

The Church steeple is lighted in July to remember L. Earle and Mary T. Wilson.

Participants today:

Alan Parker, Pastor; Sandalyn Chadwick, Accompanist; Paula Massé, Liturgist.

Special Music: Jon DeLaBruere

For Next Sunday:

Genesis 32:22-31 with Psalm 17:1-7, 15; or Isaiah 55:1-5 with Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21;
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary

in memory of a family member or loved one, contact Roberta Alexander (586-7730).

If you know of someone whom you'd like to place on the Prayer Circle, please feel free to be in touch with Fay Waterhouse at 586-2520, or Alan Parker at 535-7137.

Bulletin news due at church via e-mail, phone message, or note by Friday morning. You may also contact Michelle Warren at 586-9632 or email unitedchurchcraftsbury@gmail.com.

Upcoming Weekly Church Calendar:

Sun. 07/27	Mon. 7/28	Tues. 7/29	Wed. 7/30	Thurs. 7/31	Fri. 08/01	Sat. 08/02
Service: 10 AM Preparation for Tag Sale (next 2 weeks)	Student Lunches: 11:45 AM Zumba: 6 PM	AA: 6 PM	Student Lunches: 11:45 AM	Student Lunches: 11:45 AM Zumba: 4:45 PM Al-Anon: 6 PM		

Committee Contacts:

- **Church Clerk:** Anne Wilson (586-2825)
- **Church Council:** Andy Moffatt (586-2248)
- **Community Supper:** Barb Strong (586-2516)
- **Deacons:** Andy Moffatt (586-2248)
- **Horse & Buggy Club:** Paula Massé (586-2857)
- **Ladies Union:** Lois Charron (586-9674)
- **Memorial Committee:** Mary Ann Merrill (730-4754)
- **Prayer Circle:** Fay Waterhouse (586-2520)
- **Religious Education:** Barb Strong (586-2516)
- **Trustees:** Cheryl Bailey (586-9675)

United Church of Craftsbury

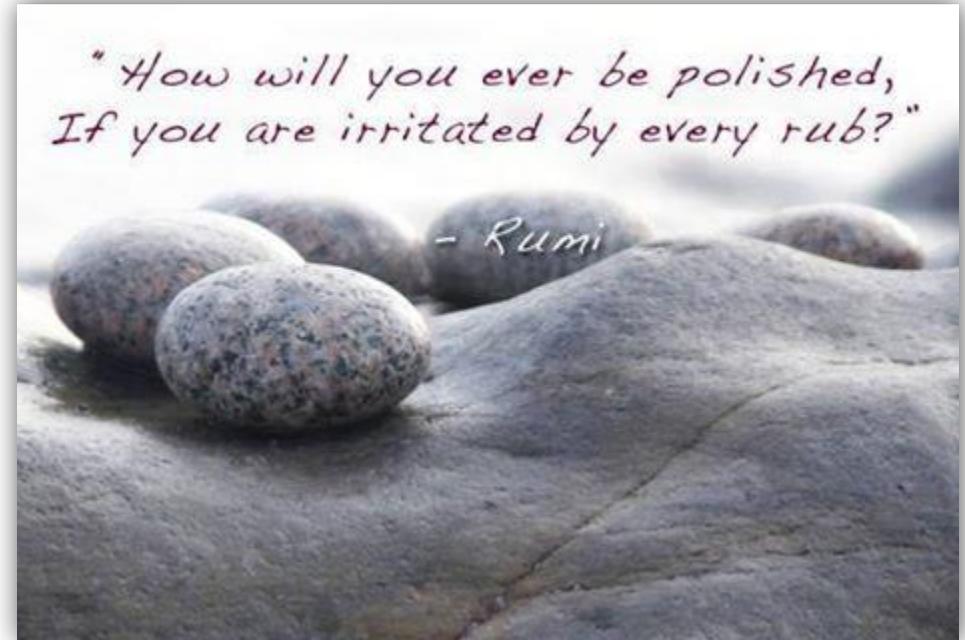
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Website & Online Calendar: www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com

Pastor: Rev. Alan Parker · Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Arnold Brown · Ministers: The Entire Congregation

United Church of Craftsbury



July 27, 2014

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

WE GATHER TO BE PRESENT WITH GOD

PRELUDE

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(The first spoken words of our worship time are

“The peace of Christ be with you.”

The congregation is invited to respond, saying, “And also with you.”)

INTROIT

GATHERING MUSIC, PRAYER, INVOCATION & MEDITATION

HYMN # 505 (Sing twice)

You That Have Spent the Silent Night

(Alternating with Reading from Psalm 119)

CALL TO PRAYER OF CONFESSION, HEALING AND FORGIVENESS

UNISON PRAYER FOR HEALING OF BROKENNESS

Gracious God, when we can't find words, or dare not to, to describe our regret, pain, anguish, and brokenness, you still call to us and give form to our confession. In your spirit of eternal hope, you step in to show us how to repair broken relationships, broken promises, broken dreams, and broken lives. God, your Creation-shaping heart is one of reconciliation, forgiveness, and new and refreshed vision. Dry our tears; quiet our cries of regret, disappointment, hatred, cynicism, and self-focus. Open our ears, eyes, and hearts that we might listen to your hopes, feel your complete forgiveness, and share your words of love, hope, and renewal in a troubled and weeping world.

SILENT PRAYER

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: All may be well between God and us. Humble words, thoughts, and prayers refresh us like rain after drought;

ALL: Like sunshine after storm; like warmth after bitter cold. Assured of God's eternal and unconditional love, we set forth anew to live in and share this blessed grace. AMEN

CHORUS OF ASSURANCE

(SING) *It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul. It is well; it is well with my soul.*

WE LISTEN TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O God, may our reading, hearing, and understanding of your Word, and our own words, be acceptable in your sight. For you are our rock and our redeemer. AMEN

SCRIPTURE

- Romans 8:26-39
- Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

*(At the conclusion of Gospel reading, the congregation responds, saying,
"Thanks be to God, who brings light and truth.")*

REFLECTION

"Nothing Can Separate Us"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S HOLY INVITATION

*HYMN # 399

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PASTORAL PRAYER, PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION, & LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

(SING) *Hear our prayer, O God; hear our prayer, O God.
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.*

WE OFFER GIFTS OF OURSELVES AND DEPART IN PEACE

CALL TO GIVING AND RECEIPT OF OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN (Insert, V. 1-4)

Guide My Feet

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE # 590

Threefold Amen

POSTLUDE

* *We rise, either in body or in spirit*

CALL TO PRAYER OF CONFESSION, HEALING AND FORGIVENESS

Try as we often do to look away, we aren't strangers to our brokenness. We know well the places where we need healing and wellness. God knows this even better than us, and God wants deeply for us to be healed. Let us seek in prayer together the peace that heals through God's grace.

Guide My Feet

497

African-American traditional; alt.

Heb. 12:1-15

1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
2 Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
3 I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child
4 Stand by me while I run this race, stand by me

Yes, my God.

while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,
while I run this race, stand by me while I run this race,

Yes, my God.

For I don't want to run this race in vain.

This stanza may be added following stanza 1:
Wheel with me while I run this race . . .

Guide My Feet

497

African-American traditional; alt.

Heb. 12:1-15

1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
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Wheel with me while I run this race . . .

Scripture for July 27, 2014

Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

End of reading: "This is the word of God; the story of Jesus Christ, who brings light and truth to the world."