

First Congregational Church

Our Church in Worship

October 17, 2021 10:00 AM

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE 'Prayer' from Three Expressive Pieces – G. F. McKay Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Barbara Papagian

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Jennifer Plourde

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Power and might and majesty belong to our God who created and is creating.

People: **Thanks be to God for God's mighty wonders.**

Leader: Like the image of the powerful wind, and the heavens as a garment, God's majesty is revealed in all creation.

People: **We look around us at the wonders and marvel at the infinite variety and beauty which God has created.**

Leader: Who are we, that God should pay attention to us?

People: **We are God's beloved children, the stewards whom God has selected to care for God's world.**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Holy One, we come to you in this season of busy-ness; a time when there are a whirlwind of activities and our individual lives swirl around like the leaves that fall from trees and are caught by the brisk autumn wind. May we experience your presence in our lives in such a way that helps us to slow down and find quiet and rest in you. May we experience the risen Christ in our lives that we may know all things are possible in you and that there is hope for each new beginning. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 64 *We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God*

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *redisGHeo* Rev. Carolyn Keilig

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today are Olivia Grayce Ball, daughter of Sarah Grayce Ball and Kyle Vincent Ball, and Marcos Calen Garrity, son of Kelly Provost and Brenden Garrity.

WELCOME AND ADDRESS

PROMISES OF COVENANT

BAPTISMAL PRAYER AND ACT OF BAPTISM

WELCOME OF THE CONGREGATION

We receive these children as newly baptized people in Christ and welcome them into the family of faith. We enfold them in our love, seeking together to grow in unity of spirit and abundance of life in Christ. We join together with joy to proclaim the gospel of grace, so that, through our words and deeds, God's love might be made known in all corners of the world.

QUILT PRESENTATION

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Barbara Papagian

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father 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.

MUSICAL OFFERING *Andante Expressivo* – Felix Mendelssohn

SCRIPTURE READING Sue Clement

Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Mark 10:35-45

SERMON *In the Midst of a Whirlwind* Rev. Carolyn Keilig

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 475 *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Leader: God sends us forth in service to others; to bring comfort to those who struggle with adversity.

People: **Jesus invites us out of the whirlwind of our lives to serve humbly by his side in our community and beyond.**

Leader: The Spirit bestows upon us gifts, woven with strands of love and light so that we may delight in our giving.

Leader: And now, may God come close to you and keep you safe; May Christ Jesus reward your faithfulness a hundredfold; and may the Holy Spirit be your help in time of need.

People: **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Toccata on 'Duke Street'* – Gilbert M. Martin

*You are invited to stand if you wish.

During these challenging times, we gratefully accept your financial offering to support Christ's mission in the heart of our city. Your gift may be left in any of the offering plates located at the exits.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? "Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

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October 17, 2021

**Manchester, New Hampshire
United Church of Christ**

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH * 603-625-5093
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

You are welcome here!
An Open & Affirming Congregation