

# Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ

## Order of Worship

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June 17, 2018 — Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time; Father's Day  
Heritage Sunday

\*Please stand ... in body or in spirit, as you are comfortable.

**Bold words are spoken in unison**  
***Bold Italics are words sung in unison***

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***Remember to celebrate milestones as you prepare for the road ahead.***

– *Nelson Mandela*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP**

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*Come, We Who Love God's Name*  
Willan  
*Jason Aquila, Organist*

ENTRANCE OF LIGHT OF CHRIST, a symbol of Jesus' presence

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Called to be branches in Christ's body,

**Many: We yearn to be connected to the vine.**

One: Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to God's creatures,

**Many: We search for places to plant the seeds of faith.**

One: Called to be growing with God in the midst of this world's painful questions,

**Many: We seek God's nurturing presence.**

\*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 403

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

\*WE PRAY TOGETHER

**O God, maker of all that is beautiful, Jesus gave us the seeds of your justice and peace. In this time together, touch us, teach us, inspire us to sow those seeds through our ministries, so that all may share in Creation's abundance to make true the promise that no one will know scarcity and**

THE PASTOR OFFERS FINAL WORDS AND A SUNG BLESSING

***Wherever you go God is with you,  
Wherever you go God is there.  
Wherever you go, whatever you do,  
You are in God's care.***

***Wherever we go God is with us,  
Wherever we go God is there.  
Wherever we go, whatever we do,  
We are in God's care.***

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*Higher Ground*  
Gabriel, Arr. Hayes  
*Jason Aquila, organist*

### **DEPART TO BE THE LOVE OF GOD IN THE WORLD**

*Call to Worship from liturgyoutside.net; Prayer of Invocation, Call to Offering, and Prayer of Dedication from UCC Worship Ways; Call to confession, prayer of confession, and words of assurance from www.bruceprewer.com.*

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### **SPECIAL THANKS**

**Acolytes:** Aaron and Zach Barnes

**Liturgist:** Jill Negray

**Flowers:** This morning's altar flowers are sponsored by Marsha Kushner, in honor of all fathers on their special day. God's blessings on them and their families.

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Church of the Redeemer  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



is an Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation:

**All are Welcome**

web: corucc.org facebook: @coruccwestlake  
23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake; 440-331-0834  
church@corucc.org

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WE SING TOGETHER

No. 505

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

THE PASTOR'S PRAYER

WE PRAY TOGETHER THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

**Our Father (God), 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.**

WE OFFER OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN GRATITUDE TO GOD

Invitation and Offering

Jesus' teachings give us many seeds to sow in this community and beyond. It is, however, through our offerings that we can nurture these seeds so all may know the gospel's promise.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Trio in G*

Boyvin

*Jason Aquila, Organist*

\*WE SING OUR SONG OF PRAISE

No. 780

***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.***

\*WE DEDICATE OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

Let us pray together:

**You have been exceedingly generous to us, O God. We return a portion of what we have to you in grateful thanksgiving. Bless our offerings that they will nurture the seeds of hope and healing in this community and beyond. Amen.**

\*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 372

*God, You Have Set Us (verses 1, 3-5)*

**no one will suffer deprivation in this community and beyond. Amen.**

\*WE SING PRAISE TO GOD

***Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,  
Three in One; as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

LITANY OF OUR HERITAGE

ONE: The writers of old teach us that for everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die.

**MANY: We give thanks for the vision of our forebears at First United Church of Christ, Lakewood, who first birthed Church of the Redeemer.**

ONE: It is also said there is a time to tear and a time to sew. We were born as two, but we have been sewn together as one. Like a fine quilt, our two congregations have been pieced together with the firm backing of the love of Jesus Christ.

**MANY: We give thanks for the vision of our forebears in bringing us together as one.**

ONE: As we move forward into the future, we continue to search for ways to add more squares to our quilt by sharing the Good News of Christ.

**MANY: We give thanks for our willingness to add to the richness of our quilt.**

**ALL: We give thanks for the past and look towards the future. Just as a quilt provides both function and beauty, may we move forward together so that we might share the warmth of Christ's love, thereby bringing the reign of God into this hurting, broken world. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**WE LISTEN FOR OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD**

## MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

*Margaret Borrelli, Minister for Faith Formation*

*(Following these moments, our children recess to their Sunday Morning Program. Our nursery is available for infants, and there is a lounge opposite the sanctuary where the service may be heard. You may wish to join in blessing the children as they go by singing:)*

***Go now in peace; go now in peace.  
May the love of God surround you  
ev'-ry-where, ev'-ry-where you ... may ... go.***

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*In This Very Room  
Ron and Carol Harris  
Konnie Wenneman, soloist*

## TIME OF CONFESSION

### Call to Confession

The God of Jesus does not want us to wallow in guilt, but to experience grace, mercy and peace. Let us pray.

### Prayer of Confession

ONE: Because we sometimes are resentful of those whose gifts and successes outstrip ours, and therefore denigrate them: Come with your grace, Savior God.

**MANY: Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.**

ONE: Because we notice the more foolish and morally lax crowd around us, and tend to get smug and self righteous about our own behavior: Come with your grace, Savior God.

**MANY: Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.**

ONE: Because at times we allow ourselves to be unduly influenced by those who always seem sure of themselves and let their approval rule us: Come with your grace, Savior God.

**MANY: Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.**

ONE: Because we sometimes become frightened of the liberty you have given us, and fall back into legalistic attitudes and actions: Come with your grace, Savior God.

**MANY: Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.**

ONE: Because we allow our fear of strangers to out-manuever our love, and permit closed minds and hearts to become our habit: Come with your grace, Savior God.

**MANY: Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.**

ONE: God of Christ Jesus and our God, we ask forgiveness for our sins, a purging of our motives, a changing of our attitudes, a lifting of our sights, and a strengthening of our will to love and serve you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Through Christ our Savior.

**MANY: Amen.**

### Words of Assurance

Know this for certain, my friends: Forgiveness is for the likes of you and me. It remains free and thorough by the grace of Jesus Christ. He came 'preaching peace to those who are near, and peace to those who are far off.' You are forgiven.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SCRIPTURES

*Ezekiel 17:22-24, p. 769  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17, p. 1053*

Our God is still speaking:

**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOSPEL

*Mark 4:26-34, p. 913*

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*We Got This Far By Faith  
Pastor R. Brooke Baker*

**WE RESPOND TO OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD**