



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

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Ministers: All the Members of the Church

Today's Worship Leader: Deb Hubbell

Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME ~ JUNE 30, 2024

Welcome to Our Guests!

*We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...
if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!*

Playing the Chimes and Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Opening Hymn**

God Is Here!

CH280

Confessing our Brokenness and Words of Assurance

In the Gospel according to Mark we hear a story wrapped inside another story. Jairus, a leader in the synagogue, pleaded for the healing of his daughter, who was at the point of death. He had to wait before his request was granted. And an unnamed woman, who had been suffering from a bleeding disorder for a long time, was courageous in approaching Jesus from behind amongst a crowd of people. She knew what she wanted and was willing to risk touching Jesus, even though it was completely taboo, seeing as she was "unclean".

Let us ponder for a moment the places of our lives where we may be hesitant to ask God for help when we are looking for healing and change.

silence

When we resist your call to open our hearts to allow the freshness of your grace to enter:

God have mercy.

When we close our eyes to your new and unexpected possibilities of healing and reconciliation:

God have mercy.

When we let fear overwhelm us, and cling to the security of what we know instead of risking new steps toward your freedom and justice:

God have mercy.

Let us pray:

Loving God, we are yours. We come as we are, with our cares and concerns. We long to touch you and find healing in your embrace. Strengthen our faith and heal our brokenness. We know that, through Christ, we are offered forgiving grace and welcome. We give thanks for your mercy, O God. Amen.

***Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Paul Vasile

Glo-ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has world with-out end, A - men. World with-out end, world with-out par - doned me, and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free! As it was in the be-ginning, is end, A - men. World with-out e - nd, world with-out end, A - men. now and ev - er shall be, A - men World with-out men!

Psalter

Psalm 30

Let us read together David's Psalm of thanksgiving:

Lord, you lifted me out of my troubles.

You did not give my enemies a reason to laugh, so I will praise you.

Lord my God, I prayed to you,

and you healed me.

Lord, you lifted me out of the grave.

I was falling into the place of death, but you saved my life.

Praise the Lord, you who are loyal to him!

Praise his holy name!

His anger lasts for a little while, but then his kindness brings life.

The night may be filled with tears, but in the morning, we can sing for joy!

When I was safe and secure, I thought nothing could hurt me.

Yes, Lord, while you were kind to me, I felt that nothing could defeat me.

But when you turned away from me, I was filled with fear.

So, Lord, I turned and prayed to you. I asked you to show me mercy.

I said, "What good is it if I die and go down to the grave? The dead just lie in the dirt.

They cannot praise you. They cannot tell anyone how faithful you are.

Lord, hear my prayer, and be kind to me.

Lord, help me!

You have changed my sorrow into dancing.

You have taken away my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

You wanted me to praise you and not be silent.

Lord my God, I will praise you forever!

Hebrew Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill and a time to heal;

a time to break down and a time to build up;

a time to weep and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek and a time to lose;

a time to keep and a time to throw away;

a time to tear and a time to sew;

a time to keep silent and a time to speak;

a time to love and a time to hate;

a time for war and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor anything taken from it; God has done this so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is already has been, that which is to be already is, and God seeks out what has gone by.

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price



Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for them. The following is offered as example in the bulletin:

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,
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/sins/trespasses,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass 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.**

Musical Offering

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

CH628

*Your financial offerings may be placed in the collection plates,
or mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. PO Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250,
or given online at www.myfcc.info*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be low; Praise
5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, take our gifts this day so that we may be part of your great work in this world. Through our giving, bring a brighter day of justice and love, not just in our community but in the world beyond these walls. May we grow together each day into a powerful voice for healing and peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

Lift Every Voice And Sing

CH631

*Benediction

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share with one another a sign of that peace.

Postlude

As our service of worship comes to an end,
our service as God's people of faith and action begins.



The week ahead:

- Sunday, June 30 10:15 a.m. Worship and Worship Circle
followed by Congregational Meeting – all are welcome!
- Tuesday, July 2 10:30 a.m. First Church leads monthly service at Mansfield Center for
Nursing and Rehabilitation
- Wednesday, July 3 11 a.m. Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of John Baker
- Sunday, July 7 10:15 a.m. Worship and Worship Circle
We celebrate Communion with the Rev. Lois Happe leading worship