

Parma Greece United Church of Christ

R. Kurt Traugott, Pastor

Sarah Staebell, Organist

Roger Leighton, Moderator

*"No matter who you are, no matter where you are in life's journey,
you are welcome at Parma Greece UCC!"*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

September 6, 2015

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Prelude

Ringling Of The Bell

Word of Greeting and Announcements

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Musical Meditation

Call to Worship

Liturgist: What good is it if we say we love all people,
but give special treatment to a few?

**People: God calls us to love others as deeply
as we love ourselves, with no strings attached.**

Liturgist: What good is it if we say we want God to show
mercy towards us, but are quick to judge others?

**People: God calls us to forgive our sisters and brothers,
to let mercy triumph over judgment.**

Liturgist: What good is it if we say we trust God in every moment,
but live guided by our fears?

**People: We will speak and act as those who trust God to come
and live in our fearful hearts.**

***The Hymn**

"I Come with Joy"

#349

***The Prayer of Invocation-Unison**

Good and generous God You have blessed us with favor

and counted us as Your people through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. Freed by Your grace, let us extend Your generosity to others, sharing our bread with the poor, pleading the cause of the afflicted, and receiving all who assemble in Your name with the warmth of Your love and the richness of Your hospitality; in the good name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Liturgist: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

***An Act of Praise**

**Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever One.**

The Collect - Unison

Holy God, whose Spirit comes to us in moments of both strength and weakness, come now into our midst that we might be able to hear Your Word in fullness and in truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Liturgist: Listen now for the Word of God.

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Page 604

James 2:1-10, 14-17 Page 229

Liturgist: For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Liturgist: The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to St. Mark.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Liturgist: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Homily "Learning From Proverbs"

***The Hymn** "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" #498

The Call to Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Silent Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer Response "Spirit of the Living God" #283

The Giving of Our Gifts and Offerings

The Offertory

***The Offertory Response**

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

***The Prayer of Dedication - Unison**

May we who are rich with Your blessings, share them in common with those who have so little. May our gifts be used to sow justice, to feed the hungry, and to bring relief to those afflicted in so many ways. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Approach

Liturgist: Our Lord said to us: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**People: In the company of all who hunger for spiritual food,
we come to this table to know the risen Christ in
the sharing of this life-giving bread.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Liturgist: The Lord be with you..

People: And also with you!

Liturgist: Lift up your hearts.

People: Our hearts are offered to our God.

Liturgist: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: Thanksgiving is in our hearts, and praise is on our lips.

Liturgist: Our hearts do handsprings, and our joy echoes off the mountains, Creator of all: rich and poor, man and woman, child and grandparent, gnat and galaxy. Created in Your image, we ridicule others who look different from us; our lungs filled with the Spirit's breath, we laugh at those who are not as good as we imagine we are. But even when we turn our backs on You, Your love is steadfast and Your grace is abundant.

And so, with all your people, those on earth and those around Your throne, those beside us in this moment and those with you throughout eternity, in the join in everlasting song:

All Singing:

Nicaea

Holy, Holy, Holy, One God Almighty!

**All Your works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky
and sea.**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the Christ who comes to set us free.

Liturgist: Holy are You, and blessed is Jesus, Your Son, our Brother, our Savior. Jesus has done everything well: eating and drinking with sinners, He taught us that there is a place at the Table for each and every one of us; responding to the cries of the poor, He shows us we are all equal in God's heart; clearing the eyes of the blind and opening the ears of the deaf, inviting children to sit on his lap and conversing with the outsiders of His day, He models the radical inclusiveness of your kingdom.

As we remember all You did in and through Him - His words, His touch, His laughter, His silence, His loneliness, His death, His resurrection - we offer ourselves in trust and hope, in service and sacrifice, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, to sow life;
Christ has risen, to sow grace;
Christ will return, to sow justice for all.**

Liturgist: May the Spirit of the Risen Lord be poured out on us in this place, and on the gifts of the bread and the cup. As we take the broken loaf, we feast, not on the crumbs which fall from the Table, but on the grace which makes us whole; on the hope which makes us one; on the love which calls us to serve: to welcome the immigrants to our neighborhood, to teach the little child to read, to affirm the awkward adolescent, to share our bread and all we have with those in need, until that day when Christ returns and all shall feast at his banquet in heaven. Through your

Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory are yours, Great God, our hope, our
trust, our redemption, now and forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Prayer Of Our Savior - Singing

**Our Father, Which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

The Communion (Grape Juice in center of tray/Bread is gluten free)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Liturgist: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Liturgist: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: and forget not all God's benefits. Amen.

***The Hymn** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" #89

***The Commission and Benediction**

Liturgist: Christ the Bread of Life, sends you out to feed others.

Go out to share what you have received.

God will multiply the gifts you give away.

People: We will turn away from fears of scarcity.

We will celebrate and share our abundance.

Liturgist: Go in peace, love and care for one another in the name of Christ.

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
- The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
- The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give abundant life.

People: Amen.

***The Benediction Response** "Let There Be Peace On Earth
"Laminated Card In Pew Rack"

***The Postlude**