

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 4, 2022 10:30 a.m.



Watch our Chapel Service on CHANNEL 105

Order of Worship

Prelude

Lift High the Cross

Rhonda R.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

United Church of Christ

Our God is an awesome God who breathed into emptiness and created all that is.

With love and care, God shaped the world in all its diversity with mountains and valleys, rivers and deserts, and people of all colors and sizes.

And threading through it all are beautiful dreams of justice, compassion, liberation, and peace.

O God, creator of our past, our present, and our future, we thank you for the many blessings you bestow on us each moment.

Be with us now. Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

Lead us in paths of righteousness. Fill our hearts with compassion and a thirst for justice. Teach us to be co-creators, with You, of a world where all belong and share in the abundance you have given us.

Praise be to God.

Prayer of Confession

United Church of Christ

Creator God, you made us to be neighbors, members of one family blessed with great diversity. You created us to be helpers and friends to one another, entrusting to us your justice and your joy. Yet we have denied justice and joy to many, creating worlds of poverty, pain, lost opportunities, and absence of hope. In so many ways, we break each other's hearts. Still, you do not reject us. We ask your forgiveness and pray to be transformed.

Silence

Loving God, you restore us to each other and to you, mending our hearts and repairing the world. Through the power of your Spirit, you shape us to be for others what Christ is for us: pardon and peace, new life and blessing. We give you thanks for your love, forgiveness, and constant presence. Amen.

Borning Cry

ELW 732

"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
To see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell."

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“When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life,
Not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night,
Complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in
And you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been
With just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your burning cry,
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.”

Text: John Ylvisaker; **Music:** John Ylvisaker. Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: *And also with you.*

Canticle of Praise

ELW, pages 149-150

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
And honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God
And join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.



This is the feast of victory for our God,
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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First Reading – Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading – Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the

(Turn page)

hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Gospel Acclamation

ELW, page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel – Luke 14:25-33

Response: *Glory to You, O Lord.*

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

Pastor Mandsager,
delivered by Christiana Adams

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flowers of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine!



Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss; **Music:** Silesian folk tune.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Christiana Adams

Offertory

*Take Up Your Cross and
Follow Me*

Rhonda R.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

**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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Blessing

May God make safe to you each step,
May God make open to you each pass,
May God make clear to you each road,

and

May God take you in the clasp of
His own two Hands.

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world
Adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians,
Follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious,
Christ, the Son of God.
Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world
Adore his sacred name.

All newborn soldiers
Of the Crucified
Bear on their brows
The seal of him who died.
Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world
Adore his sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted
On the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised,
Draw us all to thee.

**(Turn page)**

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Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world
Adore his sacred name.

So shall our song
Of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified
For victory!
Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world
Adore his sacred name.

Text: George W. Kitchin; rev. Michael R. Newbolt; **Music:** Sydney H. Nicholson. Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Beautiful Savior

Rhonda R.



**Northfield
Retirement Community**
Innovation. Choice. Tradition.

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