

The Presque Isle Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Proper 25

October 23, 2022

20th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Barbara Merryman

Gathering Music

*With Grateful Joy*¹

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the sustaining presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Welcome

Melissa Vance

Introit

Speak to Us, God

Christopher Grundy

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

At the starting line of this day, we call on your name, God of grace. As we run the race you have set before us, help us to keep our eyes on your goals, not our own. When we falter, give us fresh strength and courage. When we are fleet-footed, let us give you the glory. Keep us from wanting to win at other's expense or to count ourselves better than those at our side. All runners are your children. In the race You imagine, each one is a winner. Amen.²

Opening Hymn

*Let Us Build a House*³

Prayer of Confession (*Responsive*)

For ignoring the vision breathed by the living Spirit churning deep within our souls;
God have mercy, God have mercy, God have mercy upon us.

For refusing to look at the vision alive within those who look or act or sound different from us;
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy upon us.

For choosing familiarity, ease, and comfort rather than risking the opportunities afforded in the vision.
God have mercy, God have mercy, God have mercy upon us.⁴

¹ *With Grateful Joy*. Text and Tune: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan. Text: © 2004, Worldmaking.net. Permission to print/podcast/stream is given by One License.Net via OneLicense #A-726652. All rights reserved.

² Written by Carol Penner and posted to

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/not-ashamed/twentieth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-plan-ning-notes/twentieth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-liturgical-resources>

³ *All Are Welcome* Words and Music: Marty Haugen. Tune: © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. Chet Valley Churches, small worshiping church communities around the Chet River, Diocese of Norfolk, England, GB. Permission to print/podcast/stream this music is granted by One License.Net via OneLicense #A-726652. All rights reserved.

⁴ Based on Habakkuk 2: 1-4. Written in 1998 by Katherine Hawker for the Evangelical United Church of Christ. Posted on **Liturgy Outside**. <http://liturgyoutside.net/CPr26.htm>

Words of Assurance

God has opened our ears and our hearts to know God's love and forgiveness. There is nothing we need to do other than love one another and love God, for all things come from God's love. Let us go forth knowing we have been forgiven and we are restored to God. Let us live in the way of Christ.⁵ Amen.

Two-Minute Talk

Pretending

Scripture Reading Luke 18:9-14

Jesus told this parable to certain people who had convinced themselves that they were righteous and who looked on everyone else with disgust: "Two people went up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself with these words, 'God, I thank you that I'm not like everyone else—crooks, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of everything I receive.' But the tax collector stood at a distance. He wouldn't even lift his eyes to look toward heaven. Rather, he struck his chest and said, 'God, show mercy to me, a sinner.' I tell you, this person went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee. All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up."

Choral Anthem

PIUCC Choir

Reflection

The Offense of Grace

Daniel Jackson

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our *Creator*⁶, 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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Closing Hymn

*Draw the Circle Wide*⁷

Benediction

Postlude

Please remain seated until the music ends.

⁵ Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, <http://rev-o-lution.org>.

⁶ Please feel free to say the word with which you are most comfortable.

⁷ *Draw the Circle Wide*. Contributors: Gordon Light; Tune: © 1994, Common Cup Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. *Draw the Circle Wide* - [More Voices 145](#) - Musicians of Golden Ears United Church, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, CA. Permission to print/podcast/stream is granted by One License Net. via OneLicense #A-726652. All rights reserved.