

# The Mt. Carmel Congregational Church

A United Church of Christ  
Stewardship Sunday  
November 15, 2020

**Music Prelude**                      *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*  
Robert Edwards (1961) TUNE: Rustington

## Gathering Prayer

### Greeting

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: *And also with you.*

**Hymn**                                      *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*                      ELW#707  
Eliza S. Alderson (1868)

### Unison Prayer of Confession

*Christ Jesus, we have lived as if we did not need you, pretending that life is what we make it. In those exceptional moments of openness when we received the gift of faith, we have assumed it was given for ourselves alone. Awaken us by your Spirit to fuller dimensions of faith. Lead us to find in our neighbors the opportunities for love, in the social order the possibilities for justice, and in the affairs of nations the potential for peace. Reform our attitudes and behavior until in every circumstance we may, by your grace, be the instruments of your saving Word. Amen.*

### Assurance of God's Grace

**Hymn of Thanks**                      The Gloria Patri                      #759  
*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*

## A SERVICE OF THE WORD

### The Collect for the 24th Sunday after Pentecost (in unison)

*O God, we are called to be a people set apart for your holy purposes. Yet, in the midst of our daily lives we feel mixed in with the mass and the mess of things. Now we have come to this time set apart. Help us, we pray, to use it to re-focus our lives; to clarify our priorities; to separate the nice from the necessary, and to know your will from our own. Hear our prayers and speak to us. Speak to us in*

*the silence, from the scriptures, and through our brothers and sisters. May we leave this time set apart with a renewed consciousness of your call to ministry in Christ's name. Amen.*

**PSALTER:** Psalm 90 1-12

**THE EPISTLE:** 1 Thess. 5: 1-11 **Tom Duffy**

**THE GOSPEL:** Matthew 25: 14-30

**HYMN** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* ELW #678  
Robert Edwards (1961) TUNE: Rustington

**SERMON: "Dig Up Your Bone"** **Rev. Olivia Robinson**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*

### **The Joys and Concerns of the Parish Family**

Please remember the following persons in your prayers.

Richard Silocka; Martha Buller; Dave Jurkiewicz; Barbara, a friend of Jan Hewitt's with serious illness; Joan Copeland, daughter of Carillon and Peter Copeland; Gilbert Spencer; June, a friend of Bev Churchill; Greta Edelman's cousin, Yvonne; Beverly Dean; and Jim O'Neil who is being deployed to Jordan. Our condolences and prayers go to Joan Hammeal and her family on the passing of her husband, Robert. (If you would like to send a sympathy note to Joan Hammeal her address is: Joan Hammeal, 9 Loop Road, Clinton, CT 06413.) Also our prayers for everyone recovering from Covid 19 and those grieving for loved ones; and all people who have lost their job.

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

*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 trespasses as we forgive*

*those who 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 and ever. Amen.*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*Adagio*

Tune: St. Anne Arr. Paul Manz

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow -  
Praise him all creatures here below ;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN**

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

NCH #25

Isaac Watts (1719) TUNE: St. Anne

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*As a community of faith, gathered in Christ's love,  
we strive to support one another in hearing the Word,  
living the Word, and sharing the Word.*