

*Lighting of the United Church of Craftsbury's Bell Tower for the month of August has been given in loving memory of Hans and Ella Vahlteich by their daughter and son-in-law, Beverly and Bill DeLaney.*

**Participants today:**

Rev. Alan Parker, Pastor; Sandalyn Chadwick, Accompanist; Debbie Hill, liturgist.

**For Next Sunday:**

1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69.

**If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary**

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

**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](mailto:unitedchurchcraftsbury@gmail.com).

Upcoming Weekly Church Calendar:						
Sun. 08/16	Mon. 08/17	Tues. 08/18	Wed. 08/19	Thurs. 08/20	Fri. 08/21	Sat. 08/22
Service: 10 AM		AA: 6 PM	Community Dinner: 6 PM  Book Discussion: 7 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:** Jen LaPoint (586-2883)
- **Horse & Buggy Club:** Paula Massé (586-2857)
- **Ladies Union:** Lois Charron (586-9674)
- **Memorial Committee:** Diane Sanville (586-9642)
- **Prayer Circle:** Norma Waterhouse (586-2285)
- **Religious Education:** Barb Strong (586-2516)
- **Trustees:** Bruce Sweeny (802) 525-4245

**United Church of Craftsbury**

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Website & Online Calendar: [www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com](http://www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com)

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

**United Church of Craftsbury**



**August 16, 2015**

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

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 # 436 (PH)**

O God of Earth and Altar

*(Alternating with reading from Psalm 111)*

**CALL TO PRAYER FOR HEALING AND FORGIVENESS**

## UNISON PRAYER FOR HEALING OF BROKENNESS

Holy and gentle God, we need your healing and forgiveness. You made us whole, yet we settle for being broken. You made us generous, but we guard our treasures in simple fear of loss. You made us welcoming, yet we exclude those who make us uncomfortable. You made us loving, yet we see only glimpses of how to love as kindly as you do. We manufacture gods out of ourselves, and even some of those who look glorious or attractive. But such gods always fail us. Heal us, God of oneness. Remind us of who you are and who we are not. Mend our brokenness, for we would be your holy hands, reaching out in love to all of your Creation.

## SILENT PRAYER

### RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The humble heart is the forgiven heart. The forgiven heart is the grateful heart.

**All: The grateful heart is the loving heart. The loving heart is the joyful heart.**

One: We know the joy of humility in our prayer. We learn to love anew in our prayer.

**All: God's generous spirit opens our souls to all good things. Thanks be to God.**

**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 spoken, sung, and prayed, be acceptable in your sight. For you are our rock and our redeemer. AMEN

## THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

- 1 Kings 3:3-14
- Proverbs 9:1-6
- John 6:51-58

*(At the conclusion of Gospel reading, the congregation responds, saying,*

***"Thanks be to God, who brings light and truth.")***

## REFLECTION

"The People You Have Chosen"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S HOLY INVITATION

### \*HYMN # 329 (NCH)

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

## 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 # 518 (NCH)

Father Almighty, Bless Us

### \*BENEDICTION      RESPONSE # 590

*Threefold Amen*

## POSTLUDE

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

## **CALL TO PRAYER FOR HEALING AND FORGIVENESS**

We fret over our portion; we envy that which we don't possess. We lose our trust in God and in each other. We judge things we don't understand. We break from lack of faith. Our brokenness wounds Creation's glories. We confess our brokenness so that the world and we might be healed.

## **Scripture for August 16, 2015**

### **1 Kings 3:3-14**

At Gibeon, the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this, your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

### **Proverbs 9:1-6**

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars.  
She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, and she has also set her table.  
She has sent out her servant-girls; she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.  
Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

### **John 6:51-58**

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

**Opening Reading, August 16, 2015**

**Psalm 111**

**SING**

Praise God! I will give thanks to God  
with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright,  
in the congregation.

Great are the works of God,  
studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty  
is God's work,  
and God's righteousness endures forever.

**SING**

God provides food  
for those who fear God;  
God is ever mindful of God's covenant.

God has shown God's people  
the power of God's works,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The fear of God  
is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it  
have a good understanding.

God's praise endures forever.

**SING**