

From **BREAD** and **CUP** to **FAITH** and **GIVING**

Our Stewardship theme, **“From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving,”** connects God’s generosity and our stewardship. What would it mean for our lives to embody God’s abundance?

Receiving the bread and the cup—also known by names such as Lord’s Supper, communion, holy communion, Eucharist, breaking of the bread, sacred meal, and simply “the table”—provides a focus to Christian community.

At the table, God uses the loaf and the cup as visible signs of God’s pure, unbounded love for us and for all. The everyday ingredients become symbols of God’s abundance. Love that invites everyone in. Food enough for all. Cups shared, even when not everyone agreed. In all the different ways we celebrate it in our congregations, communion allows us to taste and imagine God’s gracious providence.

Too often, our minds get stuck on thoughts of scarcity. “There will never be enough,” we tell ourselves. And if there’s not enough, we want to control who gets what. Perhaps that’s why the word sparse (meager) contains the word parse (divide). Fears of scarcity divide us.

Our fears make God’s table manners ever more crucial. God invites. God provides. God pours – until our cup overflows.

Such abundance allows our hearts to imagine a new way of living. We can embrace God’s unconditional love as the basis for our lives as individuals and communities.

Stewardship ponders this question: how can we reflect God’s abundance with what we have? This question can help us think about ways to connect our experience of God’s generosity with the choices we make in our lives.



Pilgrim United Church of Christ
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
† Sunday, November 13, 2022 †
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUST BREATHE: (moments for silent reflection)

Great God, eternal Lord: Long years ago, you gave our ancestors this land as our home for a fee. Show us there is no law or liberty apart from you; let us serve our two flags as devoted people through Jesus Christ.

One: *Let there be peace on earth—and may it begin with me.*

PRELUDE *What Wonderous Love Is This* William Walker

CALL TO WORSHIP John Richards

One: Today is a day to remember:

All: We remember those who have gone before us and secured our freedom.

One: Today is a day to recall:

All: We recall the heroic actions of many who gave themselves to protect us.

One: We have known war, and now we seek peace—the peace of God that passes all understanding. We long for peace and to proclaim that our God reigns.

All: We yearn for a time when all shall bear their swords into plowshares and nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore. Let us lift up our voices and praise the God of peace and justice.

HYMN *Navy Hymn* Tune: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

1.
Eternal Father, strong to save, Arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

2.
O Lord of hosts, to you we turn To give us grace we cannot earn.
Our soldiers guard our way of life; Be with them all in times of strife
Let courage flow from your command; We pray for those who fight on land.

THANK YOU

Dear Friends of Pilgrim UCC,



Missi and I want to thank you for the wonderful retirement service of worship on September 11th. It was so nice to see so many familiar smiling faces from churches we have served, as well as those of the good people from Pilgrim. Benjamin and Kim made the worship service especially meaningful with their beautiful music; it's a memory we will cherish. I am so grateful for the gorgeous quartz singing bowl - it was especially fun to ring it at the beginning of the service, and then watch the kids ring it downstairs in the social hall during the reception. That singing bowl will always be held in sacred regard because it came from you. Finally, we want to thank everyone who helped to make the reception after the service a wonderful experience - the folks who made food, the people who set up the tables and cleaned up afterward, the ones who stayed in the kitchen getting things ready, and anyone else who went out of their way to help. Although the two years we spent together were challenging in many ways, I am truly grateful for the welcome we received and the grace that was always present among us. Missi and I wish you well and ask God's abundant blessings for you as you move into a new chapter of the life of Pilgrim Church. It was a privilege and an honor to serve as your Transitional Pastor.

Shalom!

Rev. Glen and Missi Shedlock

Thank you to Helen Hapanowicz who sponsored the Alar Flowers last week in memory of her granddaughter.

Altar Flowers: Bob & Jo Kindel

Liturgist: John Richards

Dedication: In honor of our Veterans.

PowerPoint: Kelly Gerstenberger

Live Stream: Dan Gerstenberger

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

130 Broad Blvd † Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 † 330.928.4847

† www.pilgrimcf.org †

Guest/Pulpit Supply Pastor: Rev. Carol Clements

Minister of Music: Benjamin Knight

Choir Director: Kimberly Knight

Secretary: Kelly Gerstenberger



WELCOME

We joyfully welcome all visitors!
Please join us again!

We are very glad You chose to Worship with Pilgrim United Church of Christ!



- ⇒ Fill the pews with blankets for Good Neighbors and food items for Pilgrim's Blessing Box.
- ⇒ Need a ride to the Advent Dinner? Contact the church office: 330.928.4847
- ⇒ Advent is around the corner. A Bible study is being planned. Stay Tuned!



