

Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ

Order of Worship

September 2, 2018 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

Each of us is an artist of our days; the greater our integrity and awareness, the more original and creative our time will become.

~ John O'Donohue

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

Organ Sonata

Cherubini

Jason Aquila, Organist

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Enter this time and place for prayer;

Many: Open our hearts, O God, so we might receive you.

One: Incline your ear to the Lord;

Many: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

One: Listen for the word of God;

Many: May our hearts and minds be open to you, and may we receive your Spirit of wisdom and guidance in our lives, today and every day. Amen.

*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 12

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

*WE PRAY TOGETHER

Creating God, you are the source of summer's splendor — the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers, and sweet sound of birdsong. We come to you this morning with delight and gladness, grateful for all of your wonders. As

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

Today, Sept. 2

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Monday, Sept. 3

Labor Day: Office Closed

Tuesday, Sept. 4

Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Sept. 5

First Choir rehearsals of the season! Bells at 7 p.m.;
Chancel Choir at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 9

16th Sunday after Pentecost
HOMECOMING SUNDAY!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Homecoming Sunday is next Sunday. A potluck picnic on the lawn will follow worship, featuring the Zaugg's exceptional Zog Dogs!

DAY TRIP TO PARKVUE SENIOR LIVING, a United Church Homes community in Sandusky, Ohio. Thursday, Sept. 13, 2018. Meet the bus in CORUCC parking lot for 9:45 a.m. departure. We will tour a model cottage, apartment for independent/assisted living, the health center and salt water pool. Sign up by Sept. 6.

OUR CONFIRMANDS will take part in their opening overnight retreat at Temples Hills Camp, Sept. 29-30. Starting in October, they will be meeting on the second Sunday of each month. Soon, they each will be looking for a Faith Partner. If you are approached, please receive the invite as the gift that it is, and say YES! We all need to support these young people as they go on this important journey together.

LIFE LINE SCREENING NOV. 6 Register and receive a discount at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle. Questions? Contact Nurse Gayle for more information.

SIGN UP TO HELP WITH MESSY CHURCH Messy Church is a once-monthly time when families come together to enjoy being together, making things together, eating together, and celebrating God together.

JEWELRY SALE FUND RAISER Char Robertson will hold another jewelry sale Sept. 23 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. If you have pieces to donate, or would like more information, contact Char at 216-221-0993.

*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 484

O Come to Me, You Weary

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

Cornet Voluntary
Goodwin
Jason Aquila, Organist

DEPART TO BE THE LOVE OF GOD IN THE WORLD

Call to Worship from rev-o-lution.org; Prayer of Invocation and Call to Offering from Ministry Matters; Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance adapted from confessionrcl.blogspot.com; Offertory Prayer and Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.

SPECIAL THANKS

Liturgist: Diane Kvasnicka

Flowers: Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Johanna Slygh, in memory of her mother, Louise.

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



is an Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation:

All are Welcome

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the fields produce their harvest, may your love grow within us, that we too may produce a harvest of love, hope, and joy. 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.***

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE LISTEN FOR OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Pastor Brooke

(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.***

TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

We speak with our lips for each other's ears; let us talk with God from our hearts.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we are not careful with words and deeds, we do not watch closely our intentions, we forget: disobedience destroys our witness of you. We abandon your commandments to hold fast to our self-serving traditions. Mostly, we are hearers of your word, seldom doers. We excuse ourselves from studying your instructions, not learning what is wrong and right, and why. Devoted are we to following our hearts, discerning for ourselves what *feels* wrong and right. Here, Lord, we have named sins; forgive us in our honest repentance. Here,

Lord, we have hidden sins; save us from that which we will not acknowledge. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Let us become hearers and doers of God's word. Let us make God's mercy alive in thought, word and deed. Let us live as forgiven and forgiving people. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SCRIPTURES

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (CEB)
James 1:17-27 (Inclusive Bible)

Our God is still speaking:
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (NRSV, P. 917)

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

We Must Do Better
Pastor R. Brooke Baker

WE RESPOND TO OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD

THE PASTOR'S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Lord's Prayer
Malotte
Carol Peddie and Cory Svette, Vocal Duet

WE OFFER OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN GRATITUDE TO GOD

Invitation and Offering

Every generous act of giving, as with every perfect gift, is from above. May God's word of truth, implanted within us at birth, bloom in acts of loving faithfulness. May that word shape our lives so that we become doers of the word, using God's gifts for all.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Prayer Chorale
Severac
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:

Let us be slow in our yearning to hang on to our blessings, and quick to share them with the hungry, the lonely, the forgotten, and the hurting of our world, that our gifts might become a kind of first fruits for those whose lives are so empty. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

*WE SING TOGETHER

Insert

Come to the Table of Grace
Sing, Prayer, and Praise #112

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(All are welcome to participate in communion which will be served by intinction.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND PRAYER OF COMMUNION

In one hand, we embrace a piece of one common loaf. Sharing one cup, we drink of the Christ's new covenant of unity. With one voice, we lift up our prayers to you, the one great God, who embraces our differences yet rejoices in our unity in this one communion act. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

Generous God, may we become the healing and hope the world longs for in our time. As you have touched our lips with your life, may we be quick to speak of justice; as you pour grace into our hearts, may we be the doers of your Word, those whose hands are stained by generous acts of kindness: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, lifting the fallen to their feet, comforting all who are broken. Your Spirit has united us at your Table, and we clasp hands with all your beloved, and sing of your glory. Amen.