

BE THE CHURCH
Protect the environment.
Care for the poor.
FORGIVE OFTEN.
REJECT RACISM.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
EMBRACE DIVERSITY.
LOVE GOD.
Enjoy this life.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

July 8th, 2018

Be the Church: Reject Racism

The Rev. Nathaniel Craddock, Interim Pastor

David Ralphs, Choir Director & Organist

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human being and the prejudices within us that deny the dignity of those who are oppressed, **Lord, set us free!**

One: From racism that blinds oppressors to the destruction caused by the spirit and practice of racial injustice, **Christ set us free!**

One: From the racism that will not recognize the work of your Spirit in other cultures: **Lord, set us free!**

Pastor: Friends, hear this good news: In Christ, God calls us forth from the tomb to the light of new life. In Christ, God destroys the dividing walls of hostility that separate us from God and from each other. Through the Holy Spirit, God releases us from the chains that bind us. We are set free to be children of God! **Thanks be to God!**

Please share a brief sign of God's welcome with those around you.

MOVEMENT II: WE ENCOUNTER OUR SACRED STORY

Prayer of Illumination

One: Let us pray.

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 10.14-19 (Common English Bible)

Clearly, the Lord owns the sky, the highest heavens, the earth, and everything in it. But the Lord adored your ancestors, loving them and choosing the descendants that followed them—you!—from all other people. That's how things still stand now. So circumcise your hearts and stop being so stubborn, because the Lord your God is the God of all gods and Lord of all lords, the great, mighty, and awesome God who doesn't play favorites and doesn't take bribes. He enacts justice for orphans and widows, and he loves immigrants, giving them food and clothing. That means you must also love immigrants because you were immigrants in Egypt.

Second Reading: Galatians 3.26-29 (Common English Bible)

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Now if you belong to Christ,

then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the promise.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Dan Daulton

Third Reading: Acts 11.1-18 (Common English Bible)

The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!"

Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. "I was in the city of Joppa praying when I had a visionary experience. In my vision, I saw something like a large linen sheet being lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came all the way down to me. As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' The voice from heaven spoke a second time, 'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. The Spirit told me to go with them even though they were Gentiles. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered that man's house. He reported to us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. I remembered the Lord's words: 'John will baptize with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, then who am I? Could I stand in God's way?"

Once the apostles and other believers heard this, they calmed down. They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled Gentiles to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life."

Sermon

The Rev. Nate Craddock

 MOVEMENT III: WE RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

 Offertory *Symphony in C Andante* Beethoven

* Great Doxology, no. 494 (last verse only) & Offertory Prayer

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
 And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
 And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one:
 and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
 yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, and the 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, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from
 evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
 Amen.**

Response to Prayer, no. 495

Weave

Song for the Mission, no. 655

Community of Christ

* Benediction & Alleluia, no. 106

Postlude

From Finlandia (#722)
Sibelius

LIFE AT PILGRIM
July 8th, 2018

Leading Our Worship Today

The Rev. Nate Craddock, Interim Pastor

David Ralphs, Organist & Choir Director

Shelley Kiefer, Kira Rehn, Liturgist

Ushers: Karen Essell, Denny Schmidt, Sue Schmidt

Greeters: Diana Daulton, Dan Daulton

Pilgrim United Church of Christ is proud to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, learning and striving to include people of all sexual and gender identities, races, classes, beliefs, and socio-economic status. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

SUMMER SERIES: BE THE CHURCH

God calls us into the joyful dance of community for the incredible work of healing the world, and over the summer, we will be diving deeper into what it means to *be the Church!* This is sure to be an exciting journey to rediscover and re-envision what it is that draws us all together here in the first place. **Next week, we will reflect on our exciting and challenging call to *Care for the Poor* as we serve Christ among the last and the least.**

Welcome to all who are here for the first time, and all who are here for the first time in a while! We are truly grateful you chose to be here today. We want to offer you our best welcome! To help us do that, please fill out a **welcome card** with as much information as you'd like to share, and we will reach out to you. **If you're a visitor today, Pastor Nate wants to take you to coffee or lunch sometime. Send him an email: nathaniel.craddock@gmail.com**

Pastor's Community Office Hours: Pastor Nate has taken on the task of hanging out in the community to connect with people outside the walls of our congregation. You're invited to join him for drinks, conversation, and prayer any time during these community office hours. Pr Nate will be hanging out at **The Public House** in Cheviot on North Bend on Mondays from 4:00 to 6:30pm.

