

Grace
United Church of Christ

A Life of Service

Grace United Church of Christ

October 17, 2021

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister

Twenty-First 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 Great is the Lord - Smith

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** (Mark 10:35-45)

Leader: We may come here for a glimpse of glory,

People: **But Jesus asks us: "Can you drink the cup that I drink?"**

Leader: The cup of Jesus' own life: struggle and joy; suffering and hope.
Fullness of life!

We may come here to get close to Jesus,

People: And Jesus asks us: “Can you be baptized with my baptism?”
Leader: Baptized into the reign of God, where the Spirit breaks down barriers among all people and creates new relationships! We may come here for honor or fame,

People: But Jesus challenges us: “To become great you must serve!”

Leader: Why are we here?

People: To drink the cup of fullness of life;
To immerse ourselves in Jesus’ struggle for justice and peace;
To learn how to serve so that the world may be healed.

* **GATHERING PRAYER** (Psalm 91:9-16; Psalm 104:1-9, 24; 35c)

People: Holy Dwelling Place,
Your tent is wide enough to provide shelter for all who seek you, food for all who hunger, and healing for all who suffer.
Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence, that we may risk sharing Jesus’ cup and his baptism so the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all.
Shelter us with your light, and clothe us with your heavenly garments.
Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another on this daring adventure. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** We Worship You God #26 TNCH

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (Isaiah 53:4-12)

Leader: Divine Shepherd, like sheep we go our own ways.
With our heads to the ground and our attention turned elsewhere,
we often fail to heed the gentle nudge of your staff and your calls for home.
With so many things to distract us—
work, school, and the general busyness of life—
we lie unresponsive to your calls to kin-dom service.

(Moment of silence and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

A GIFT OF MUSIC Here I Am, Lord - Schutte

SACRED TEXT Hebrews 5:1-10 NRSV

***CENTERING HYMN**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love #498 TNCH

SACRED TEXT Mark 10:35-45 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: Parent God, may this offering assist us
in continuing Christ's work in the
world to heal the grief,
transgressions, and illnesses that
oppress and harm your creation.
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** How Firm A Foundation #407 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

Glory to the Lamb - Batstone

A Life of Service: Service Prayers for the 21st Sunday after

Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Kristina

Lizardy-Hajbi, Iliff School of Theology, Denver CO.



COMING UP



Trunk or Treat NEXT Sunday!

Sunday, October 24th, 5 - 7 pm

We are excited to invite our community to join us for Trunk or Treat this year, held outside.

Planned activities include:

- Food
- Hayrides
- S'Mores
- Friends
- And of course, candy!

Available to help?

- Grab flyers on the flyer in the narthex and share them!
- Decorate your car and pass out candy, sign up for this on the sheet in the narthex or by emailing the church office at admin@gracetown.com.

Swiss Steak Dinner

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

Interested in helping out?

Contact Carol Vozar at carovevoz57@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
	7pm	Spiritual Council, Library
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
	5 pm-7 pm	Trunk or Treat - Please sign up to help and also share flyers to help spread the word!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Our acolyte for today is **Chase Thompson** and **Dave Clark** is helping lead worship as our liturgist.

Altar flowers are presented by **Bill and Lynn Flory** in honor of **Gail Stewart's birthday**.

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.