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## Silent Meditation

**“The only way to deal with an unfree world is to become so absolutely free that your very existence is an act of rebellion.”**

**~Albert Camus**

**“No matter that patriotism is too often the refuge of scoundrels. Dissent, rebellion, and all-around hell-raising remain the true duty of patriots.”**

**~Barbara Ehrenreich**

**“I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean. Whenever one door closes I hope one more opens. Promise me that you’ll give faith a fighting chance. And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance, I hope you dance.”**

**~Lee Ann Womack**

# HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 11, 2021, 10:55am

Prelude "I Surrender All/Depth of Mercy" arr. J. Vogt

Welcome and Announcements Jo Ann Jellison

One: May the Peace of God be with you.

Many: And also with you. Amen.

Introit 743 "Be Still and Know"  
(Based on Psalm 46:10)

**Be still and know that I am God. (3x)**

\* Call to Worship Alix Felsing

One: Come; let us come into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

Many: We have come to worship our God, the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, and all that dwells within.

One: The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of celebration and joy...

Many: That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.

One: We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

Many: We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom.

All: Let us enter God's rhythm of life and follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!

*\* All rise in body or spirit*

\* Hymn

“I Danced in the Morning”

LORD OF THE DANCE

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.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance, and they wouldn’t follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.  
They came with me, and the dance went on. (R)

I danced on the Sabbath, and I cured the lame.  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
And left me there on a cross to die. (R)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.  
It’s hard to dance with the world on your back.  
They buried my body, and they thought I’d gone,  
But I am the dance, and I still go on. (R)

They cut me down, and I leapt up high.  
“I am the life that will never, never die;  
I’ll live in you if you’ll live in me.  
I am the Lord of the dance,” said he. (R)

Pastoral Prayer

Laura Hankins

Children’s Message

Laura Hankins

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

## \* Gospel Lesson

Mark 6: 1-13

Alix Felsing

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, ‘Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?’ And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Prophets are not without honor, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.’ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

**Many: Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

## Song

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

***Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.***

**I am weak, and I need your strength and power  
To help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness your face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. (R)**

Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Glencie Rhedrick

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**One:** For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,  
for the word of God within us.

**Many:** Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Isolate to Generate”

Glencie Rhedrick

\* Offering Dedication (*in unison*)

Alix Felsing

**You have been exceedingly generous to us, O God.**

**We return a portion of what we have to you in grateful thanksgiving.**

**Bless our offerings that they will nurture the seeds of hope and healing in this community and beyond. Amen.**

\* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below,**

**Praise God above all heavenly hosts,**

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Hymn 497 "Guide My Feet"

**Guide my feet while I run this race (3x)  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Hold my hand while I run this race (3x)  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**I'm your child while I run this race (3x)  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Stand by me while I run this race (3x)  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Guide my feet while I run this race (3x)  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

\* Benediction

Glencie Rhedrick

\* Benediction Response 581

WORLD PEACE PRAYER

**Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,  
From despair to hope, from fear to trust.**

**Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;  
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,  
Let peace fill our universe.**

Postlude

"Lord of the Dance"

D. Schutte

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**Our Faith is over 2000 Years Old. Our thinking is not.**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

**THANK YOU** for bearing with us as we open for in-person worship and other activities. Sunday morning in-person worship has gone well. Your cooperation in sitting safely distanced and in wearing masks is greatly appreciated. Blessings, Pastor Cheri

### **WELCOME REVEREND GLENCIE RHEDRICK**

Today, we welcome the Reverend Glencie Rhedrick, to the pulpit. She is an ordained Baptist minister, currently serving as an associate minister at First Baptist Church-West. A graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Glencie received her M.Div from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University and is currently a PhD student attending California Integral Institute of Studies. Glencie currently serves as Chaplain for several organizations, is a local and national community activist and organizer, and was the former president of Mecklenburg Ministries. She is also an active member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. Currently she holds the lead positions with numerous activist and outreach organizations. She is the convenor of a Facebook live show, 'SpeakingintheKeyofWE.' a conversation concerning Black Male Privilege and Patriarchy in the Church, raising the awareness of the biases women of African Ascent encounter in the Church and other segments of society. We are grateful for her time with us today!

