

*SONG “Standing on the Promises”

#552

BENEDICTION

As you go from this gathering, find hope in the journey, cultivate joy in the journey, give love in the journey, share peace in the journey, and trust that the God of the journey will always be with you now and always.

SUNG “Amen”(feel free to clap along!)

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able.

Bold- Words in bold are said in unison.

Our worship has ended ~ Let our service begin!

Warm Birthday wishes go out to:

Catherine Irvine June 2nd

Angela Pane June 3rd

Christine Burgos June 6th

Carlos Burgos June 11th

Molly Arpano June 15th

Jean Lidstone June 22nd

Laura Taylor June 2nd

William Jent June 5th

Zack Newton June 6th

Bailee McNamara June 12th

Drew Dobeck June 19th

Ryan O’Toole June 28th

Happy Anniversary wishes go out to:

Debbie & Joe Facendola June 6th

Journeyed on by Stages: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Pentecost Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

During the First Hymn we will bring forth funds for the Monthly Meal for the WHEAT Community Cafe. Thank you for your generosity!

For all joys and concerns mentioned in the Pastor’s Tuesday email.

Remember in your prayers our special members: June and Edie K.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CLINTON

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The United Church of Clinton



June 7, 2026

Pastor, Rev. Marilyn Wilcox

Musician, Laura Troisi

Lay Reader, Tim Reilly

Ministers, The People of God

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Second Sunday After Pentecost
WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING *of the* BELL/TIME *of* CENTER

***CALL to WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 33)
One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God’s steadfast love.
Many: The Voice created the heavens and the earth. Praise God with loud shouts!
One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God’s steadfast love.
Many: Let our voices ring and sing a new song. Let us turn toward the Creator in awe.
One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God’s steadfast love.
Many: Happy are the people who seek God’s counsel, who seek God’s heart, and who seek God’s kindom. Rejoice in the Holy One!
***SONG of PRAISE *and* SUPPORTING HUMAN JUSTICE**
“Lord of the Dance” (Found in insert)

***PRAYER *of the* DAY**
Wonderful God, we delight in your presence. We find shelter in your abiding and enduring love. You humble us, Holy Love, by gathering us as people. Thank you for being our Companion and Guide on this journey. Receive our songs, prayers, and openness. Nourish us from the fountain of your word and the hospitality of your table. May we find hope and inspiration, courage and direction, community and resolve as we worship you. Amen.

***AFFIRMING *and* CONNECTING (Passing of the Peace) We sing: “Peace be with You” Twice.**
*** GLORIA PATRI**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen. Amen. (Be seated)

CONFIRMATION and RE-AFFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP *New Member Confirmation Service for Laura Allen 6/7/2026 and Membership for Laura Taylor (found in insert)*

Lord’s Prayer 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 and ever. Amen.

***SONG “Here I Am, Lord” #452**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 33: 1-12 (Common English Version)
All you who are righteous, shout joyfully to the LORD! It’s right for those who do right to praise God.² Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre! Sing praises to him with the ten-stringed harp!³ Sing to him a new song! Play your best with joyful shouts!⁴ Because the LORD’s word is right, his every act is done in good faith.⁵ He loves righteousness and justice; the LORD’s faithful love fills the whole earth.⁶ The skies were made by the LORD’s word, all their starry multitude by the breath of his mouth.⁷ He gathered the ocean waters into a heap; he put the deep seas into storerooms.⁸ All the earth honors the LORD; all the earth’s inhabitants stand in awe of him.⁹ Because when he spoke, it happened! When he commanded, there it was! ¹⁰The LORD overrules what the nations plan; he frustrates what the people intend to do. ¹¹But the LORD’s plan stands forever; what he intends to do lasts from one generation to the next. ¹²The nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom God has chosen as his possession, is truly happy!

PRAYER *of* TRANSFORMATION *and* NEW LIFE
Holy One, through the Prophet Hosea, you declared, “I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.” We confess that, at times, we offer the ritual and routine of religious practices rather than a discerning heart that breaks with compassion and beats for justice. Strengthen us to the tenderness of knowing you, O God, more deeply, loving our neighbors more justly, and embracing our lives more fully.

WORDS OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE
Community of Faith, rest assured that renewal and revival is possible and available to us. Let us embrace our rituals to sing even old songs as if they are new, pray routine prayers as if they have been written in our hearts, and join in worship as if this were the first or last time. The Holy One makes all things new, and that may be so in us this day and every day.

Prayer Concerns and Joys Lifted Up
PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Romans 4: 16-18a (Message Translation Version)
¹⁶This is why the fulfillment of God’s promise depends entirely on trusting God and his way, and then simply embracing him and what he does. God’s promise arrives as pure gift. That’s the only way everyone can be sure to get in on it, those who keep the religious traditions *and* those who have never heard of them. For Abraham is father of us all. He is not our racial father—that’s reading the story backward. He is our *faith* father.¹⁷⁻¹⁸ We call Abraham “father” not because he got God’s attention by living like a saint, but because God made something out of Abraham when he was a nobody. Isn’t that what we’ve always read in Scripture, God saying to Abraham, “I set you up as father of many peoples”? Abraham was first named “father” and then *became* a father because he dared to trust God to do what only God could do: raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing. When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he *couldn’t* do but on what God said he *would* do. And so he was made father of a multitude of peoples. God himself said to him, “You’re going to have a big family, Abraham!”