Bible Boulevard Summer Session: Bible Blvd will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays through August. Today, all children preschool thru 8th grade will meet in the Parlor. Some of the Bible stories to look forward to are: The Miracles of Jesus, The Prodigal Son, and Escape from the Fiery Furnace. Along with the story there will be videos, crafts, pictures to color and lots of fun.

Shelter House July 26th: The Board of Mission and Outreach is looking for volunteers to cook and serve lunch for 50 women at the Shelter House on Reading Road. Food preparation will be here at the church at 9:00am. We will leave here at 11:15 to deliver and help serve lunch at their facility. For more information, call Nancy Matthew at 574-5722.

Annual Cluster II Picnic: Sunday, August 19, 2018, Noon-3:00 pm. "Potluck" Lunch at Noon, Salad, Vegetable, or Casserole to Share, Meat, Desserts, and Drinks Provided. Games for all ages! Devotion at 2:30 pm. Come Join the Fun and Fellowship! St. Peter and St. Paul UCC, 3001 Queen City Avenue, at Ferguson Road, Cincinnati, OH 45238.

Roof Repairs: There are special envelopes in the Narthex marked Roof Repair. You can also add to your weekly offering, be sure to mark your offering envelope as roof repairs.

Summer Music: You may sign up in the Narthex if you would like to bring special music this summer.

New Pastoral Care Phone Number: In order to better serve the congregation and the community, a new Pastoral Care contact number has been established. If you are in need of Pastoral assistance and the office is not open, you may call **513-549-1641**. When you call, it will ask for your name and then route your call to either Pastor Nate or a designated in-house care person should Pastor Nate be unavailable. Feel free to distribute this number to anyone and keep it handy should you need assistance.

We are Grateful for your Presence, Gifts, and Witness!

Last Week:

Attendance.....	51
Average General Fund Income Needed per Week.....	\$3,709
Average Rec'd per week to Date.....	\$3,326
Offering.....	\$2,448
Other General Fund Income.....	\$800
Roof Repair to Date:	
Donations.....	\$.1,410
Ladies Guild Loan.....	\$12,017

This Week at Pilgrim:

Sunday, July 8	10:30am	Sunday Worship
Wednesday, July 11	7:00pm	Overeaters Anonymous
Thursday, July 12	7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 228
Friday, July 13	10:00am	Overeaters Anonymous
Sunday, July 15	10:30am	Sunday Worship

Prayer List

Steve Andres	Joe Hagedon	Kurt Phillippo
Gerry Baker	Hartung Family	Missy Rappoport
Kayla Beitel-specher	Debbie Heintz	Alma Jean Robertson
Wally Boekley	Candy Hoekstra	Ken Scheidt Family
Linda Brown	Cathy Hunt	George Siddall
Liam Cummings	Stephanie Kleiner	Luke Spencer
Flaig Family	Joellyn Lam	Clara Spreen
Gegner Family	Tom Martin	Reeta Tomazic
Alberta Grimm	Bill Martz	Don West
Cheryl Gunn	Pam Moorhead	Ian Wiedenbein
Debbie Hafer	Neil Parsons	Tom Wood

We would like to keep this prayer list up to date! Please help us by filling out one of the new Prayer Cards in the pews or by contacting the church office if you would like to add someone, **or when you know a name may be removed.** Thank you!



Connect with us on Facebook: facebook.com/PilgrimChurchONA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture passages quoted from the Common English Bible & the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Liturgy adapted from the UCC *Book of Worship*, the *Book of Common Prayer 1979*, *Feasting on the Word*, and *The Scottish Liturgy 1982*.