

WEAVING *the* FUTURE

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM



MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

First Congregational Church of
Tallmadge
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Liturgist: Bobby Higham

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting

Liturgist

Prelude

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" - Luther/Lowe

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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Introit

Leader:

Our help is in the name of the Holy One,

Congregation:

who made heaven and earth.

Leader:

As we have gathered here to worship,
let us stand and greet one another in the
love of Christ.

* indicates: **please stand as you are able**

*** Gathering Song** *"This Is the Day"* #652

*This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord has made.*

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

One: Come, let us worship the God who plants tiny seeds of hope and weaves them into a future filled with justice and peace.

All: We gather to nurture God's vision of abundant life for all creation.

One: Blessed are those who walk in God's ways, cultivating homes and communities where love and compassion flourish.

All: We will weave together threads of mercy, generosity, and be longing.

One: God's reign is like a hidden treasure and a priceless pearl, inviting us to invest our lives in what truly matters.

All: We will weave the future with faith, courage, and joyful hope.

One: Come, let us worship the One who gathers every thread of our lives into the beautiful tapestry of the Beloved Community.

All: Together, we will weave God's future of justice, reconciliation, and love for all.

*Opening Hymn

"The Church of Christ in Every Age" vs. 1-2 #623

The Church of Christ in Every Age 623

Ab Eb sus Eb Bbm Ab Bbm Ab Eb Eb Ab Eb G Ab Eb Bb7
Bb Bb C Db Eb

1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -

Fm Eb Ab Eb Db Ab Db Ab Eb7 Ab Bbm Ab Eb7 Ab
G F Eb C Bb Db Eb

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live un - til they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)
MUSIC: William Knapp (1698-1768)
Words © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

WAREHAM
L.M.

***Opening Prayer**

Liturgist

Creator God, you plant seeds of hope that grow into your reign of justice, peace, and abundant life. Gather us into your presence and weave our diverse gifts into one tapestry of love and service. Open our hearts to recognize the priceless treasure of your kingdom and give us courage to invest our lives in its work. May our worship strengthen us to become weavers of hope, reconciliation, and flourishing for all your children. Amen.

Special Music

“I Will Sing Unto the Lord” — Killion and Martin

Chancel Choir, Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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BAPTISM

Lenny and Russel Halm

Question to the Congregation

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations ...

... care to Lenny and Russel about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?

Congregation: We promise our love, support, and care.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children's Message

Wendy Brown

WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

Scripture Lesson

First Lesson: Psalm 128

- ¹ Happy is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways.
- ² You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.
- ³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.
- ⁴ Thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the LORD.
- ⁵ The LORD bless you from Zion.
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.
- ⁶ May you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel!

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

*Hymn of Preparation

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" #446

TRUST & ASSURANCE

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go 446

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, and the guitar chords are written above the treble staff.

System 1:

G A7 E G D D

1 O Love that will not let me go,
 2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way,
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain,
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head,

System 2:

D C G B D A G D7 F#

I rest my wea - ry soul in thee;
 I yield my flick - ering torch to thee;
 I can - my not close my heart to thee;
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;

System 3:

G B7 F# B7 Esus Em

I give thee back the life I owe, that
 my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
 I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and
 I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

System 4:

A7 G D D G D7 G

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun-shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

WORDS: George Matheson (1842-1906)
 MUSIC: Albert L. Peace (1844-1912)

ST. MARGARET
 8.8.8.8.6.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

³³ He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

⁴⁴ 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵²And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

Sermon

"Weaving the Future"
- Rev. Daniel J. Doty

THE OFFERING

GIVE ONLINE HERE

Invitation to the Offering



Offertory

"I Know in Whom I Have Believed" - McGranahan/Page

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, receive these gifts as threads in your tapestry of justice, peace, and hope. Bless them to nurture your kingdom, where small acts of love grow into abundant life for all. We offer not only our resources but our hearts, trusting you to weave our lives into your future of compassion and reconciliation. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

*Closing Hymn

"The Church of Christ in Every Age" vs. 3-5 #623

(words and music on page 3)

*Benediction

*Congregation Response

**"Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love."**

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude

"Laudation" - Martin

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team:	Ann Hagan, Diana Fiocca, Megan Farnsworth
Liturgist:	Bobby Higham
Ushers:	Patrick Hagan, Joe Labay, Tom Labay, Larry Robinson
Greeters:	Jeff and Brandon Kulmala
Special Music:	Chancel Choir



Congratulations to Lenny and Russel Halm, sons of Lindsay and Andy Halm, and grandsons, Mike and Cindy Cammel, who were baptized today during worship.

Today's altar flowers are provided by:

Bob Haydu *"Happy Birthday to a wonderful wife."*

Sue Canavan *"Happy Birthday mom, grandma and great-grandma!
We love you so much!"*

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm*

Brian Allman
Cindie Anderson
Debbie B.
The Becking Family
Katie Ann Bickett
Joyce Bojarski
Margarete Boschert
Patti Calvarese
Sue Canavan
Jim Caplinger
Matthew Chapman
Jane Charles
Patty Conely
Jeffry Cotton
Bob Davis
Rylin Davis and family

Sean and Sara Doty
Ron Drake
Elaine Engle
Ron Evans
Bonnie Fordham
Darrell Goodson
Eleanor Hall
Sue Hamilton
Jim Jackson
Gene Jarjabka
Nancy Johnson
Anita Kelly-Lahrmer
The Klinginsmith Family
Yvonne Larson
Bill Laymon
Roberta Lewis

Kitty Maddox
Jack and Helen McKee
Arlene Luna Pena
Donna Phillips
Bob Poff
Lt. John Norton
Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear
Lt. Maxwell Spear
Richard and Karen Thomason
Troy and Kara
Kim and Noel Walters
PO3 Kaitlyn Wetter
Don Woerz
Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

Opera PERFORMANCE

— An Evening of Timeless Elegance —



Rev. Dan will be performing with The Cleveland Opera & Cleveland Ballet Theatre in the Italian Cultural Garden. Dan will sing several duets and close the program with the ever popular "Nessun dorma."

July 26, 2026 | 6:00PM

This outdoor concert is free and open to the public. There is some dedicated seating in front of the stage that can be purchased. Find the link to purchase seating on the Facebook page.

 990 East Blvd. Cleveland
Italian Cultural Garden
Upper Level (East Blvd.)

Search "Opera in the Italian Garden 2026" on Facebook for more details.

Backpack Blessing

Sunday,
August 16th



We invite all children, youth, college students, and teachers to join us in worship. We will give you a blessing to start the year off right! Bring your backpack or bag with you.

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*
Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

IN PERSON | ONLINE WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—12:00 pm

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