Meditation - Rev. Marilyn Wilcox

Musical Meditation

INVITATION to GENEROSITY
Let us share the gifts of life and love given to sustain us on the journey. Our generosity strengthens communities and witnesses to the love of God in the world. May our time, talent, and treasure testify to the goodness and abundance of God’s creation.

Passing of the Plate

DOXOLOGY (Use whatever words are comfortable for you)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost). Amen.

PRAYER *of* THANKSGIVING *and* DEDICATION
Holy One, as we worship you through our giving, we dedicate these gifts to the work of your kindom come and our hope that your will be done in our community and world. Amen.

COMMUNION (found in insert)

“ Lord of the Dance”

***1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.***

Refrain

***Dance, then, wherever you may be:
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.***

***2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on.***

Refrain

***3. I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame,
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;
and they left me there on a cross to die.***

Refrain

***4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance, and I still go on.***

Refrain

***5. They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.***

Refrain

CONFIRMATION/REAFFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP SERVICE

For Laura Allen and Dual Membership for Laura Taylor

Pastor: I would ask the following people to come forth to the front of the church: Laura Allen, Laura Taylor, and Kelly Colby.

Confirmation is the act where a person affirms their baptism that happened in the past. It is an opportunity for a person (young or older) to publicly state that they support the decision their parents made so long ago. Today as Laura Allen takes her vows affirming her baptism and asking to affirm church membership as an adult, we as their congregation also take vows to support Laura and to affirm our own commitment to Christ’s church. We celebrate this day as Laura Allen makes her Adult Confirmation!

And Laura Taylor is also joining as a Dual member in the United Church of Christ segment of our congregation. We celebrate and affirm this decision. Yay for the Laura’s! Blessing and good wishes abound! Kelly is representing our church today.

Vows for the Laura’s

Pastor: Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? If so, please answer, “I do.”

Laura’s: I do.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ’s disciple, to follow the way of Jesus, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able? If so, please answer, “I do.”

Laura’s: I do.

Pastor: Do you promise according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and be a faithful member of The United Church of Clinton celebrating Christ’s presence and furthering Christ’s mission is all the world? If so, please answer, “I do.”

Laura’s: I do.

Pastor: Let us the members of The United Church of Clinton, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ. The congregation will now offer the following welcome and vow to support and partnership to the Laura’s and for their ongoing journey as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

VOWS FOR CONGREGATION

Congregation: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION FOR LAURA ALLEN

Pastor: Laura has been on a journey exploring her faith. She has done so by reviewing Confirmation material, joining our Sunday Morning once a month Bible Study, Contemplation, Prayer, and Affirmation of her Membership in this church. Transferring from the Inactive List to our Active List.

Pastor: (Laying on of Hands) and Pastor Prays:

O God, in the grace of Jesus Christ you have accepted this your servant Laura through the water of baptism. Nourish in her the power of your Holy Spirit that she may serve you in the world. Bless her as she is Confirmed.

Prayer

(Pastor) We rejoice, O merciful God with Laura in the gift of the Holy Spirit, and in the Spirit’s power to awaken us to new truth and to inspire us to venture into the fullness of life. We give you thanks that she has been moved to affirm her baptism, be bestowed with this Confirmation and renewed membership. Help her live not for herself but for Christ and those whom Christ loves. Keep her steady and abounding in hope, never giving up, pressing toward the goal of life with you in Jesus Christ. Amen.

(continue on next page)

Prayer and Congregation

We rejoice, O merciful God, again we say WE REJOICE that Laura has been moved to affirm her baptism. And we embrace her as a member of The United Church of Clinton. As we officially confirm Laura, we ask that you bless her and keep her all of her days. Amen.

PASTOR: (Addressed to both Laura’s)

Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this daily of God’s people, sharing regularly in the worship of God when you are able, and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world?

LAURA’S: I PROMISE WITH THE HELP OF GOD.

LAURA ALLEN: I affirm membership of this church.

LAURA TAYLOR: I affirm my co-membership with The United Church of Clinton.

Prayer:

Confirm in us the power of your covenant that we may live in your spirit, share regularly in worship, and so love each other that we may have among us the same mind which was in Christ Jesus, to whom be all honor and glory. Amen.

Presentation of Certificate of Confirmation and Membership Renewals

******(Please go back to main bulletin the Lord’s Prayer)******

***COMMUNION**

***COMMUNION SONG “I Come with Joy”**

#420

One: On the night of betrayal, denial, and desertion, Jesus prepared his disciples for life beyond the tomb. He demonstrated with wine and bread what he would later perform to encourage the disciples to remember him.

Many: Jesus wanted them to remember and to understand his solidarity and his sacrifice.

One: Jesus still prepares a place for each and all of us at this table. Will you come?

Many: In awe and wonder, humility and thanksgiving, we come to the table to feast with the Risen One.

Words of Institution/Sharing of Communion

(Come forth, take a piece of bread from the plate, dip it in the goblet, and eat. “The bread of life” and “The cup of salvation.” (Gluten free bread and grape juice)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy One, thank you for this feast at your table. As we receive bread and juice, may we encounter your grace and be filled with your love. May we go forward from this table with great joy, ever seeking your resurrecting presence among us and discerning your call for us to be present for our neighbors in the world. By your spirit, we pray.

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy One, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the Highest!

******(Please go back page of bulletin to our final hymn “Standing on the Promises” #552)******

