

# Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ

## Order of Worship

September 9, 2018 — Sixteenth 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***

*If your everyday practice is open to all your emotions, to all the people you meet, to all the situations you encounter, without closing down, trusting that you can do that — then that will take you as far as you can go. And then you'll understand all the teachings that anyone has ever taught.*

~ Pema Chodron

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*Children's Medley*  
Hayes  
*Jason Aquila, Organist*

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Where are the teachers in our midst who will guide us as we learn?

**Many: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

One: Where are Jesus' disciples, who thirst to know God's ways?

**Many: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

One: Our faith formation is this sacred space and our classroom is the world.

**Many: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

### THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

#### Today, Sept. 9

Homecoming Sunday

#### Monday, Sept. 10

Yoga 11:15 a.m.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 11

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

COFFEE, TEA, AND PASTOR B

10:30 a.m. Blackbird Baking

#### Wednesday, Sept. 12

Bells, 7 p.m.; Choir, 8 p.m.

#### Thursday, Sept. 13

Field Trip to Parkvue Community,  
9:45 a.m. departure

#### Saturday, Sept. 17

Mini Clean up with LUNCH 9-noon

#### Sunday, Sept. 16

17th Sunday after Pentecost

### SPECIAL THANKS

**Liturgist:** Rudy Duscha

**Flowers:** Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Janet Kramer in loving memory of her husband, Bob Trombly. Today's bulletins are sponsored by Johanna Slygh: Dedicated to the wonderful job Marsha and Wayne do every week . . . thank you!

**COFFEE, TEA, AND PASTOR B** Pastor Brooke will hold monthly morning and evening coffee chats at local coffee shops on the **second Tuesday (10:30 a.m.-noon) and third Thursday (7-8:30 p.m.) of each month.** First up: **THIS TUESDAY MORNING at Blackbird Bakery, 1391 Sloane Ave. in Lakewood.** See you there!

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS** All of God's creatures are beloved — including our four-legged (or amphibian) pets. St. Francis of Assisi was known as the patron saint of animals and his feast day is Oct. 4. Although we do not celebrate saints, **we are holding a blessing of the animals on Saturday, Oct. 6, in front of the church (or in Fellowship Hall in case of rain) at 10 a.m.** You are invited to bring your pets in cages, on leashes (if they are well behaved), in bowls, or aquariums. Pastor Brooke will offer a short blessing for each animal present. "All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small. The Lord God made them all."

**LIFE LINE SCREENING NOV. 6** Register and receive a discount at [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle). Questions? Contact Nurse Gayle for more information.

WE OFFER OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN GRATITUDE TO GOD

Invitation and Offering

"Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor." Let us celebrate our blessings with generosity as we collect the offering for the work and worship of this congregation.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*How Shall the Young Secure Their Hearts?*

Bouman

*Jason Aquila, Organist*

\*WE SING OUR SONG OF PRAISE

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Christ all creatures here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit, comforter.  
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.***

\*WE DEDICATE OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

Let us pray together:

**May our gifts not be the crumbs of our lives, but justice for those overlooked by the world; be healing for those broken by pain and grief; be grace for those who long to be listened to and welcomed. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

\*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 403

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

THE PASTOR OFFERS FINAL WORDS

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*Autumn from the Four Seasons*

Vivaldi

*Jason Aquila, Organist*

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

**TODAY's WORSHIP:** *Call to Worship adapted from UCC Worship Ways; Prayer of Invocation from beswick.info; Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, and Prayer of dedication from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.*

One: Thanks be to God for new beginnings, for new opportunities to learn together!

**Many: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

\*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 436

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

\*WE PRAY TOGETHER

**Almighty God, you have been the dwelling place of your people in all generations; your mercies are more than we can number, and your compassion is without end. Grant us now the help of the Holy Spirit, that we may praise you for your goodness and mercy, receive your word with joy and thanksgiving, and give ourselves again to you in love and service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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*

LITANY FOR OUR FAITH

One: We are ever growing in our faith, but sometimes believe we can do it on our own.

**Right: We bless you as you learn to fully rely on God.**

One: We find many teachers among us and many ways to help us grow, but sometimes we doubt that God will equip us.

**Left: We bless you as you teach others to fully rely on God.**

One: We grow by praying, teaching, making music, and listening for our still-speaking God, but sometimes we wonder if that is enough.

**All: We bless you as WE learn to FROG.**

One: Always faithful God, as we begin a new program year, help us to see that we need you, you are with us in our doubt, and that you are always enough. Help us to fully rely on you.

**All: Amen.**

*(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.**

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHANCEL CHOIR

*Our Lord is in This Place  
McDonald  
Carol Peddie, Music Director*

TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

So many choices, and we make the wrong ones; so many paths to take, and we go down the wrong ones; so much good we could do, and all we do is offer empty words. Let us bring our lives and hearts to our God, who is our help and hope, in this and every moment. Let us begin by confessing in silence,

Prayer of Confession

**We say that we are good listeners, God of holy ways, but we turn stopped up ears to the vulnerable around us. We say that we live as your people, but too often, put ourselves ahead of the people we love. We say that we are people of faith, but then try to overwhelm people with words, rather than acts of service.**

**We say so much, God of compassion, that we cannot hear you calling us to faithful living. Have mercy on us and send us out to offer kindness to the lonely. Have mercy on us and send us to be generous with the love you offer. Have mercy**

**on us, so we might be open to all the chances we will have to follow, and to serve alongside our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Words of Assurance

One: Whisper it. Say it. Shout it. Sing it! Our God comes with justice, not judgment; with hope, not a heavy hand; with grace, not grudges. This is the good news for us.

**All: We will not be scared to tell anyone, and everyone, of our God who overflows with mercy, who sets us free, who watches over us. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

MESSAGE FROM OUR SCRIPTURES

*Isaiah 35:4-7a (CEB)  
James 2:1-10; 14-17 (Inclusive Bible)*

Our God is still speaking:

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FROM THE GOSPEL

*Mark 7:24-37 (The Message)*

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*"She Told Him"*  
Pastor R. Brooke Baker

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

WE SING TOGETHER

No. 448

*Take My Life, God, Let it Be*

THE PASTOR'S PRAYER

WE PRAY TOGETHER AS 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.**