### **CHRISTMAS IN JULY SPECIAL OFFERING**

**for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund**

*Good news...Great Joy...All the People... (Luke 2:10) These times call us to deeper compassion and increased generosity.*

The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ created the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross to support retired UCC clergy and church staff and surviving clergy spouses. Through the generosity of churches like ours, these servants of the church receive emergency financial assistance, help with health care costs, and annual "thank you" checks. We give not only to meet their needs, not only to thank them for

their ministries, but also to make room in our hearts and their lives for a new thing to break forth.

Holy Covenant UCC has moved this special offering from the busy time of December, to be Christmas in July, to lighten your giving in December. If you are called to contribute to this fund, you may do so by notating your check "Christmas Fund", or on our website, by choosing Designated Gifts, sub-fund Christmas Fund. [holycovenantucc.org/give-2/](https://holycovenantucc.org/give-2/) Thank you, and blessings upon your gifts.

### **EYEGLOSS COLLECTION**

MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term) based in Ann Arbor, recycles and dispenses 10,000 pairs of eyeglasses in over 50 countries. Check your couches and recliners for those lost reading glasses, check your "catch all" drawer in your kitchen for those ten year old prescription glasses, and check your car for the sunglasses that went out of fashion five years ago. Drop them in the collection box in the Gathering Room. They'll be sent to Ann Arbor for cleaning, repairing, and labeling, then boxed up, ready for the next team going to Guatemala, Kenya, India, China, or any of 50 other countries. In the words of many of those who've received glasses, "*¡Dios le bendiga!*" God bless you! For more information on MOST and the eyeglass ministry, [click here](#). Follow a pair of glasses from donation to the new wearer! <https://youtu.be/1uMIEnIJZQI>

### **MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY ON HIATUS FOR SUMMER**

We'll regroup in August for a September start up.

### **SOJOURNERS CLASS - ON HIATUS UNTIL JULY 25**

### **TRAVELING? WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THOSE TOILETRIES?!**

We are in need of toiletries and amenities you returned home with. Bring your unused travel size shampoos, soaps, lotions, shower caps, etc. We'll see they get to those who need them!



**WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME  
WITHOUT THE HELP OF:**

Brian Hankins, Henry Hankins, Laura Hankins, Meg Houlihan  
Alix Felsing, JoAnn Jellison, Ed Vickery, Kathleen Wagner

If you wish to add someone to the list, please send a note to  
[prayers@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:prayers@holycovenantucc.org).

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Members**

Darline Warren and family in the death of her brother, George Jongeling  
Kevin Decker, Jeff Edwards-Knight, Linn Finger, Tom & Kathy Habel, Jana  
Harrison, Jim Hong, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Sue &  
Bill Pascucci, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Jerry & Marion Rhyne, Cynthia  
Simpson, Mamie Stokes, Anita Taylor, Debbie Winston

**Friends & Family Members**

Dana Bennett & Misty Burch (Kathleen Wagner), Michael & Beth Bliss  
(Robert Shepherd), Cecelia Ciciollo (Dominic Ciciollo), Al (Bo) Dennis  
(Keith Dennis), David & Cecelia Griffin (JP Griffin), Cindy Hedrick (Barb  
Schneller), Henry Hildebrand (Bill & Connie Hildebrand), Will Hong (Jim  
Hong), Bob Lyon (Melissa Noll), Bonnie Lee (Kathleen Wagner), Thibault  
Ossenbühl (Melissa Noll), Vernon & Andrea Powell (Robert Shepherd),  
Darrell & Jackie Reichert (Diane Neese), Eulene Shepherd (Robert  
Shepherd), Joyce Tyler (Bill & Kim Tyler), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery),  
Wanda Williams (John Rapp)

**OUR MINISTRY TEAM**

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