson was hospitalized this week at Holy Family Memorial Hospital.

Tracy Smith was hospitalized this week at Aurora Bay Care. She has been released and is continuing her recovery at home.

OUR SYMPATHY.....

A Memorial Service was held in our sanctuary on Wednesday for Jim Taddy who died on Tuesday, November 3. Jim's brother and sister-in-law, Tony and Joan Taddy. (6701 Sunset Drive, Two Rivers).

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL SERIES - "EXPECTATION"

Pastor Colie is making another video devotional series for advent! Sign up to receive a daily email with a video devotional of about 3 minutes. The theme this year is "Expectation", and will begin on Nov 29. To sign up, go to <http://eepurl.com/hgTTjr> or email Pastor Colie (pastorcolie@gmail.com)

WE'RE STARTING OVER AGAIN

Last winter, our Monday study group began its work with Rachel Held Evan's book, "Inspired." And then the coronavirus came into our lives. Well, it's time to get back to work, but we're going to start over again from the beginning of her book. The book is entitled:

"Inspired", by Rachel Held Evans.

If you don't have a copy of her book, you can order one from Amazon. If that is difficult for you, contact Pastor Kim and he'll take care of the details. Our first class (by Zoom!) will be on Monday, November 23 at 6 p.m.. A study sheet and a zoom link will be sent well in advance of our class. Please notify Pastor Kim if you are interested.

KIDS' CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: "Don't Be Afraid"

Pastor Colie is putting together a Christmas Pageant for our children! It will be all pre-recorded. The pageant will be featured in the worship service on Sunday, December 20. Roles are available for children of all ages and abilities, and is open to non-members and guests. Depending on the role, filming can happen in a variety of ways: some scenes will be filmed outside at the church, some scenes will be filmed by families in their homes, some scenes will be recorded over Zoom calls with Pastor Colie. For more information, contact Pastor Colie (pastorcolie@gmail.com, 920-973-5775)

SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS' "MINI LESSON"

Pastor Colie (with the help of Lincoln!) are recording a video each week reading the week's Bible story from the children's Bible. These videos can be played for children as an introduction to the worship service, or as a stand-alone story. Look for the videos included in the worship service emails every weekend.

CALLING FOR THANKSGIVING PICTURES

We miss seeing your faces! On Sunday, November 29 we will be including a picture slideshow into the church service of you with your Thanksgiving meal. Please take a moment during Thanksgiving to take a picture of you with the meal and send it to gracephotos54241@gmail.com by noon on Friday, November 27. It will be fun to see each other again and share in the joy of this season.

PEN PALS, ANYONE?

We have received the names of four individuals who are served by Emmaus Home. They would love to receive mail. If you are interested in writing a letter of encouragement or hope, contact Pastor Kim and he'll pass along one of those names.

DOUBLE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

A challenge grant has been established for the Two Rivers Ecumenical Pantry (TREP). Each gift will be matched, dollar for dollar. You have two options: 1) Make out a check to TREP and send to: George Reis Investment Group Inc., 1523 Washington St., Two Rivers, WI 54241; or 2) Make out a check to Grace Congregational Church and in the memo write: TREP donation. Thank you for supporting TREP. Paul Schmid, our TREP liaison.

HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST

Laundry detergent, Brooms & dustpans, Dish Soap, Umbrellas, Pillows, Diapers size 5&6, Pull-up diapers size 5, toilet paper, baby wipes, floor cleaner. Items can be brought directly to Hope House (1000 S. 35th St., Manitowoc), Mickey's front porch (2405 Washington St., TR) or to church.

SUPPORT YOUR CONFIRMATION

You can offer your support for our Confirmation Class by saving those aluminum cans and bringing them to the container located beside the garage on the east end of our property. The funds raised from this project support our youth and the trips/retreats we like to take with them (once this virus passes!). **Please do not include aluminum foil or pie plates.**

SOLAR PANEL PROJECT INSTALLATION: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16

With at least two years of time spent planning, fund-raising, and permission-granting, it appears that the solar panels will be installed during the week of November 16. Individuals in our community have subscribed to the entire cost of this project. Thank you so very much.

SOLAR PANELS

Construction has begun on the solar panels at the church! We will be taking pictures and video to show you over the next couple of weeks.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY today to Landon Stodola and Troy Zich and this week to Mary Jean Erickson, Doris Mattie, Wade Juza, Brynlee Kakes, Jeannine Powalisz, Cadence Smith, and Mindy Bauknecht.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY this week to Roger & Marie Hurda and Robert & Vickie Peaslee.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Monday	Bell Choir Practice	11:00am
Wednesday	Confirmation/Mentor Class	6:00pm
	Generation G (Zoom)	7:00pm
	Adult Choir (Zoom)	7:00pm