

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2020



Common Worship shared by:

Christ Church, United Church of Christ Ft. Thomas, KY
St. John United Church of Christ Bellevue, KY
St. John's United Church of Christ Newport, KY

Order of Service

Prelude

“Tempest”
Max Gise, guitar

(Ferdinando Carulli)

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode

Call to Worship

Kyle Taylor

As we gather for worship today, let us pray.

Lord, we gather together around a strange story. We gather around a mother who comes to you longing for her daughter to be healed only to hear something that seems pretty shocking to us today. Yet, she responds with courage and boldness. God, we know that there are many things in our lives that we don't understand. Help us to approach you with that same boldness and courage. Amen.

Hymn

“Great is Your Faithfulness”
Talia Broering Zoll, vocal; Toni Sheffer, organ

Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,
With you no shadow of turning we see,
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
All of your goodness forever will be.

Refrain: Great is your faithfulness!
Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. **Refrain.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Kyle Taylor

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away,

for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Matthew 15:21-28 from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, ©1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America

Time with the Children

Kelly Kuhnhein

Sermon

"Unexpected Turns" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Offertory

"God Help the Outcasts" (Menken/Schwartz)
Laura Petracco, vocal

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Keith Haithcock

O Christ our Lord, as the Canaanite woman brought her daughter's need to you, overcoming stigma and rejection to do so, confident of your healing in her life, we bring the needs of others in prayer:

Those for whom pain is a constant companion...

Those who daily live with chronic illness or ill-health...

Those who struggle with the confusion and distress of mental illness...

Those who care for and treat people who are ill and sometimes have agonizing decisions to face...

Those for whom treatment is not available or affordable...

And for ourselves in our own weakness...

To all your children everywhere, Lord Jesus Christ, bring healing, bring peace. Amen.

Using Jesus' prayer as our model, we pray together:

Loving God, in whom is heaven, may your name be honored everywhere.

May your kingdom come. May the desire of your heart for the world be done, in us, by us and through us. Give us the bread we need for each day. Forgive us. Enable us to forgive others.

Keep us from all anxiety and fear. For you reign in the power that comes from love which is your glory forever and ever. Amen.

Note: The Prayer of Jesus, the prayer that Jesus taught us is found in the Gospels of Matthew (6:9a-13) and Luke (11:2a-4). The words and phrasing of the prayer are not identical in the two gospels, which indicates gospel writers may have known different versions of the prayer or understood it as a model to use in prayer;

Hymn

*“Over My Head”
Steve Milloy, vocal and piano*

(arr. Steve Milloy)

*Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.*

*Over my head I hear singing in the air.
Over my head I hear singing in the air.
Over my head I hear singing in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.*

*Over my head I see trouble in the air.
Over my head I see trouble in the air.
Over my head I see trouble in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.*

*Over my head I see Jesus in the air.
Over my head I see Jesus in the air.
Over my head I see Jesus in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.*

Benediction

Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Postlude

*“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”
Dobin Park, piano*

(arr. Joel Raney)

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Rev. Keith M. Haithcock, St. John Church Bellevue
Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer, St. John’s Church Newport
Kyle Taylor, St. John’s Church Newport
Toni Sheffer, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Talia Broering Zoll, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Max Gise, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Steve Milloy, St. John Church Bellevue
Michael Sullivan, St. John’s Church Newport
Dobin Park, St. John’s Church Newport
Kelly Kuhnhein, Christ Church, Ft. Thomas

Thank you to our administrative support:

Sherri Spaulding, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Linda Schuster, St. John Church Bellevue
Kelli Taylor, St. John’s Newport