

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn**

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

*My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
unending love, amazing grace*

Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come, tis grace has brought  
me safe thus far and grave will lead me home

*My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace*

The earth shall soon dissolve like the sun forbear to shine  
But God, Who called me here below, Will be forever mine.

**\*Benediction**

**\*Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** And also with you.

**\*Postlude**

Marche Romaine

**Jack Brooks**

Ch.Gounod

# The First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



**Colossians 3:2**

*Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*

October 22, 2017

10:00 a.m.

\* those who are able, please stand

*As you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of those already seated who want a quiet place to pray.*

**The Order of Worship**

**Prelude**

Ave maris stella

Vocalise

Of the Father's Love Begotten

tune: Divinum Mysterium

**Jack Brooks**

Edvard Grieg

Rachmanioff

David Cherwein

**Chimes**

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

Lord, stir us up, change us around, reverse our priorities, challenge our assumptions, open us to new truth, that in every way possible we will see what thou hast been trying for so long to tell us, and we will respond in love.

**\*Opening Hymn**

**Blue Hymnal #169**

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" (verses 1,3,5)

**Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my shield;

**Congregation: My heart trusted I him, and I am helped;**

Leader: Therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth;

**Congregation: And with my song with I praise him. (Ps. 23:7)**

**Prayer of Confession**

***O God, forgive us, we think that we are modern and advanced and learned that your Words from a long time ago cannot still teach us. Forgive us our pride and self-centeredness. Give us humble hearts. Through Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior we pray. Amen.***

**Song**

**Praise Group**

"Thank You Jesus"

**(Congregation is invited to sing along on Chorus)**

Grace that flows like a river washing over me

Fount of heaven, love of Christ overflow in me.

**Chorus: Thank you Jesus, You set me free**

**Christ my Saviour, You rescued me.**

Take this life delivered a vessel of Your love  
Wholly now devoted To see Your Kingdom come

**Chorus: Thank you Jesus, You set me free**

**Christ my Saviour, You rescued me**

You've given me life You've opened my eyes

I love You Lord I love You Lord

You've entered my heart You've set me apart

**Story Bell**

**Jim Tanis**

"Did I Do My Best" (Col. 3:23)

*(Following the Story Bell children are invited to Sunday School)*

**Song of Preparation**

**Praise Group**

"Step by Step"

**Scripture Reading (from "The Message")**

**Romans 12: 11**

- Never lag in zeal, but be aglow and on fire serving the Lord.

**Colossians 3:2**

- To set your mind and keep it on higher things.

**2 Timothy 1:16**

- Fan the flame. Rekindle the embers. Stir the gift that is within you.

**Message**

**Jim Tanis**

*"Stay Passionate About Life"*

**\*Hymn**

**Blue Hymnal #434**

"Revive Us Again"

**Prayers of the People and Silent Prayers**

**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 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. Amen.

**Offertory**

**Jack Brooks**

Psalm 103

Emma Lou Diemer

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(Continued on back page)*

*Good morning! We gather in the name of Jesus! Please greet one another in peace.*

\*Visitors ~ Welcome! There is a Welcome Packet in the pew rack for you. Please fill out the Guest Information insert, place it in the offering plate and take the packet home for review of the other information. We are thankful you are here and hope that your time here is a special blessing to you and your family. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

\*Large print Bibles, bulletins, and Children's bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet bags for children to use while they are in the worship service are available on the table in the narthex.

\*Families with young nursery age children are welcome to use the "Family Room" in the balcony located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

\*Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop. Please turn your hearing aid to the T-Coil position to access this feature. Other hearing devices are available at the sound booth upon request.

*Following the worship service you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall. Come meet new friends and have some refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.*

***Serving Us:***

Altar Rep:	Carol Black
Altar Flowers:	(today) Bob & Bonnie Erber(next week)
Greeters:	Shelli Waldo(today) Pat Krehn(next week)
Ushers:	Barb Veldman, Kendra Lachniet, Georgia Paxton(today) Yvonne Lee, Wendy St. Peter(next week)
Compassion:	Jon & Judy Clapp
Organist:	Jack Brooks
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	Gary & Jaime Deuling(today) Colleen Conant(next week)

***Celebrating this week:***

*Happy Birthday to ~*

Pat Dekleva (22), Lauren Zeerip (28)

*Happy Anniversary to ~*

Bob & Bonnie Erber (28)

***Prayer Requests ~***

(Prayer requests will be printed for two weeks. The person or family requesting prayer must call the church office or Pastor Ray in order to have the request printed)

Don Potter - medical concerns

***This Week's Calendar***

**Sunday, October 22**

8:45 a.m. Praise Team Rehearsal - sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship & Sunday School

11:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School

**Monday, October 23**

**Tuesday, October 24 - Church Office Closed**

3:00 p.m. Violin Lessons - Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study begins - Lounge

**Wednesday, October 25**

6:30 p.m. Praise Group Rehearsal - sanctuary

7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - choir loft

**Thursday, October 26**

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, October 27 - Church Office Closed**

**Saturday, October 28**

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

6:30 p.m. CongoEnJoyMeant night of games & snacks - Fellowship Hall (you are welcome to dress in your Halloween attire if you desire)

**Sunday, October 29**

10:00 a.m. Worship & Sunday School

11:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Chili & Soup Lunch - Fellowship Hall

**This morning we welcome** Jim Tanis who is filling in for Pastor Ray while he is on vacation. Next week will be Mat Emerick and November 5 will be Rev. John Koedyker.

## Our Church News

**Guests** - please take a “ToasterTong” home with you today as our gift to you for attending our service. You can find them on the Welcome Table at the entrance you came in. No more burnt fingers or potential electrocutions by fork in your future now!! Anyone who would like a “Toaster Tong” but is not a visiting guest, please make a contribution to the WOODSHOP. See Dean Morehouse, Bernie Denney, Bill Black or Pastor Dekker for more information.

**Join us on Saturday, October 28** from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. for a ConGo EnJoyMeant night of Games and Snacks in Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to dress in your Halloween attire if you desire.



**Thank you to the contributors** to the 2017 Crop Walk campaign. Our church collected \$883.00 Special thanks to Barbara Blass-Frisbey, Kurt & Morgan Harrington, David Vandenbelt, Jack & Mary Butterick for their special participation.

**Women’s Fellowship** is sponsoring our Harvest Ingathering once again. Please donate to this worthy cause in one of two ways: 1) Bring a check made out to True North with Food Pantry in the memo line. There will be a basket for checks on our food collection table in Fellowship Hall. True North will use your money to buy food in bulk and other less expensive ways. 2) Bring canned and boxed food items to Fellowship Hall and place them on the table provided. A good time to purchase some of these items is during the Spartan sale. Let’s see if we can fill up our table to overflowing! Jack Butterick will deliver food and checks to True North in mid November. Thank you!!

**Bonnie Erber, Colleen Conant and Sherri Keleghan will be hosting** a Chili and Soup on Sunday, October 29 following the service. Everything will be provided - come for a delicious bowl of soup following worship. Donations will be welcome to help fund the Guatemala Mission Trip in February 2018.

**On Sunday, November 12 we will be remembering** those who passed this year by lighting a candle in their memory. We will also be lighting one candle for all those who have passed in the time Pastor Ray has been here. Please pass this on to those who have lost a loved one. We would encourage them to attend All Saint's Sunday with us on November 12.

**Christmas is right around the corner!** Make your gift giving easy by ordering SCRIP for your loved ones! We have over 400 companies for you to choose from, including Amazon, clothing stores, restaurants, gas cards, Best Buy, Target, LL Bean, etc. Many companies are found across the country! Talk with us to look at and/or receive a complete list of participating companies.

**Save the date** - Women’s Fellowship will be having a Lunch following worship on Sunday, November 12 . Karla & Jaime will be making pulled pork bbq sandwiches, baked beans, pasta salad and dessert. Donations will be given to the Board of Charitable Giving.

### Requested Announcements

**Dear Churches, Choir members, friends, singers of the good news of Christmas** - It is truly time for us to gather and get ready, once again, for the River Country Community Christmas Choir (formally Newaygo Community Christmas Choir). Our first practice will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7 at the Family of God Community Church, 90 Quarterline, Newaygo. The concert will be on the second Sunday in December--6 p.m. on Dec. 10 (with our last rehearsal taking place that same afternoon. Pastor Barb Boss (231-652-9380)

### Announcing “ConGo Enjoy-Meant” Events

We are “ConGo” (Christians on the Go) and **meant to go and enjoy** good food and fun activities together!

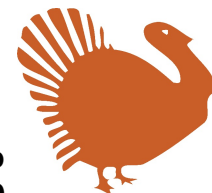
“Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Neh. 8:10

“Go and enjoy”:

**Sunday, November 19 - Thanksgiving Turkey Soup Supper, Treats and Trivia at the Church, 5:30 - 7:30**

**p.m.** - Karla makes a turkey soup that will make you thankful you came! Plus all new Thanksgiving trivia questions and may more interesting facts about Pilgrims, Turkeys and much more!



**Please RSVP with Mat, 231-414-7501**