- ◇ **The collection box is set-up in the hallway on the way to the sanctuary from the parking lot.**
- ◇ **Place your receipts from August 4 - December 24, 2022 with the Community Cash Back" amounts in the collection box or send into Pilgrim's office.**
- ◇ **As of November 6th Pilgrim has collected \$1,402.54 in Community Cash Back!**



3. Eternal Father, grant, we pray, To all Marines, both night and day.
The courage, honor, strength, and skill Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore From every peril to the Corps.
4. Lord guard and guide all those who fly Through the great spaces in the sky.
Be with them always in the air, In darkening storms on sunlight fair;
Oh, hear us when we lift our prayer, For those in peril in the air!
5. Almighty God, whose arm is strong, Protect us e'er from doing wrong.
We pray to always do what's right, For justice only be our flight.
Let peace now reign across our land, Brought to us by your gracious hand.

PRESENTATION/CONSECRATION OF COMMITMENTS CARDS

John Richards

- One: Because you gave the very breath of life,
All: We give our thanks to you, O Lord, with every breath.
- One: Because you nurtured life with human love,
All: We bring you all of our relationships for your blessing.
- One: Because you give the rich and living earth,
All: We offer you, our Maker, the first fruits of our fields.
- One: Because you gifted us with time to be,
All: We bring our moments and our days as gifts again to you.
- One: Because you gave us skills to work and create:
All: We bring you what we make with our hands and the money we earn with our skills.
- One: Because each one of us has gifts and skills, some recognized, some talents hidden,
All: We offer you what each of us can see, and make, and do. Enable us to see more clearly what these gifts may be.
- One: Because you freely offered us redeeming love,
All: We bring the gift of love in gratitude to you. From gift to gift, from grace to grace, our gifts are only gifts of yours returned. Receive them in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

RESPONSE

#283 New Century Hymnal

**Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, make me, fill me;
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.**

OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY *Dominus Regit Me* John Bacchus Dykes

HYMN *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be
With God as our Father brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Carol Clements

CHOIR ANTHEM *Treasures of the World* Ruth Elaine Schram

(or)
SPECIAL MUSIC *O God Beyond All Praising* Gustav Holst
Kimberly Knight, soloist

PASTOR'S PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 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!

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING John Richards
Matthew 8:5 - 10, 13 CEB

⁵ When Jesus went to Capernaum, a centurion approached, ⁶ pleading with him, "Lord, my servant is flat on his back at home, paralyzed, and his suffering is awful."

⁷ Jesus responded, "I'll come and heal him."

⁸ But the centurion replied, "Lord, I don't deserve to have you come under my roof. Just say the word and my servant will be healed. ⁹ I'm a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and the servant does it."

¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he was impressed and said to the people following him, "I say to you with all seriousness that even in Israel I haven't found faith like this. ¹¹ I say to you that there are many who will come from east and west and sit down to eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

¹² But the children of the kingdom will be thrown outside into the darkness. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth." ¹³ Jesus said to the centurion, "Go; it will be done for you just as you have believed." And his servant was healed that very moment.

II Timothy 2:1 - 7 CEB

So, my child, draw your strength from the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² Take the things you heard me say in front of many other witnesses and pass them on to faithful people who are also capable of teaching others.

³ Accept your share of suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ Nobody who serves in the military gets tied up with civilian matters, so that they can please the one who recruited them. ⁵ Also in the same way, athletes don't win unless they follow the rules. ⁶ A hardworking farmer should get the first share of the crop. ⁷ Think about what I'm saying; the Lord will give you understanding about everything.

TODAY'S MESSAGE *Serving Two Flags* Rev. Carol Clements

SONG #541 New Century Hymnal *They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor"*

PRAYER

One: Jesus, our Teacher, may your wise teachings resonate deeply within us today.

All: May it call us to new generations of love and peace, a love and peace that brings your kingdom to pass in our lives. Amen.

RESPONSE *Spirit of God* Steve Garnaas Holmes
**Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,
the power to heal, to share your love everywhere.
We cannot fail or fall, or know defeat at all,
held in your hands, born on your wings.
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come!**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Filled with the Spirit's Power* Virgil Vincent Taylor

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 13, 2022:

10:30 a.m. In-Person & Live-Stream (Facebook) Worship Service,
Rev. Carol Clements, Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Fellowship/Social Hour - Beverages, Social Hall

Monday, November 14, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library

Tuesday, November 15, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library
6:30 - 10:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA, Heritage Room

Wednesday, November 16, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library

Thursday, November 17, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Scout Pack #3186, Social Hall, ATTIC, Art Room
7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Emotions Anonymous, Adult Library

Friday, November 18, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

5:00 p.m. Deadline for December Spire information to church office

Saturday, November 19, 2022:

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Akron Multi-District Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Adult Library
7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Social Hall

Sunday, November 20, 2022: Thanksgiving Sunday

10:30 a.m. In-Person & Live-Stream (Facebook) Worship Service,
Rev. Carol Clements, Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Fellowship/Social Hour - Beverages, Social Hall

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Social Hall

Advent Dinner, Crafts & Carols

Sign-up Sheets Available!

Call the church office to arrange a ride

to this faith community event.

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