

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 31, 2008

10:00 AM

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
PASTOR: THE REV. JOHN DAVID HEECKT
MUSIC DIRECTOR: JEAN EARLY

In consideration of those preparing for worship, please refrain from distracting conversations upon entering the Meetinghouse.

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

The Church Bell Calls Us To Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: *(The Second Song of Isaiah: Isaiah 55:6-11)*

One: Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; call upon him when he draws near.

All: Let the wicked forsake their ways and the evil ones their thoughts.

One: And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

All: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor my ways your ways, says the Lord.

One: For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

All: For as rain and snow fall from the heavens, and return not again, but water the earth,

One: Bringing forth life and giving growth, seed for sowing and bread for eating,

All: So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; it will not return to me empty;

One: But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, and prosper in that for which I sent it.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

*Hymn: *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* PH 20

*Unison Prayer:
Almighty God; to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name. Through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer *(using "sins")*

*The Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Romans 12:9-21 N.T. Pg. 162/L.P. Pg. 197

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 119:49-56 O.T. Pg. 567/L.P. Pg. 697

Second Reading: Matthew 16:21-28 N.T. Pg. 18/L.P. Pg. 22

*Hymn: *I Would Be True* PH 489

Sermon

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*Hymn: *Your Ways Are Not Our Own* NCH 170

Offering *Largo* G.F. Telemann
Angela Early, Violin

Offertory:

Doxology: PH 515

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God: Through the gift of your Son you have given us freedom from sin and the opportunity for a more abundant life in him. Receive now our gifts, we pray, and put them to your use, both in this congregation and beyond, for the support of your church, and to the honor of your holy Name. Amen.

*(*All who are able, please stand.)*

Prayers of the People
Pastoral Prayer
Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*Hymn: *Born of God, Eternal Savior* NCH 542
Benediction
Postlude

RIDGEBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GATHERED 1760

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