

TRADITION OF BEING DOERS OF THE WORD
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Peace United Church of Christ Elkader. Iowa 52043

PRELUDE: "I Love Thee, My Lord" Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

**CANDLELIGHTING, BELL RINGING, ANNOUNCEMENTS
GREETING EACH OTHER IN PEACE:**

L: Let us arise and begin by welcoming each other in peace!
(passing the peace—please be seated)

SILENCE TO GATHER THOUGHTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (inspired by today's Psalm 15)

L: O Holy Lord, who may abide in your tent, dwell on your holy hill?

P: Those who want to journey with you, who may have missed a turn in life, who may struggle with rocky patches and rough terrain.

L: O Holy Lord, who may abide in your tent, dwell on your holy hill?

P: Those who seek and search for you and for community with doubts and hopes, joys and fears, smiles and tears.

L: O Holy Lord, who may abide in your tent, dwell on your holy hill?

P: Those who try and sometimes give up, those who are beautifully, wonderfully and imperfectly human---that means all of us! Thanks be to God! Let us sing about God's mighty power!

***OPENING SONG:** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" #12
(please be seated)

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 IN THE MESSAGE

Fran Derhammer

EPISTLE READING: James 1:17-27 Fran Derhammer

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-8, 14-17, 21-23

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE IN SONG:

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #23

MESSAGE: "A Tradition of Dirty Hands, Clean Hearts"

SILENT REFLECTION

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER: (unison) We look within to what is deeper than we can see, what is deepest in our hearts where only you can see and bless. There in the darkness, heal us, wash us, love us, feed us as we pray for others and ourselves, O God. **AMEN!**

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.

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 for ever and ever. AMEN.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY:

L: James 1:17 reminds us that "every generous act of giving with every perfect gift is from above." May we give our gifts from God, sharing them with hospitality and compassion.

Let us celebrate God's abundance with boldness and give so that others may live.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY:

"Come, All Christians, Be Committed" Tune: Beach Spring

Harmonized by James H. Wood

***THE DOXOLOGY:**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

HOLY COMMUNION

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE AND WORDS OF GRACE:**

L: Eternal God, P: may you help us break from traditions, from habits, from behaviors that are unnecessary, unchanged, unimaginative, hurtful. At the same time, may you help us to not discount everything that has been a source of life and faithful formation for generations. We need to learn what needs to be left in the past with honor and gratitude; what needs to be repented and repaired; what needs to be created anew for the future. You renew, redeem and restore us, Holy Lord. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, you send us courage and direction to do new things while holding fast to the things that build and sustain us. Thanks be to you for forgiveness. **AMEN** (please be seated)

COMMUNION PRAYER:

L: O God, may you be with us, lifting up our hearts as we offer you our thanks and praise. You have defeated sin, death, evil and raised Jesus, our Lord, our Savior, our Companion, the joy of your heart, from the dead. Jesus fills us with your grace and listens to our pain. So we come to the meal today to nourish ourselves for service. P: **Amen!**

MEAL BLESSING:

L: On the night of betrayal, arrest and abandonment, Jesus shared the Passover meal with his friends. He took the bread, blessed it, broke it and passed it among them, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body given for you so that you may live." Then he took the cup of blessing, blessed it anew and passed it around, saying, "Take and drink for this is my blood shed for everyone as a new covenant, signaling forgiveness of sins." Let us sing before we eat together.

SONG: "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread" #342

THE MEAL IS SERVED

POST MEAL PRAYER: (unison)

Generous God, you have fed us the gifts of your Bread and your Cup, your Body and your Blood. May we become healing and hope for the world, quick to speak of justice, doers of your word. May our hands be stained by generous acts of kindness—feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, lifting the fallen and broken to their feet. May we go forth, nourished to nourish others. **AMEN.**

*BENEDICTION: (unison)

May the everlasting love of God give us peace; the surprising grace of God give us courage; the creative will of God give us joy. May we hold onto the old traditions or create new traditions that inspire new life. In Jesus' name and for his sake, we pray as we continue our lives beyond these walls. **AMEN.**

*SENDING FORTH SONG: "The Old Rugged Cross" #195

*POSTLUDE: "March Romaine" Charles F. Gonoud
Arranged by Lee Ellis

WELCOME

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Worship Leaders

Today-Sept. 1rst

Worship: Pastor Paula

Reader: Fran Derhammer

Fellowship: Cookie Cupboard

Organist: Laura Moser

Ushers: Gerald, Arlene Reimer

**Opening/
Closing** Gary Kuehl

Next Sunday, Sept. 8th

Pastor Paula

Sue Stott

Cookie Cupboard

Laura Moser

Kristina Miller

Sue Stott

PRAYER LIST: Greg Anderson, Gus Augustson, Dave & Diane B-H, Eli Belser, Betty Buchholz, Jonah Burns and Burns' family, Cheryl, Deb Dennler, Steve Doepcke, Wayne Frentress, Dennis Glesne, Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Penny Jacobson, Karla, Ruth Grau, Gerry Kramer, Gary & Nancy Kuehl, Marlene Marmann, family of Eunice McMillan, Ernie McNeal and his family, Marilyn Nielsen, Ruth and Jenny Olson, Lucena Phelps, Sharon Reichert, Peyton Rentschler, Harry Robbins, Joan Strauss, Teena, Father James (Pastor Paula's oblate director), Jane (relative of Seney's)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m.-noon—Mon. Wed. Thur. Fri.

8-11 a.m.----- Tues.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Monday: 4 p.m. Mtg. of Stephen's Ministers at Hilla
Garms home
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR
DAY

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir; 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
5 p.m. Deadline for Bulletin

Friday: Pastor's Day Off

Saturday: Worship Preparation

REMEMBER!

Those in charge of opening/closing, please plug in coffee pots! Thank you!

OPENING FOR CHURCH SECRETARY:

Peace UCC is currently seeking a part time church secretary. In the September TIDINGS, a job description is included.

MENTAL HEALTH: Information on the out patient mental health program for seniors 65 and older at the Regional Medical Center in Manchester, Iowa is available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.

Adult Education Opportunities

Also on the table at the rear of the sanctuary, there is a sign-up for various ideas for adult education. Please sign up if interested and add ideas. There will be a meeting after worship soon to make choices and set up dates and times!