

**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 26, 2021**  
United Church of Christ – Rev. Jacoba Koppert

All music in this service copied and streamed under  
OneLicense.net A-723900 and CCLI License # 20913817

**PRELUDE**      *“Prelude & Fugue in F”* J.S. Bach

**WELCOME**

**MISSION MOMENT**

*“Neighbors in Need”*

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

I am the church; you are the church.

**We are the church together.**

We depend on our seniors and long-time members to remember where we came from and where we have been; why we gather and whose we are.

**We are the church together.**

We depend on our children to retell our sacred stories, expressing their contagious enthusiasm.

**We are the church together.**

We depend on our youth and young adults to ask us why we do things this way and to suggest something new, reminding us to listen to all voices.

**We are the church together.**

We need each other to be the church.

**We are the church together.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**Creator of us all, we sometimes forget that you have created us to be in community. The Body of Christ you have put together has united us with people who have different gifts and values. Sometimes, our differences separate us and cause conflict. Remind us that when we separate ourselves from each other, we separate ourselves from you. Encourage us to receive the gifts others offer, aware that you gifted them. Remind us of our own gifts, and the ways we may use them in community. Make us mindful. Make us compassionate. Help us to see you in one another. In your name we pray, Amen.**

**SILENCE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON<sup>1</sup>**

Beloved in Christ, know that you are God’s own and that through divine love you are freed to begin anew the work of living together in compassionate community.

**CHILDREN’S TIME**    *“Allies ”*

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS**    Mark 9:38-50

<sup>38</sup>John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”<sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. <sup>42</sup>“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

**MEDITATION**

Pastor Jacoba Koppert  
*“Stumbling”*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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.

## WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## HYMN #454 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

copyright 1992 Pilgrim Press, Joyce Finch Johnson

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart,

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart,

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

## THE BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Karen Mohr

<sup>1</sup> Adapted by Rev. Koppert from Worship Ways UCC written by Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor. Copyright 2021 All publishing rights reserved.

## Announcements

**WELCOME** - We welcome you to our service of worship!

We are glad that you have joined us in-person, through the internet or on the radio. We pray that you will experience the love of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

## RADIO BROADCAST

11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN 98.5FM and 1370AM -

We would like to thank a faithful listener for sponsoring this week's radio broadcast

- Please have any October Newsletter articles in by 9 AM Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> to the office
  - Anyone interested in tying quilts (no experience needed)- please contact Doris Bakker at 715-743-4215 home, or 715-613-3404 cell
  - Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> – Hubert "Snick" Quicker Memorial Service here at church, Visitation 10-11 AM, Service 11 AM, Lunch to follow
  - Every Wednesday 6:30 PM – Working on Crafts for Holiday Fair at Carla Marty residence

\*\*\*\*\*

We highly recommend everyone attending services to wear a mask  
and practice social distancing.







