

**The Presque Isle Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

**September 25, 2022**

**Proper 21**

**Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost**

**Words of Welcome**

Jennifer Gillis-White

**Call to Worship**

Come to this place and time of promise.

**We are becoming the house of hope,  
the field of sunflowers, the vineyard of great caring.**

Come to a shared commitment to abundance possible for all people.

**We are an earthenware jar, to keep safe the children of tomorrow.**

**Our security question is – the word of God, and our password is love.**

**Opening Prayer** (In Unison)

**God, we give you thanks that you make us redeemers, not just receivers of redemption. You bring us among friends and then ask for each one of our signatures to change your world. We hold the earthenware jar you call the church and fill it with all your promises. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**

**“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Melissa Vance

**God, we have defaulted to un-hope in our lives  
and we have encouraged un-hoping in others.  
We have criticized plans before hearing them out  
and we have turned to family, church,  
friends, colleagues with our faces painted with the words,  
“We’ve tried that before and it didn’t work.”**

**Together we have laughed at new ideas  
and circulated only bad news.  
Plant your promises deep in the field of our lives,  
and forgive us our presuming to define your future. Amen**

**Words of Grace**

God wipes pessimism from the open heart and sends others to affirm in us even the most fragile possibilities of the future. We are forgiven.

**Two-Minute Message**

**Where’s God**

Melissa Vance

