



Grace United Church of Christ

October 10, 2021

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Live stream can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/gracetown/live>

*** You are invited to stand in body and/or spirit**

PRELUDE Just As I Am – Bradbury

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES

*** WORDS OF WELCOME**

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

People: **In this safe space, may God grant us the vision to see the Holy in each other and the Holy in ourselves.**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Hebrews 4:12-16)

Leader: The word of God is alive and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it can judge our thoughts and intentions of our hearts.

People: **We cannot hide
for we are naked and laid bare
to the one whom we must render an
account.**

Leader: Let us hold fast to our confession before
Jesus who was tested as you and I and yet
was without sin.

People: **We approach the throne of grace with
boldness,
so that we may receive mercy
and find grace to help in our time of
need.**

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

People: **O God, you sowed the seeds of justice
when you created this world.
Though your bountiful creation has
enough for everyone,
it is hardly divided fairly.
There are those who struggle to get
their daily bread each day
and then there are those who have more
than they can use in their lifetime.
May we remember that all we have
comes from you
and that you have entrusted to us all
that we have.
May we take your commandments to
heart so we can do as Jesus asks of us.
Grant that we, O God, use this hour to
work in our ministries to end this
disparity. Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN We Gather Together**

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Leader: Almighty and Holy One,
we cannot begin to count all our
possessions.
We have things in our closets, our attics,
and our basements.
We have things tucked away in boxes we
haven't opened in years,
and still we acquire more.
We have so much stuff and yet, there are
those in our communities
who can fit all their worldly possessions in
a shopping cart.
We know that you, O God, will defend the
poor and come to them in their need.
But we, O God, need your forgiveness
for we are more attached to our things than
we willingly acknowledge.
Help us confront our attachment to
possessions and things more honestly
so we can share our own abundance more
equitably. Amen.

(Moment of silence and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

A GIFT OF MUSIC

Workin' on the Woes of the World - DeFrange

SACRED TEXT Hebrews 4:12-16 NRSV

***CENTERING HYMN** Jesus, I Live to You #457 TNCH

SACRED TEXT Mark 10:17-31 NRSV

REFLECTION

SUNG RESPONSE

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey
now and ever, now and ever, Now and evermore.**

INVITATION TO FAITHFUL SHARING

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

***DEDICATION OF GIFTS**

**People: Generous God, we thank you for all
that we have
– for all of it comes from you.
We gratefully return a portion of what
we have to you.
May our offerings sustain and support
the work of this church to close the
disparity between those who have much
and those who have little in this
community. Amen.**

MORNING PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

**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.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

God of Grace and God of Glory #436 TNCH

***WORDS OF SENDING AND PEACE**

***SENDING RESPONSE**

**Sent Forth by God's Blessing #76 v1 TNCH
Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith
confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
To work for God's realm and to answer the call.**

POSTLUDE Let All the World Sing Praises - Falso

Courage for Justice: Prayers for the 20th Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Quentin Chin, member of Church on the Hill in Lenox, MA.



COMING UP



Trunk or Treat Coming Soon!

We are excited to invite our community to join us for Trunk or Treat this year, held outside, with lots of FUN things planned!

Sunday, October 24th, 5 - 7 pm

Want to be involved by decorating your car and passing out candy? You can sign up on the sheet in the narthex or by emailing the church office at admin@gracetown.com.



Food Drive Sunday is next Sunday

We collect shelf stable items each third Sunday of the month. But you can stock up any time! Any non-perishable food, hygiene item, paper or cleaning product you are able to bring with you and donate will be distributed to Lake Township FISH and Green Good Neighbors.

Swiss Steak Dinner

Mark those calendars for **Saturday, November 6th**!

Interested in helping out? Contact Carol Vozar at carowevoz57@aol.com to volunteer.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday:	7pm	Catching Our Spiritual Breath on Zoom
Tuesday:	9am-noon	Tuesday Crew meets here to do work on our building and grounds.
Wednesday:	9am-noon	Office Hours
	10am	Yoga in the Family Activity Center
Friday	9am-noon	Office Hours
Sunday	9:15am	Adult Sunday School Café Conversations with Pastor Joyce in HeBrews Café Zwingli Class now meeting with Café Conversations

WORSHIP LEADERS

Our acolyte for today is **Robyn Melvin** and **Scott Porter** is helping lead worship as our liturgist.

Altar flowers are presented by **Beth and Jerry Mohn** in honor of their anniversary.

Dave Forman, Jim Lynn, and Mike Pirogowicz are serving as our Livestream Technicians, **Paul Sodergren** as Sanctuary Technician and **Tom DeFrance** as musician and accompanist.