

Roots of Belonging

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost



~ Welcome Visitors! ~

Guide to the bulletin: An asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal next to your pew chair.

Children: Children are always welcome here. We know youth grow – in the love of God and the love of others – when they have opportunities to worship in community. After the Message for All, children are invited to attend Sunday School, sit by their family in the sanctuary or at the Prayer Ground. There are a variety of quiet activities and fidgets the youth (and adults!) can do available by the sanctuary doors. There is also a Prayer Ground set up at the front of the sanctuary. There are several quiet activities prepared for children. We know many of us need to wiggle a bit to be comfortable. Kids do too!!! Adults are welcome to sit in this area as well! #ChildofGod. You and/or your children are welcome to get up during the service to select something to do.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (inspired by Psalm 17)¹

One: The Holy One wondrously demonstrates steadfast love.

Seek refuge at God's right hand.

All: Let God's love meet us and flow through us.

One: The Holy One attentively hears the just cause.

Seek justice and righteousness for God's name sake.

All: Let us be steady and vigilant for the kin-dom of God.

One: The Holy One faithfully vindicates our lives.

Seek the path God paves for us.

**All: Let us worship, honor and praise the God who delivers, redeems,
and restores. Praise the Holy One!**

*** Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

All: Holy One, we strive to be your people and reflect your goodness in the world. Yet, the way of wickedness is not far from us, and we have not passed every test. Fortify us in your word and drench us with your compassion so that we may find the courage to repent and repair.

Help us acknowledge the harm we have allowed and the pain we have caused. Empower us to make things right with our neighbors and with ourselves. Let your grace and mercy liberate us to be agents of reconciliation and restoration in our families, communities, and world. Amen.

Words of Grace

***Hymn**

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

NCH 410

HEARING THE WORD

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 32:22-31

Special Music

The Old Rugged Cross

Bennard. Arr. Walter

Brenda Boutelle, Cello; Amy Boutelle, Clarinet; Jeff Darwin, Piano

¹ ***Wrestling***: Service Prayers for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

Worship Leaders: Jeff Darwin (Music Director), and Pastor Kris Gorton
Readers: John Rosch and Barb Gallogly-Turner
Usher: Roger Elver
Communion Preparation: Linda Brant and Sonja Short
Media Room: Jeffrey Lipford
Special Music: Amy and Brenda Boutelle
Fellowship: The Ligaray Family

Memorial UCC uses photographs and video for social media communication with our members and friends. If someone does not wish to be photographed or in a video, ushers will help them find a seat out of camera view.

Memorial UCC's ONE LICENSE for streaming: #A-711042



Hearing Loop and Listening Devices: For those who have hearing aids, Memorial UCC has a t-coil compatible hearing loop. Listening devices are also available for people who are hard of hearing. See an usher if you need assistance.

Bathrooms: There are two bathrooms near the main entrance of the church. A third Gender Neutral and Accessible bathroom is in the hallway by the nursery. If you need assistance finding the restrooms, an usher will gladly help you.



Giving Options—Ever-Widening Opportunities: Checks can be mailed directly to the church or dropped off during office hours. Please indicate any special designation in the memo line. You can give securely via PayPal with your credit card, debit card, or direct withdrawals. Visit and click the "giving" link in the upper right-hand corner or scan the QR code here. If you are interested in monthly automatic withdrawals, please email Ulrika Swanson at ulrikaswanson@gmail.com, and she will get you signed up.

Want to Know More About Us? Co-pastors Kris and Peter would be happy to set up a time to chat further. Feel free to contact either of them at pastorkris@memorialucc.org or pastorpeter@memorialucc.org. You don't need to be a formal member to get involved here. There is a lot of information on our website at www.memorialucc.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for OUR SUMMER FUNDRAISER!

Planning is officially underway for our exciting, combined Garage Sale and Pie-a-Palooza!

- When: Friday, August 21 and Saturday, August 22

This is a fantastic, fun event with a role for everyone. You can donate items, bake a delicious pie, volunteer to help with setup, or assist during the sale itself. And of course, everyone is welcome to come out and shop!

- Donation Drop-off Window: July 26 through August 16
- Donated items can be brought to the music room during church office hours

Want to donate items? Please check the donation guidelines located in the narthex for a complete list of what we can and cannot accept.

ENGAGING WISDOM

Wednesday, August 12, we invite anyone who considers themselves a senior... or nearing “that age”... or is supporting a loved one... and is interested in connecting with others around the spiritual, serious—and sometimes humorous—realities of getting older is welcome to participate.

In these not-normal days, Kate Bowler offers a twist to coming up with a daily Gratitude List. She suggests a *Don't Call It a Gratitude Journal* and provides 10 alternative prompts. Here is a sample:

- 1). *What are you pretending not to care about?*
- 2). *Name something that brought you unexpected joy recently. Did you let yourself enjoy it?*
- 3). *Document some absurd victories (like finding your reading glasses on your head).*

The entire list of *Not Gratitude* items will be a part of our discussion in August.

Remember: There are 2 cohorts. One meets in the morning from 9:30 am-11 am. The other group gets together in the afternoon, 4-5:30 pm. We gather in the Youth Room (forever young at heart!). You DO NOT need to come to every session. You CAN come to which ever meeting fits your schedule during the month. Anyone from the community is welcome to attend.