



Starting from Scratch

Building a Strong Foundation

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Dr. Barbara Dickason, Board Certified Chaplain

United in Christ's love, a just world for all!

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2026

Singing Prelude

Where Two or Three Are Gathered

Lawton

Liam Lawton. Arr. Paul A. Tate. Copyright 2009 by Superset Recordings and GIA Publications, Inc.



Here in the bread that is bro - ken, here in the cup that is
poured, here in the word that is spo - ken: Je - sus Christ is
Lord! Here where the poor find their treas - ure,
here where the great - est are least, come find a love be - yond
meas - ure in this heav'n - ly feast.

Welcome and Announcements

We Approach God's Presence

Meditation/Bringing in the Light of Christ

Come to the Table

Nystrom

Responsive Call to Worship

Rev. Mel Burrowes

God calls us together—not as isolated individuals, but as people responsible for one another.

For where two or three gather in Christ's name, Christ is present among us.

Christ calls us to speak truth, seek healing and practice forgiveness.

We come to listen, to speak truthfully, and to seek the healing of our community.

We come with open hearts to partner for compassion, justice, and hope.

Let us worship God!

***Hymn**

Worker God Who Built Creation¹

Udis-Kessler

Tune: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

**1. Worker God who built creation,
author of humanity,
Thoughtful planner, joyous potter,
through your work we come to be.
May we labor in your image.
May your love guide all we do.
Help us co-create your kin-dom.
Help us make your dream come true.**

**2. Worker Jesus, teaching, healing,
sharing gifts of wine and bread,
Strengthening the broken-hearted,
making sure the poor are fed,
May we labor in your image.
May we set the captives free.
Send us ever to the margins.
Rouse our solidarity.**

**3. Worker Spirit, inspiration,
you infuse each living soul,
Calling us to lives of justice
till each heart is free and whole.
May we labor in your image.
May we tend and heal and praise.
May we strive for life abundant,
glad and grateful all our days.**

***Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

God of healing,

Forgive us when we avoid difficult truths, speak about one another instead of with one another, or allow hurt to spread through the community.

**Settle our bodies, open our hearts, and give us courage
to listen, repent, establish necessary boundaries, and seek healing.**

When relationships are broken,

Help us begin again in the way of Christ. Amen.

***Words of Grace**

God does not abandon us to the harm we have suffered or caused. Grace opens the way to repentance, healing, and new life. In Christ, we may begin again.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response**

Alleluia

Sinclair

We Encounter God in the Word

Contemplative Reading

*My Grandmother's Hands*²

Resmaa Menakem

God is still speaking. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

Here Am I

Wren/Damon

Sue Jack, *Soloist*

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

the Message

The Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Starting from Scratch”^{3, 4}

Pastor Barb

We Respond to God's Grace

Congregational Prayers

Silent Prayers

Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer (sung)

**Our Father, which 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 Share God's Love

Invitation to Generosity

*(The offering plates are found by each doorway for your use.
For those of us online, please follow the QR code.)*

***Song of Gratitude**

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**God of healing,
Receive these gifts and use them to restore relationships,
protect those who are vulnerable, and strengthen our shared work
for compassion, justice, and hope. Amen.**

Invitation to Holy Communion

*(The ministers and servers will prepare the elements;
the congregation is then invited to come and receive the bread and the cup.
If you cannot come but wish to receive, the servers will come to you.)*

Communion Meditation

Kyrie

Dvořák/arr. Schram

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of grace,
You have gathered and nourished us at Christ's table.
Send us out responsible to and for one another, ready to seek healing,
practice forgiveness, and begin again in your love. Amen.

We Go to Carry the Light

*Hymn

A Parting Hymn We Sing
Tune: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Wolfe/Nägeli

A parting hymn we sing around your table, Lord;
again our grateful tribute bring, our solemn vows record.

Here have we seen your face, and felt your presence here;
so may the treasure of your grace in word and life appear.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

*Blessing and Benediction

*Sending Blessing

Threefold Amen

DANISH

Postlude

Lean on Me

Withers

Please remain seated in silence for the Postlude as the
Light of Christ is carried into the world.
The worship has ended; our service begins.

Vegan Oat Bread Ingredients: Filtered Water, Tapioca Starch, Certified Gluten-Free Oat Flour, Potato Starch, Tapioca Syrup, Vegetable Oil (olive and/or sunflower and/or safflower oil), Sugar, Yeast, Xanthan Gum, Salt, Cider Vinegar (water, apples), Calcium Carbonate, Enzymes

1. New Song Commissioned & Written for Labor Sunday, August 1, 2025 (Tune: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee)

2. Resmaa Menakem, *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies* (Las Vegas: Central Recovery Press, 2017), 11, 38–39, 62–63.

3. M. Eugene Boring, "The Gospel of Matthew," in *The New Interpreter's Bible*, vol. 8 (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1995), commentary on Matthew 18:15–20. See also the interpretive essays on Matthew 18:15–20 in David L. Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor, eds., *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary*, Year A, vol. 4 (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011).

4. Resmaa Menakem, *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies* (Las Vegas: Central Recovery Press, 2017), 7–15, 125.

Supporting Our Service Today

Liturgist/Communion Assistant: Rev. Mel Burrowes **Song Leader:** Sue Jack

Acolyte: Bella Clapham **Welcome Table:** Posie Gallaher **Greeter:** Janet Beardsley

Head Usher: Rev. Bob Zittel **Usher Team:** Fran Kulak, Wendy Seeley, John Yahres, Barbara Zittel

Technology Team

(Live Streaming, Camera, and Sound Technicians)

Gary Woodrum, Debra Mosely, Maria Groody, David Jack, Linda Newton, Wally Davis,
Patty Fjetland, Scott Mellen, Gary and Sharon Leidheiser

The **Lord's Table** was decorated by Victoria Augustine.

The **Sanctuary Flowers** are given by

"The Girls" in honor of *Carolyn Barszcz* as she prepares to move back to Rhode Island
and *Barbara Zittel* in honor of *Bob Zittel's* birthday.

Sunday Librarian: Marcia Murphy

Fellowship Hosts from August 30th: Mel Burrowes and Helen Markus

Fellowship Hosts for September 6th: Church Family Life and Volunteers

UPCOMING CALENDAR

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7

OFFICE CLOSED
FOR
LABOR DAY

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 AM STAFF MEETING
10:00 AM MISSION COMMITTEE - P

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM LIBRARY OPEN
10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY-CR
11:00 AM RCSSC - NH

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10

6:00 PM GIRL SCOUTS - ED ROOM

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11

8:30 AM MEN'S WEEKLY COFFEE-PANERA
9:00 AM KNIT WITS - P

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

9:00 AM LIBRARY HOUR
10:00 AM WORSHIP (IN SITU AND VIRTUAL)
AFTER WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP TIME -
NAAR HALL
11:00 AM - 11:15 AM LIBRARY OPEN



United in Spirit and by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all. We are a Christian Fellowship of faith, building a community that supports each other to help feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and welcome strangers, while living a life that leads to deeper experiences walking humbly with God.

We believe all are welcome and united by God's love. Our daily worship is anchored by the belief that God is still speaking. The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church to join faith and action. With over 4,500 churches and nearly one million members across the U.S., the UCC serves God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world. We believe in putting our faith into action as we follow Jesus' example to love one another.

Senior Minister:

Rev. Dr. Barbara Dickason, BCC

Music Staff:

Barbara Quinn: Music Director

Lynda Weston: Bella Handbell Director

Staff:

Gary Leidheiser: Custodian

Marguerite Long: Administrative Specialist

Natashia Laughnan: Social Media and Communications Specialist

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