

WORSHIP GUIDE

September 18, 2022 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, we come into your courts with praise and thanksgiving!

We come in celebration and song.

We come in gratitude of your inheritance.

We come as those who have received blessing upon blessing.

We hear the cry of the poor in the land, and ache to offer them relief.

We come to bring them blessing upon blessing, in Jesus' name.

O God, we come into your courts with praise and thanksgiving!

We come in celebration and song.

OPENING HYMN: *UMH #130 God Will Take Care of You*

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, your people are suffering.

Where there is woundedness, help us bring healing.

Where there is discouragement, help us bring support and comfort.

Where there is dismay and mourning, help us bring the power of new life and new opportunities.

**Heal us, O God, for you are our help and our hope,
the One we turn to in times of trouble.**

**In the name of our Great Physician, Jesus Christ,
we pray. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Gospel Lesson: Luke 16:1-13

L: The word of God, for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God!

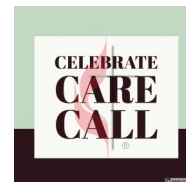
HYMN OF PREPARATION: *UMH# 375 I Surrender All*

MESSAGE: *Investing in the Bottom Line*

Pastor Jen

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *UMH #419 I Am Thine, O Lord*



PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (after each time of silence, we'll finish with the words "Lord in your mercy" and you are invited to respond, "**Hear our prayer.**")

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

CONFESSION AND PARDON

L: We confess that we find your medicine hard to swallow.
The quick fixes of this world are so much more pleasant,
leaving us free to go back to our usual routines.

But your medicine is powerful.

And if we take it, it will remake and renew our lives.

It will reorient us to you and to you alone.

Turn us toward your love for justice and true worship.

Forgive our sins, Forgive our hesitation.

Grant us courage to choose you as our physician,
and to serve you and you alone. Amen. (Rebecca Gaudino)

P: As you have sought us out, so we seek your pardon.

**Grant us courage, we pray, as persons, as communities, and as nations,
to bring about the justice you desire.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: The God of our salvation, the God who weeps for us and for our world,
is the God whose compassion comes speedily to meet us,
and to forgive us. By God's grace, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God, AMEN.

OFFERING

This is an opportunity to share the goodness that has been given to you. Consider sending an offering to PO Box 630, Skowhegan, ME 04976. You are also invited to support an organization or church in our local community that is making a positive difference in people's lives.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (turn to page 13 of the UMH)

CLOSING HYMN: *UMH #399 Take My Life and Let It Be*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

L: Is there a physician who can heal us and our world?

P: The one true God can heal us.

L: Is there a balm in Gilead?

P: The one true God can heal us.

L: Look to God for your healing and renewal,
and for the healing and renewal of our world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The HEARTS AND HANDS THRIFT SHOP

Co-Managers: James Barto and Ila Libby

Hours of Operation: Wednesdays 9 AM to 12 PM

***Call James @ 207-858-0257 to arrange drop off donations or for more information.

CLOTHING CLOSET

The Clothing Closet is open on Wednesdays 9 AM to NOON and 5 PM to 7 PM

THE CUP CAFÉ

Our CUP Café is open on Wednesdays 9AM—12 NOON.

Each week we offer a light lunch, hot chocolate, coffee and snacks. We also have FREE Wi-fi.

FREE DRIVE THRU COMMUNITY MEALS UPDATE

A message from the Tuesday Evening Meal Team:

The Tuesday Evening Meal Program will once again be offering free meals for curbside pick up on the 2nd and fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning on September 27th. More information coming soon.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING PROGRAM

Do you or someone you know have need for a wheelchair, walker, crutches, canes, etc.? If so, we have many of these items available through our medical lending program. This is offered by appointment. Call 207-474-3915 and leave your name, phone number, and the item that you need. Someone will contact you. This is an outreach through the partnership of Common Unity Place and Centenary United Methodist Church.

SKOWHEGAN AREA YOUTH GROUP

Thursdays from 6-7:30 pm at Centenary UMC on the Dr. Mann Rd. Snacks and activities provided. For more information, please call Sharon Newell or Kevin Tansey at 207-708-0767 or 207-877-5987.

FELLOWSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

- Men's Fellowship: Mondays @ 8:00 am (See Gene Rouse or Skip Young)
- Small Group Ministry: Wednesdays @ 1:00PM -2:30PM (see Pastor Jen)
- ♦ **Giving Angels Women's Fellowship: 1st Tuesday of each month. 10 AM – 12:00 PM and adding a second meeting on the third Tuesday of each month from 10:00am to 12:00pm to make crafts for the December 3rd craft fair. (see Ila Libby or Lori Trevains)**
- ♦ The woman's fellowship is starting preliminary planning for a craft fair at the church in conjunction with the Skowhegan Christmas Downtown Stroll event on December 3rd.
- ♦ Giving Angels Woman's Fellowship is requesting preliminary interest in donating crafts, volunteering for the event day, supplying water jugs starting collection now, and committing to making baked goods for the sale on December 3rd and prepared food for cafe luncheon. Thank you for considering assisting the woman's fellowship in this endeavor. The Giving Angels Woman's Fellowship have changed their meeting date and time to the first Tuesday of each month from 10:00am to 12:00pm and adding a second meeting on the third Tuesday of each month from 10:00am to 12:00pm to make crafts for the December 3rd craft fair. **Anyone is welcomed to join the group to make crafts starting with a macramé class lead by Ila on September 20th 10:00am to 12:00pm.**