



**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.*



SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Liturgist—Tim Burns

PRELUDE

O Rest in the Lord — Mendelssohn

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

WELCOME & GREETING

Liturgist

PASTORAL SHARING

Pastor Dave

(Please stand, if you are able.)

****RESPONSIVE PRAYER***

Leader and People

Leader: By the grace of God, and by our faith, we come
for this time of word and sacrament.

(Continued on next page)

People: IN THIS PLACE OF SANCTUARY, WE ARE FREE
TO BE GOD'S JUSTIFIED AND SANCTIFIED PEOPLE.

Leader: In this time and place of worship, we are free
to be open to God, expressing our joys and hurts,
our celebrations and anxieties.

People: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Leader: We confess that sometimes we are too centered
upon our own inflexibilities and disappointments
to hear and to respond to the hurts of others.

People: WE CONFESS THAT SOMETIMES WE FEEL
TOO OVERWHELMED TO ACT THE WAY WE SHOULD.

Leader: O God, give us strength to see what is possible,
what is good, and what is holy.

People: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Leader: In the peace of your presence we pray. Amen.

**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 wisdom of Proverbs says,
"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom"
In the fullness of our relationship with God,
we come to know not only God's power and authority,
but the desire of God to forgive our sins, to create
an unshakeable bond of love through Jesus Christ,
and to bless the Church for our mission together
as God's people. To this end, we praise God for
adopting us into this relationship of blessed peace,
justice, and hope.

HYMN

"Come, We That Love the Lord"

(This hymn is from the Worship and Rejoice Hymnal, # 67)

VERSE 1

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known,
Join in a song with sweet accord, and thus surround the throne.

VERSE 2

Then let our songs a-bound, and every tear be dry;
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground to fairer worlds on high.

(Please be seated.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"To Sum Up the Commandments"

—Wendy Brown

YOUTH PRAISE SONG

"Is Anything Too Hard for God?"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Lector

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:15-20

(Continue to the next page to read the scripture verses.)

The word of God for the people of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

SCRIPTURE VERSES

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

MESSAGE

"The Most Difficult Job in the World"

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Power of the Cross—Getty & Townend
Piano: Nancy Lynn Robinson

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER
using "debts" and "debtors"
(Please stand if you are able.)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Sacrament - Pastor

The Words of Institution – Pastor

The Prayer of Consecration - Pastor

The Sharing of the Elements

(for those participating in the sanctuary or in the parking lot,
please eat the large wafer which is found in your small bag.
To drink the juice, carefully peel back the large cover layer
on the cup and drink. For those participating at home,
use a symbol for Jesus' body and blood which is available)

“This is the Body of Christ, take and eat”

“This is the Blood of Christ, take and drink”

(Continued on next page)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving – Pastor and Congregation

Gracious God,

In this time of gathering and celebration, of remembrance and reflection, and of praise and gratitude, we have experienced the presence of Jesus Christ as the people of God, the Church united through the love of the cross and resurrection. Give us the fullness of your peace and hope, which is eternal. Help our thanksgiving to be seen and heard through our ministries and missions in Jesus' name and for the sake of His Kingdom.

In His name we pray, Amen.

(Please stand, if you are able.)

HYMN

"My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less"

(this hymn is from the Worship and Rejoice Hymnal, #405)

VERSE 1

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

VERSE 2

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

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

God of Our Fathers - Warren

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. Thanks to our Liturgist Tim Burns.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate John and Jane Huffman upon their 60th wedding anniversary this past Thursday!

HOLY COMMUNION

We invite all who seek the mercy of God through Jesus Christ to participate in the sacrament of Holy Communion today, or when you view the online worship service later this week. A small bag with a large wafer and covered cup of juice has been distributed to those who are attending the “live” in house or parking lot worship service.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy and support to the family and friends of Irene Metz, who passed away August 31st, 2020. A celebration of life will take place for Irene at FCC in the near future.

(Continued on next page)

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Treehouse Preschool will begin September 15th. During the school drop off and pick up times, we need to restrict people from entering the building. This is for your safety as well as the children. Our church office will continue to be open from 10:00 AM– 2:00 PM, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. We also ask that you not enter the building between these hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. 11:20-11:35 AM and 12:15-12:45 PM. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's Altar Flowers were provided by Donna Marlow.



“In Memory of David Marlow”



HERALD DEADLINE

The deadline for articles to be submitted to the October Herald is this Thursday, September 10th.

YOUTH GROUP RESUMES

We are excited to announce that our Youth Groups, Catalyst and Ignite, are back in session. Both groups will meet tonight for a cookout from 6-8:30pm. Regular meetings begin next Sunday, September 13th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Christian Education will offer a new program called Living Stones, for children of all ages. This will follow the youth song during Sunday morning worship. This special gathering time will begin next Sunday, September 13th.