



THE SANBORNTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Established 1771

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

July 31, 2022

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARING

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT: “You’re worthy of being chosen, fought for, and loved. Remember that. Mark Groves

We invite you to listen to the music and abide in God’s presence.

PRELUDE So Fades the Blooming Flower George Shearing

WELCOME Rev. Paula Gile

MOMENT OF CENTERING

PASSING THE PEACE

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

One: Come, neighbors and strangers,

All: prophets and seekers of justice,

One: those who need a helping hand,

All: and those who have something to offer.

One: Whether your faith is weak or strong,

All: come, let us be neighbors in this place,

One: and let us worship God together.

INVOCATION

Loving God, from the very beginning you have journeyed with your people. Journey with us now and every tomorrow. Too

many of us do not feel worthy of your mercy and grace. Open our ears to your word. Open our hearts to your love and mercy. Empower us with your Holy Spirit, as we worship and serve one another.

* HYMN # 164 “Arise Your Light is Come” Festal Song

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Gracious One, you have knit us together wonderfully. You have promised your abiding presence in our lives and have guided us with love. Too often we feel unworthy of your grace, mercy and love. Then we turn away from you. We judge our neighbor rather than love them and we fail to even honor ourselves as your beloved creation. Forgive us and guide us.

Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

The God of mercy bends toward their children with love and hope. The Holy One leads us when we wander onto divergent paths and nourishes our hunger for the newness of life. In God, grace abounds freely, abundantly, and extravagantly.

MUSIC RESPONSE Sonnet Darwin Wolford

REFLECTING AND PRAYING

SCRIPTURE Luke 7: 1-10 Arlene Ilgenfritz

MEDITATION “I am Worthy” Rev. Paula Gile

HYMN OF PRAYER PREPARATION # 283 "Spirit of the Living God"

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

(Please write prayer requests on "prayer request" sheet in back of Sanctuary)

COMMITTING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Idyll Sigfrid Karg-Elert

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures
here below: Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts.
Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your
abundance and gift of life and love.**

GOING TO SERVE

FINDING FAITH IN WHAT WE DO

*HYMN # 421 "We Gather Together" Kremser

*BENEDICTION Rev. Paula Gile

ORGAN POSTLUDE Tuba Tune in D Major C. S. Lang

*We invite you to be seated to listen to the postlude; if you need to leave,
please do so quietly. Thank you.*

**As comfortable, please rise.*

WELCOME!

If you are new or visiting the area, we give you *a special welcome*.

Please visit our website: www.uccsanbornton.org, for the monthly

newsletter (*Belfry*) and Past sermons “Follow” us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch> and watch us on our

YouTube channel –

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNqHw>

Sunday Worship services continue to be live streamed on YouTube—join us Sunday morning at 9:30 am (beginning July 3) or anytime you have a chance.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNqHw>

Pastoral Concerns: If you have any pastoral needs, please contact Rev. Paula Gile. Email: pastorpaula1980@gmail.com or 802-310-4598

Altar Flowers: If you would like to place flowers on the Altar in memory or honor of someone or if you just want to bless the congregation, please contact Barbara Osler bosler@metrocast.net.

Guidelines for in-person worship The Reopening Task Force remains in place and continues to monitor local and regional data. Currently, masks are optional. Please be aware of your own risk factors and make personal decisions about your own personal safety.

COFFEE HOUR - All are invited to fellowship and feast in the Undercroft.

Today's Scripture Reader: Arlene Ilgenfritz

Next Week's Reader: Marjory Hillman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Flowers are in honor of Adele Bausor's mother's birthday (August 1st).

Summer Worship time change July 3 – August 28th worship begins at 9:30 AM. Continue to join us!

Prayer Requests If you would like to make a prayer request to be lifted during worship, please write it down on the "prayer request" sheet in the back of the sanctuary. We are no longer lifting them aloud during worship for privacy reasons since we are live streaming on YouTube.

GOT LUNCH! Sanbornton – GOT LUNCH! Sanbornton continues to deliver healthy groceries to 18 children who attend Sanbornton Central School. If you would like to help, please sign up on the sign-up sheets in the Undercroft or speak to Laurie Greci or Mary Ruth Scott.

**THE SANBORNTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Committee Meetings and Gatherings

Monday, August 1	9:00 am	GOT LUNCH! Sanbornton
	7:00 pm	Search Committee
Wednesday, August 3	10:30 am	Seekers
Sunday, August 7	9:30 am	In-person and Live Streaming Worship
Monday, August 8	9:00 am	GOT LUNCH! Sanbornton
	7:00 pm	Search Committee
Sunday, August 14	9:30 am	In-person and Live Streaming Worship
Monday, August 15	9:00 am	GOT LUNCH! Sanbornton
	7:00 pm	Search Committee
Sunday, August 21	9:30 am	In-person and Live Streaming Worship
	12:00 pm	Maine Seacoast Mission Trip



www.uccsanbornton.org

Soul Investment

Then (Jesus) told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So, it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God." . . . Luke 12:16-21 NRSV

This parable reminds us that it is human nature to plan and build newer and larger structures in abundant times. This parable ends with the advice to give to God rather than to the glory and false security for the self. How do we give to God? Many other places in scripture act as reminders that the surest way to give to God is to give to those who have need here and now.

For some congregations, their structures enhance and support their giving to others. For others, the building itself - its care and maintenance - has become their ministry. Prayerful discernment about the role of the building in congregational life can be energizing and lead to new vision and purpose.

During the first half of 2022, the national staff of the United Church of Christ moved from the space that had been home for more than thirty years into new office space. Over the years, the national staff has continued to be reduced. With COVID on the scene, many of the staff began to work from home. The combination of a smaller staff and a greater percentage of those working from home meant that that large space of the old offices was no longer needed. After a period of discernment, it was decided that that building was no longer serving its purpose - to serve the mission and ministry of the church. So, the staff moved their official offices a mile away. The new space at 1300 E. 9th Street in Cleveland, is smaller and more flexible, with an open floor plan that encourages collaboration and innovation.

It will not be the right decision for every church to sell its building and move to smaller quarters. However, every church with a physical plant can ask whether the congregation is serving the building and grounds more than the building and grounds are serving God and neighbor.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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