



First Reformed United Church of Christ

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

September 26, 2021
The Worship of God
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

"Be Thou My Vision" [arr. Joan Pinkston]

Christopher Kiser

***Ringing of the Chimes**

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Opening Prayer

Hymn

"O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Ellen Peterson

Children's Church

Rev. Evan Sieges, Jeremy & Keri Lovell

Scripture Reading

Mark 9: 38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

Rev. Horton

Anthem

"**Vision Prayer**"

[Molly Ijames and Eileen Berry]

Into this heart of darkness God made His light to shine, and now the glorious knowledge of Jesus Christ is mine.

His light has cleared my vision of all its blinding lies, and spread His truth and beauty before my wondering eyes.

Illumined in rich color and beautiful to see, the dying of my Savior has given life to me.

And brighter still in radiance, His resurrection hour has left the dark tomb empty and freed me from its power.

O let me guard this treasure, this knowledge in my heart, this brightly burning candle that bids my doubts depart.

And as I shine this gospel in every darkened place, O Savior, keep before me the vision of Your face.

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.

Scripture Reading

James 5:13-20

Rev. Horton

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Sermon

"**A Faith that Works: You Are Not Alone**"

Invitation to Give and Serve in the Life of the Church

***Benediction**

Postlude

"*Blessed Be The Name*" [arr. Sandra Achterberg]

Christopher Kiser

***Please remain seated until the ushers direct you to exit.**

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION. We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never, before attended one, you are welcome here.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

We extend Sympathy to and share Christian Hope with...

The family of Robert "Bob" Ray Shaak, who passed away on Friday, September 17. Visitation will be held at 1:00 this afternoon in the Fellowship Hall followed by a memorial service in the sanctuary. Inurnment will follow in the Memorial Garden Columbarium.

Beverly Sandifer, whose husband, Robert Miley Sandifer, passed away on July 12, 2021.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

SUNDAYS at 6:00PM: Youth Group (West's home)

WEDNESDAYS at 6:30PM: Youth Study

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM: Children's Church

WEDNESDAYS at 6:30PM: Children's Fun & Activities

The flowers on the pedestals at the front of the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Shaak by his family.

OUR MEMBERS:

Lee Bouchard, Jeff Hutchens

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS:

*Connie Leggette (friend of Renee White), Ashley Thomason (Ron & Heidi Hutcheson's daughter-in-law), Cheri Yates (Eddie Yates' stepmother), Rev. Dr. Ray Howell III (Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lexington), Marc Frye (son of the late Doris Frye)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

LITURGIST: TBD **SOUND TECH:** Dave Fulton

DIGITAL MEDIA TECH: Jeremy Peterson

USHERS: Raeann Allred, James Gray, Alane Holste, Eddie Yates

ACOLYTE: Emma Hartle **BIBLE STEWARD:** Jacob Hartle

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Jeremy & Keri Lovell

CELEBRATIONS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

26th...Mark Smith...Cathy Whitley

27th...Rita Lohr

28th...Elliott Smith

30th...Kelly Greathouse

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

1st...Stacey Potts

2nd...Eugenia Holste...Adena Wall

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

1st...John & Susie Smith

OCTOBER STAFF ANNIVERSARIES:

10-1-2015...Elizabeth Horton...June Grubb

10-1-2005...Steve McDonald

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26:

9:30AM Bible Study: In-Person (Parlor) & via Zoom

Dave & Glenyce Fulton, facilitators
(James 5: 13-20, Mark 9: 38-50)

10:30AM Worship Service In-Person and Livestreamed Online (**YOUTUBE**)

Children's Church (Theater Room)

6:00PM Youth Group (West's home)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

12:00PM 2CFAR via Zoom

7:00PM Book Study Group via Zoom:
"Strangers No More"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

6:30PM Youth Group (Youth Room)

Children's Fun & Activities
(Fellowship Hall)

7:00PM Choir Practice (Chapel Annex)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

4-6:00PM Clothes Closet Workday

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

12:30PM Carry-Out Lunch Ministry

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3: World Communion & Neighbors in Need Offering

9:30AM Bible Study: In-Person (Parlor) & via Zoom

Eulene Shepherd (Facilitator)
(Job 1:1;2:1-10, Mark 10:2-16)

10:30AM Worship Service In-Person and Livestreamed Online (**YOUTUBE**)

Children's Church (Theater Room)

6:00PM Youth Group (West's home)

MINISTERS: The Congregation of **FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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