



**First Congregational  
Church of Tallmadge**

A United Church of Christ Congregation

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



**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**AUGUST 30, 2020**

**10:00 A.M.**

Liturgist—Missy Newcomer

**PRELUDE**

The Church's One Foundation — Hobby

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

**WELCOME & GREETING**

Liturgist

**PASTORAL SHARING**

Pastor Dave

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

Leader and People

Leader: We proclaim that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Everyone: WE COME TO SHED THE DARKNESS

AND TO ENTER INTO THE LIGHT.

(Continued on next page)

Leader: Jesus is the gate for the sheep...  
People: WE ENTER INTO HIS KINGDOM OF GRACE  
WITH THE FAITH THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US.  
Leader: Jesus is the Son of Man who comes in glory...  
People: THE GLORY OF GOD IS SEEN IN JESUS CHRIST.  
Leader: Jesus demonstrated kindness, love, justice, and peace.  
People: WE ARE CALLED TO MAKE THESE VIRTUES  
INTO A LIVING TESTIMONY BY OUR ACTIONS.  
Leader: Jesus is the Hope the world has longed for..  
People: LORD, IN THESE DAYS OF CHALLENGE,  
GIVE US CONFIDENCE THAT WHO WE ARE,  
AND WHAT WE DO, AS CHRISTIANS,  
IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THIS WORLD.  
Leader: Lord, hear our prayers and give us your peace.

### *TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION*

(Ask God to give blessings and strength to the church and to people of faith everywhere.)

### *WORDS OF HOPE*

Liturgist

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is our hope today.  
It is our assurance that we have a living Savior  
To help us live as we should now, and that when,  
in the end, we set forth on that last great journey,  
we shall not travel an uncharted course, but rather  
we shall go on a planned voyage --- life to death  
to eternal living. – Ramond MacKendree

(Please stand if you are able.)

## HYMN

### "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

(This hymn is from the Worship and Rejoice Hymnal, # 59)

#### VERSE 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

#### VERSE 2

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessings, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

(Please be seated.)

## *CHILDREN'S MESSAGE*

## *YOUTH PRAISE SONG*

"Letting Go"

(From Ardent Records, recorded by Todd Agnew)

## *SCRIPTURE LESSONS*

Lector

Epistle Lesson: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 16:21-28

The word of God for the people of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

## SCRIPTURE VERSES

### **Romans 12:9-21**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup> love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good

### **Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup> "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

## *MESSAGE*

*"Letting Go; Taking On"*

## *SPECIAL MUSIC*

How Deep the Father's Love for Us—Townend  
Solo: Ken Dodge

## *PASTORAL PRAYER*

### *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

using "debts" and "debtors"  
(Please stand if you are able.)

## *HYMN*

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

(this hymn is from the Worship and Rejoice Hymnal, #502)

### VERSE 1

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night.  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

### VERSE 2

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word,  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my Treasure thou art.

# OFFERING BLESSING & BENEDICTION

Pastor Dave

## CONGREGATION RESPONSE

(sung or said)

*“Go now in peace, never be afraid  
God will go with you, each hour of every day.  
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.”*

## POSTLUDE

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory - arr. McDonald  
Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANK YOU

Thanks to our worship servants today—worship participants, tech support, parking lot helpers, staff, advertising, worship leaders, trustees, and production crew.

We thank our Ushers for today’s service: Al Lytle, Tom & Linda Kester, and Gary Myers. Thanks to our Liturgist Missy Newcomer.

### PARKING LOT ATTENDEES

You are encouraged to park in the front of the parking lot or on the side where staff usually park. You are invited to sit in lawn chairs or blankets on the grass.

Parking lot attendees may contribute to our offering at the end of worship as you leave the parking lot. Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, Sept. 6, indoors and in the parking lot with pre-prepared communion elements.

### ALTAR FLOWERS



Today’s Altar Flowers were provided by Diana Caldwell.

*“In Honor of Ann Minar’s 95th Birthday”*



## THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

Our Prayer Chain has grown to 11 members dedicated to service through praying. We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723.

***Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm 66:20***

Noreen Ashley	Marianne Hannum	(Sharon Letzler's brother)
Tim Ashley	Bev Haught	Amelia Ross
Biff Baker	James Hedden	Barbara Sherrick
Janette Beckwith	(friend of Bonnie Fordham)	(Jim Harris's sister)
Marilyn Berta	Jan Hetzel	C.J. Smith
(Coletta Spoler's daughter)	Donnie Joyner	Betty Vestal
Adam Bozic	Zell Lambert	Alzheimer's Care Giver Support
Bea Clarke	Jim Mayfield	Group
Jackie Fabrezewski	Hannah McConihe	Confidential Names on our
(Esposito's daughter)	Katie Moore	Prayer Lists
Betty Gullede	David & Jackie Parker	
	Ed Powell	

## ACME COMMUNITY CASH BACK

Acme Community Cash Back is now in progress. It started August 6 and will run through December 26. Start saving those tapes. Last year Women's Fellowship received \$800 back from Acme which goes back into the church when needed. We hope to receive more this year. The box will be in the same place at the church for your tapes, or you can just keep them until December and bring them in at that time. Thank you, thank you.

