

Bazetta Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Rev. Timothy McCollum, Pastor

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## **Celebrating the Lord's Day**

at

Bazetta Christian Church October 22, 2023 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

# The Church Gathers Before God

## **GREETINGS IN CHRIST**

## **PRELUDE**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Michelle Aliesch, Liturgist

- L: O God, who sent Jesus into the world not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life to set others free, shape us for your ministry.
- C: Claim us, O God, for your service, and direct us toward your will.
- L: You have graced all members of Christ's body, one by one, with gifts of the Spirit to fulfill their vocation: to lead lives worthy of your calling, to be workers who have no reason to be ashamed, to shine as lights to your glory.
- C: You have granted each of us the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- L: You give grace according to the measure of Christ's gift, and some are called to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.
- C: Grant that together we may all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of your Son, to the full stature of Christ.
- L: Through your grace, O God, may we lead a life worthy of the vocation to which you call us.
- C: Claim us, O God, for your service, and direct us toward your will.

~#451, Litany of Ministry, Chalice Hymnal

## \*OPENING HYMN

"Gather Us In"

#284

Here in this place, the new light is streaming, shadows of doubt are vanished away.

See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in; our spirits in flame. Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a mystery; we are the old, who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in—the rich and the haughty; gather us in—the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we receive new life in the waters; here we receive the bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not just in buildings, small and confining, not in some heaven, light years away, here in this place the new light is shining; now is God present, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## \*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

L: Let us join together in prayer.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

~from Chalice Worship, originally from Book of Common Prayer

## \*THE PEACE

The people exchange with one another, by words and careful gesture, signs of peace and reconciliation.

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 6:1-10; Common English Bible

Brothers and sisters, if a person is caught doing something wrong, you who are spiritual should restore someone like this with a spirit of gentleness. Watch out for yourselves so you won't be tempted too. Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are important when they aren't, they're fooling themselves. Each person should test their own work and be happy with doing a good job and not compare themselves with others. Each person will have to carry their own load.

Those who are taught the word should share all good things with their teacher. Make no mistake, God is not mocked. A person will harvest what they plant. Those who plant only for their own benefit will harvest devastation from their selfishness, but those who plant for the benefit of the Spirit will harvest eternal life from the Spirit. Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up. So then, let's work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity, and especially for those in the household of faith.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

\*DOXOLOGY "He Is Lord" #117

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### GOSPEL READING

Matthew 12:1-16; Holman Christian Standard Bible

At that time Jesus passed through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick and eat some heads of grain. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!"

He said to them, "Haven't you read what David did when he and those who were with him were hungry— how he entered the house of God, and they ate the sacred bread, which is not lawful for him or for those with him to eat, but only for the priests? Or haven't you read in the Law that on Sabbath days the priests in the temple violate the Sabbath and are innocent? But I tell you that something greater than the temple is here! If you had known what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the innocent. For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

Moving on from there, He entered their synagogue. There He saw a man who had a paralyzed hand. And in order to accuse Him they asked Him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"

But He said to them, "What man among you, if he had a sheep that fell into a pit on the Sabbath, wouldn't take hold of it and lift it out? A man is worth far more than a sheep, so it is lawful to do what is good on the Sabbath."

Then He told the man, "Stretch out your hand." So he stretched it out, and it was restored, as good as the other. But the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

When Jesus became aware of this, He withdrew from there. Huge crowds followed Him, and He healed them all. He warned them not to make Him known,

This is the word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "goodness"

## SONG OF PRESENTATION

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

#392

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name, two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them; Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluya! Alleluya! so now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you, that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true. Alleluya! Alleluya! we will serve with faith anew.

## \*DISCIPLES OF CHRIST IDENTITY STATEMENT

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

## COMMUNION PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

Words of Institution Communion Music Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Christ Has Died Christ Is Risen Christ Will Come Again

\*CLOSING HYMN "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" #461
Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone,
but heart, consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

#### \*BENEDICTION

## **POSTLUDE**

Anthony Ruggiero, Musician

\*All who are able may stand.

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## THIS WEEK AT BAZETTA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Today: 9:00 a.m. Small Group

9-9:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday: 6-7 p.m. S/A's sectionals

7-8 p.m. T/B's sectionals

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Scouts

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Next Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Small Group

10:00 a.m. Worship

# In case of emergencies:

<u>Fire Alarm:</u> Calmly and quickly evacuate the building. Reassemble at the pavilion next to the garage. No longer at flagpole. Do not block the fire lanes. All doors in the sanctuary lead to outside exits.

<u>Tornado Warning:</u> Calmly and quickly exit through the rear doors and assemble in the hallway of the Educational Wing/Child Care area. Stay away from all doors and windows.

<u>Gunshots or Threats:</u> Duck down between the pews to shield yourself and allow the Security Team to handle the situation.

# **Open Communion and Offering Information**

We celebrate the Communion of the Lord's Supper every week. It is open to ALL Christians. Everyone who is able is invited to come to the front by rows. A piece of bread and cup of grape juice will be given to you to partake. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Return to your seat by the side aisles.

Kneelers are available on each side for those who wish to stop and pray. If you are not able to come forward for any reason, a plate and cup will be offered to you. If you prefer not to partake, just indicate that when offered the elements.

The offering that we share in worship is part of our shared commitment to doing ministry together. In our offering, we reflect that we are called to share in the blessings we have that others may be blessed. Offering bowls are provided in the center and right-hand aisles.

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to worship! Here let us seek to see God more clearly, love God more completely, and serve God more certainly. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

If you have questions concerning membership with this congregation, speak with Pastor Tim or any of the BCC Elders (Dan Davis, Paula Davis, Jim Dolgae, Heather Faler, Myra May, Christy McCollum, Valarie Rizzo, Michelle Stineman, Megen Stocker, Larry Swiger).

**Loose Change Mission Jar:** We are collecting loose change in the Gathering Space for missions. From October through December, the funds will go to Youngstown Blue Coats. Thank you!



BCC will be participating in Operation Christmas Child. Should you choose to be involved in this project, here is what you do: you get a shoebox, pack it with items, and it will be sent to a child somewhere in the world to feel God's love. Information is available with what you can and cannot put in the boxes. Boxes will be available in the Gathering Space or you can use your own shoebox. If you choose to participate, please fill a box and return it by **November 12th**. The shipping fee for each box will be paid for.

Every shoebox gift is an excellent resource for evangelism and discipleship, which leads to the multiplication of new believers and churches around the world. Local Christians from the distribution areas will share the Gospel, inviting children to trust in Jesus. Then, boys and girls receive a surprise that may be their first gift ever. They hold in their hands a tangible expression of God's love.

After children receive shoebox gifts, many also participate in a 12-lesson discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. Through this course, which includes Bible stories and Scripture memorization, they learn how to follow Christ in their daily lives as they tell their family and friends about him.

See or call Shelley Dolgae for more details. Her phone number is 330-360-8041.



Looking Ahead...

Save the date of Sunday, November 19, 2023 Bazetta Christian Church's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Stay tuned for further details!