CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Pentecost — July 27, 2025

*Please stand in body or in spirit. 10:30am Worship Service

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kathy Pavick

PRELUDE *How Great Thou Art*

Ruth Ann Cunningham and Emanuel Mora

INTROIT *Awesome God* TFWS 2040 (x2)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As we strive to live each moment of our lives as Jesus taught

People: We reach out to you Lord for direction and guidance

Leader: As we strive to live every day as servants of our Living Savior

People: We listen for your whispered voice to teach us the way

Leader: As we strive to live our whole lives in your forgiving image

People: We give our whole selves over to your forgiving grace.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* UMH 121

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and forgiveness, help each of us to remember your word that we hear this morning. Help us to know your will for our lives and help us to be the patient and gracious children you imagined us to be. In Jesus perfect name, Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S HAPPENING

SCRIPTURE READINGS	Hosea 1:2-10	Pew Bible 730
	Psalm 85	UMH 806
	Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)	Pew Bible 957
	*Luke 11:1-15	Pew Bible 845

God is still speaking. **And we are still listening. Thanks be to God!**

***GLORIA PATRI** *Glory Be to the Father* UMH 71

SERMON *As We Forgive* Al Naab

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN OF REFLECTION *God How Can We Forgive?* TFWS 2169

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *When You Believe* (From "Prince of Egypt") S. Schwartz

Lisa Miragliotta-Van Scyoc and Susan Balesky

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 94

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Lord, as we lift up these gifts to you, we pray that your will might be accomplished through our gifts of time, treasure and talent. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God of goodness and mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

PRAYER RESPONSE *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* UMH 348 v. 4

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** *Freely, Freely* UMH 389

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *An Irish Blessing* C. Davey

Anna Pengov and Susan Balesky

***POSTLUDE**

PRAYER AND VESPER SERVICES

During the months of July and August, weather permitting, there will be a service of evening prayer/vespers in the San Diego Community Garden. Our own Brian Pavick will be there with his guitar to aid us in our time of worship. Please join us this **Wednesday, July 30** at 7:00pm.

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Non-weekly meetings and activities are in **bold print**.

SUN (07/27): Worship, 10:30am
Ice Cream Social, 7:00p/San Diego Community Garden
WED (07/30): Prayer and Vesper Service, 7:00p/San Diego Community Garden
THU (07/31): Jefferson Rocks, 6:30p/Jefferson Park
SUN (08/03): Worship, 10:30am

We Are All God's Children

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

** denotes member*

**Bobby Blankenship*	*Al Tobey*	*Erik T.*	*Lindsey Elswick*
**Monta Demchak*	*Carol De Laat*	*Frank*	*Lindsey Parker*
**Dave Dickman*	*Carol*	*Gail*	*Mary*
**Mitzi Herrick*	*Caroline*	*Geof Funk*	*Mary Ellen*
**Cindy Light*	*Chris M.*	*J & J*	*Mary W.H.*
**John Motley*	*Darlene*	*Jan*	*Max*
**Peter Oesterreich*	*Darlene*	*Jim*	*MJ*
**Janis Pongallo*	*Daryana*	*Jim*	*Rosie*
**Linda Prudhoe*	*David R.*	*John*	*Roy Buser*
**DeeDee Rencehausen*	*Dennis*	*Joshua C.*	*Seth Buser*
**Nadene & Dennis Smith*	*Diane*	*Kathy*	*Sheri G.*
**Joan Thorkelson*	*Dixie*	*Kevin Fischer*	*Ted and Marie Nyland*
**Galen Younkin*	*Doug Emery*	*Laurie*	*Tom Szor*
Ukraine, Israel and Gaza	*Dotty*	*Lee*	*Viola*
Pastor Jason Thompson	*Ed Rote*	*Lily Van Scyoc*	

STAR WORDS

At the beginning of the year, we handed out "Star Words". I invite you to take the word you chose and use it throughout the year as a way to center your prayer time and to be aware of God's presence throughout the day. If you have not received a word, please let Pastor Dianne know and she will get one to you! Each week in the bulletin there will be a journal prompt or reflection question that encourages you in your use of the word.

