

“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”
God is Still Speaking

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

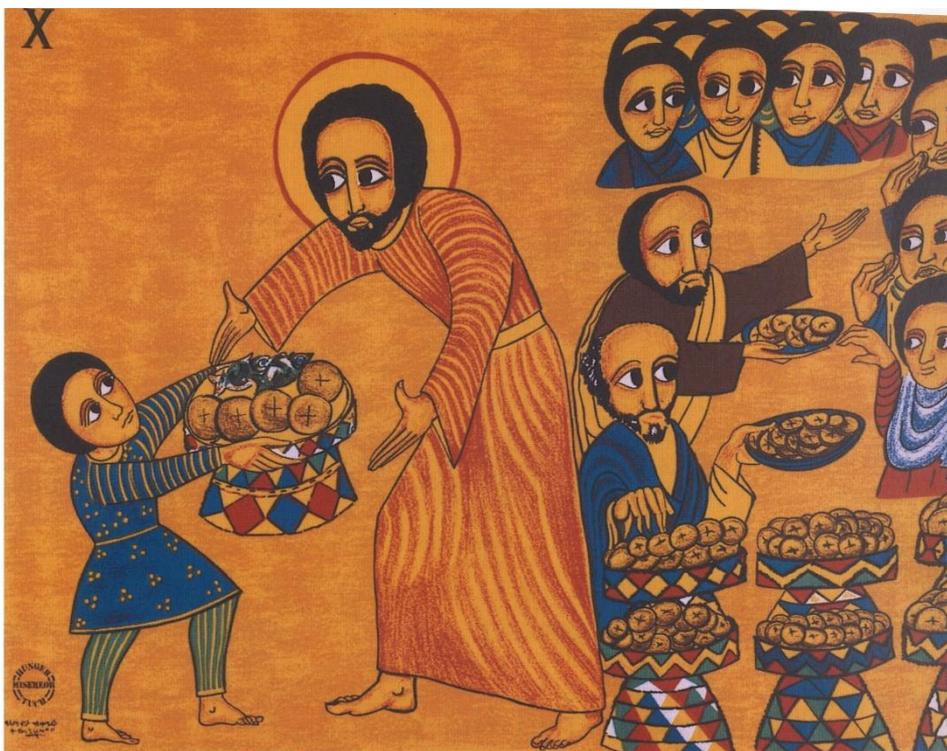
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



An Open and Affirming Congregation

July 25, 2021

10:00 AM



Alemayehu Bizaneh, Scene X of the Mosaic “Hunger Cloth” from Ethiopia

The Ethiopian artist Alemayehu Bizaneh paints biblical stories with the brilliant colors of medieval artists. Painted on a “hunger cloth,” this panel disturbs and offers hope.

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Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Bread for His People to Eat” (Yon)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR/RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God created all things visible and invisible;
none other.

People: God provides,

Leader: food for your stomach and spirit; none other.

**People: God is able to accomplish abundantly far more
than all we can ask or imagine.**

Leader: Let us worship God,

People: and none other.

GATHERING HYMN

“As The Wind Song” *Glory to God 292*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder, Lord of King David and of the Son, the Messiah, David’s greater son, we confess our sins and pray for your help so that we can truly repent and turn from evil. Deliver us from the temptation to hide from you, to lie to you, or to excuse ourselves because of the harm we have done to others. Forgive us for the curse we have brought upon the earth. Restore your creation to full health and feed the multitudes from the abundance of your merciful power. Grow in us a deeper desire to love Christ with the fullness of your love and to glorify him, along with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

silent prayer of confession

KYRIE

Leader: Lord have mercy.
People: Christ have mercy.
Leader: Lord have mercy.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading 2 Samuel 11:1-15
Second Reading Ephesians 3:14-21
please rise
Gospel Lesson John 6:1-21
Leader: Holy Wisdom
People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

HYMN

“What Does the Lord Require of You” *Glory to God 70*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, creator of rain and soil, ruler of nations, thank you for the abundance of the earth. We know there is enough food to feed everyone alive today; we are grateful that there are cures for the most common diseases; we praise you for the witness of Jesus Christ, who showed no lust for power or riches. Fill the world with the Spirit of Christ so that food, medicine, and peace flow as freely as the river of life from the throne of the Lamb. Bless our offerings so that we can follow where Christ leads, freeing the wealth of nations for the service of the kingdom. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me” *Glory to God 188*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Fear Not” (Preston-Clancy)

***The flowers are given to the Glory of God,
in memory of my beloved mother, Vasantha Kumari,
by her loving son, Tej***

**Thank you, Kim Cornwell,
for leading our worship today.**

July Birthdays 7/25-7/31/2021

*Renee Rhen (26); Abigail Comrie, Richard Gear, Jr. (28)
Danny Spahr (29); Justin Satterwhite (30)*

July Anniversaries 7/25-7/31/2021

Joan & Norman Hagerman (31)

Question for Reflection

How does Christ feed you today?

Household Prayer: Morning

Praise to you, O God most holy, Uncreated Light. I am thankful that in you there is no night. Let my morning prayer rise to you as blooming flowers turn to meet the sun. May I meet the adventure of this day open to the opportunities you give me to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ. May I be so filled with the Holy Spirit that peace and compassion radiate from me to bless others so that they are touched by your glory. Enrich my senses with the beauty of your world, my mind with wonder at your ways, and my spirit with gratitude for all that you prepare for the redemption of creation through Jesus Christ the Son. Pierce my heart with love, especially for those in any kind of need, so that I am moved to help where I can and moved to cry out for help if the need is greater than I can answer. Spare others the consequences of my sin and help me to be reconciled with those I have harmed in the past. Make me slow to anger, quick to forgive, and quicker still to confess my faults. In all things, let me trust in you. Let me finish the day as I begin it, in your care—in your gentle, merciful, loving hands, beloved and blessed triune God, whom I would worship and adore now and forever. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy triune God, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Thank you for the love you have shown me today. The gifts of air, water, food, and clothing; the gifts of human and nonhuman companionship and community; the gift of the Spirit around me and Christ within me: all these gifts call for my deepest, highest praise to you. Forgive me for the times today when I have failed to follow your guidance, submit to your rule, or glory in your majesty. Grant healing and peace to any whom I have harmed today; let them not suffer because of my sins. Let us enter the night together, giving praise for your mercy and kindness. Grant that we will journey into night, led by your eternal Light, and that we may gain comfort, rest, and renewal, rising to a new day giving you thanks and praise until you bring resurrection to all creation. Amen.



We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.

We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.

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|---|---|
| Ministers | All the people of the Congregation |
| Pastor | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier |
| Minister of Music | Dan Weckerly |
| President of the Consistory | Liz Brunton |
| Vice President of the Consistory | Michele Luke |
| Secretary of the Consistory | Molly Lorenz |
| Moderator of Spiritual Council | Molly Lorenz |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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