



First Reformed United Church of Christ

Where People Discover...
The Love of God...
The Power to Love Others...
The Ability to Love Ourselves.

The Worship of God

August 9, 2020
Holy Communion Sunday

Gathering

“BOLD” indicates congregational response

Prelude	<i>"When in Our Music God is Glorified"</i> [Anna Laura Page]	Robert Wilson
Welcome and Invitation to Worship		Rev. Elizabeth Horton
Opening Prayer		Bonita Hooper
Hymn	<i>"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"</i>	Ellen Peterson

Centering

Gospel Reading	Matthew 14: 22-33 Rene Walsh, Travis White, Bella Gentry, Bryson Gentry, Caroline White
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Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Prayer of Confession	Rev. Horton
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Lord, you know us too well. You know how easy it is for us to come to you and to proclaim loudly of our faith when all is going well. But when the waters get rough and the waves threaten to swamp our little boats, we cry and wail in fear. We are sure that these waves will be the very things that destroy us. Over the wind and the waves you call to us to place our trust in you. That's not so easy for us. We are so used to getting lots of reassurances and written guarantees of safety. But still you call to us. Help us take our focus off the wind and the waves and place our eyes directly on you. Attune our hearts and our lives to hear your call and to respond in faith. For we offer this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Words of Assurance
Passing the peace
Pastoral Prayer

"May the peace of Christ be with you."

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading

Genesis 37: 1-28

Rev. Horton

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves.* But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. He said to them, 'Listen to this dream that I dreamed. There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf.' His brothers said to him, 'Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?' So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

He had another dream, and told it to his brothers, saying, 'Look, I have had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.' But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him, and said to him, 'What kind of dream is this that you have had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow to the ground before you?' So his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.' He answered, 'Here I am.' So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.' So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?' 'I am seeking my brothers,' he said; 'tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.' The man said, 'They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan." '

So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.' But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, 'Let us not take his life.' Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him'—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves* that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, 'What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.' And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Sermon

"Family Stories: From Favorite to Fallen"

Hymn

"Come, Share the Lord"

Ellen Peterson

Service of Holy Communion

Rev. Horton

Gather bread and cup that are meaningful to you and join us.

Invitation to the table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts,

We lift them up unto to the Lord

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding

Invitation to Give and Serve

Rev. Horton

Sending

Benediction

Blessing

Postlude

"Fugue and Harmonization on St. Anne"
[J. S. Bach]

Robert Wilson

Join our **"Fellowship & Prayer Concerns" Zoom Chat [HERE](#)**
after worship from 12-12:30pm and catch up with your church friends!
(Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Password: 3n7IX8)

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OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

OUR MEMBERS:

*Bill Walser, Margot Everhart, Lisa Price, Patti Lovell, Jeff Hutchens, Deanna Michael

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Bob Shaak, Lib Sink, Katherine Skipper, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

Piedmont Crossing:

Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt

OUR FRIENDS:

*Buddy Hedrick (Frankie Hedrick's husband), *Wayne Beck (Grayson Beck's grandfather), Ben & Anna Lovell and their parents (Jerry and Patti's nephew, his wife), Jonelle Parker (friend of Frank Leonard), Angie Bouchard (Lee and Ellen Bouchard's youngest daughter)

***Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located on the backs of the pews or call the church office (336-248-2617).**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

August 9:

9:45AM Adult Bible Study on Genesis led by Rev. Susan Morris via Zoom

In the study guide book: Chapter 9; Daily reading: Genesis 42; 43-44; 45; 46:1-27; and 46:28 – 47:31.
Join the Meeting [HERE](#).

11:00AM Holy Communion Sunday

Gather bread and a beverage of your choice to Worship and Join in Holy Communion online via YouTube [HERE](#) and Facebook [HERE](#).

12:00PM Fellowship & Prayer Concerns via Zoom

Join the meeting [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 & Password: 3n7IX8)

August 10:

12:00PM 2CFAR: Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race via Zoom. Join the meeting [HERE](#).

(Meeting ID: 873 4191 8684 & Password: 222495)

7:00PM Children's Ministry Team Meeting

Committee members may join the meeting [HERE](#).

7:00PM Adult Book Study: "White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism"

Join the Meeting at [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 859 2701 0393 & Password: 7x6nQw)

August 16:

9:45AM Adult Bible Study on Genesis led by Rev. Susan Morris via Zoom

In the study guide book: Chapter 10; Daily reading: Genesis 48; Genesis 49: 1-28; Genesis 49:29-50:26; Exodus 1:1-2:10, 10:21-29, & 14:21-22; John 1:1-5, Romans 5: 12-21, 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2. Join the Meeting [HERE](#).

11:00AM Worship online via YouTube [HERE](#) and Facebook [HERE](#).

12:00PM Fellowship & Prayer Concerns via Zoom

Join the meeting [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 & Password: 3n7IX8)

4:00PM DRIVE THROUGH BACKPACK BLESSING FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

Grab your backpack, jump in the car with Mom and/or Dad or drive yourself to the parking lot of the Educational Building for our annual "BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS! Everyone should enter from the Center Street driveway (between the church and Dominoes Pizza) and exit at the North First Street driveway.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, August 23 there will be another Prayer Vigil: A Call to End Racism. More details will be provided later.

~AUGUST CELEBRATIONS~

BIRTHDAYS

10th

Nina Smith

12th

Casey Hartle

13th

Christie Plummer

14th

Lena Johnson

15th

Baron Freeman
Beau Sink

ANNIVERSARIES

11th

Tim & Tracy Potts