For this week: **Where do you see God's goodness in connection with your word?**

BOOK BAGS

Coming into summer means the Outreach Committee is getting ready to be a presence at Jefferson Rocks. Remaining dates are July 31. Each Thursday we provide two crafts that the children (and some parents) can enjoy. As in past years, we would like to collect back packs and school supplies to pass out on the last Thursday. There will be a bin in the back of the church for back packs and supplies. If you would prefer donating money, Gillianne and Janis Pongallo will be happy to go shopping towards the end of July. Thanks for your help.

TAKE WHAT YOU NEED PANTRY BOX

The pantry box has become one of our most used outreach ministries! But keeping it full is a challenge. Please feel free to fill the box if you see it is empty, either from the supplies in the entryway or from your own cupboard! If you would rather, we could shop for you, just note that your monetary donation is for the pantry. Below are listed a few ideas of things you can donate. Thank you!

Canned soup	Canned stew	Peanut butter
Canned fruit	Canned fish	Pasta (most prefer whole grain)
Canned vegetables	Canned beans	Rice (most prefer brown rice)
Cereal	Baby Food	Toiletries

SUNDAE SUNDAY

The garden will be open tonight at 7:00pm for an ice cream social. Bring a yard chair, your favorite ice cream treat. Let us enjoy the garden as it grows.

DINNER AND DISCUSSION

Our church will be hosting a free dinner and discussion on Monday August 25th from 5:00 - 7:00 with Dr. Mike Davis the administrator of religious services with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction (ODRC). This is aimed to help people and congregations who may have family and friends who are incarcerated or have returned home after incarceration. Please attend if you are interested and help spread the word to others who may be interested. There are fliers on the back table with more information. Contact Sandy Foster @440-823-9853 or Desiree in the church office if you have any questions.

TRANSLATION FOR "WHEN YOU BELIEVE"

I will sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously!
Who is like you, O Lord, among the celestials?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness?
In your love, your love the people you've redeemed.

(From Exodus 15)

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION[1]

It is difficult in our day to consider the analogy of Hosea and Gomer. The figure of Gomer as adulterous prostitute offends our feminist sensibilities, and Hosea evokes pity more than admiration. Yet, as William Willimon points out, this scandalous story directs our attention to the God who went so far as to be crucified for us. "Only a passionate, unseemly God who is willing to risk scandal could possibly save a bunch of adulterers like us."[2] What does it mean to place ourselves in the role of Gomer? What does the person Hosea say about the character of God?

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

Thank you, God of light, for waking me up this morning. May I live wholly for you this day, that whatever I say and do might help make a path for your coming reign. Open my eyes to your goodness and my heart to your children. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of this day, its challenges and its blessings, its burdens and its delights. Forgive my failures and misdeeds and refine my heart, that I may greet the new day to live more faithfully for you. Amen.

Christ UMC Welcomes All

We welcome all persons to our church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background, social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation, or other means people use to categorize or discriminate against others. For our full statement, go to our website.

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[1] These questions for reflection and prayers are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2012.

[2] William H. Willimon, "Pastoral Perspective" on Hosea 1:2–10, Proper 12, in *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary, Year C, Volume 3*, ed. David L. Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2010), 272.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTOR: *The Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, OSL*
Cell: *216.509.4229* Email: *pastordiannetc@gmail.com*
Office Hours this week:

LITURGIST: *Kathy Pavick*
USHERS: *Al Naab, Phil Jennings, John Murphy*
GREETER: *Nancy Horton*
ACOLYTES: *Ian Eagan, Ben Eagan, Eli Gadomski Littleton, TJ Wood, Grace Horton*
AUDIO and VIDEO TECHNICIANS: *John Motley, Rob Pongallo*
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: *Susan Balesky*
ORGANIST/PIANIST: *Anna Pengov*
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: *Desiree Tarpeo* Email: *office@christumc.com*
Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm*

GOAL - FOCUS - STRATEGIES

GOAL: Grow in relationship with Jesus Christ in order to change the world around us, starting with our own community.

FOCUS: To achieve this goal, we will prioritize reaching out to our community as essential to our personal and congregational growth as Christians.

STRATEGIES:

1. We will build meaningful relationships with the people in our community.
2. We will strive to listen and understand the needs of our community.
3. We will use our building and resources to meet those needs in a tangible way.

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Ask an usher if you would like a LARGE PRINT HYMNAL, Braille hymnal or hearing device.