

# Christ Church

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



Pastor: Rev. Tara Tetzlaff  
Music Director: Terryl Dietert  
Guitar | Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba  
Video: Richard Tremarello  
Liturgist: Julie Oren

## July 6, 2025

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*Welcome to Christ Church!* We are so glad you are here this morning! Whether you are a “first-timer”, a regular, or somewhere in between, it is a joy to have you here with us this day. May you be blessed by God’s Word in worship today! If you are a **first-time visitor**, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the offering plate, and then make your way to the Chapel (in the back) after worship where we have a small gift for you. *\*Please stand as you are able*

## Prelude

*Come, Share the Lord* - arr. Smith

## Words of Welcome

### \*Song of Welcome

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

**Hymn #481**

### \*Call to Worship

One: All are welcome here. Whether you are heavy-hearted, wondering if there is power to make you well, or feel weighed down by many demands,

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

One: Whether you are burdened by rules others have imposed or you are a keeper and maker of rules,

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

One: Whether you feel at home in this place or you long to be accepted,

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near.**

One: Come and worship God, the One who writes our names in the book of life and dares us to become new creations in Jesus.

**Many: The kingdom of God has come near**

### \*Morning Prayer

**Challenging God, you send us out like lambs among wolves, then ask us to be peaceful and gentle. Help us hear and obey your call to follow Jesus, even if we must surrender our reputations and rules we hold dear. May we learn and live the path of the cross, restoring one another and bearing one another's burdens as we discover your gift of becoming new creations in Christ. Amen**

### \*Opening Hymn

*We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

**Hymn #562**

### Story on the Steps

*See you later, Alligator*

By Annie Kubler

### Gift of Music

Nancy Schlaack

### First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-14 (CEB)

Naaman, a general for the king of Aram, was a great man and highly regarded by his master, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. This man was a mighty warrior, but he had a skin disease. Now Aramean raiding parties had gone out and captured a young girl from the land of Israel. She served Naaman's wife.

She said to her mistress, "I wish that my master could come before the prophet who lives in Samaria. He would cure him of his skin disease." So Naaman went and told his master what the young girl from the land of Israel had said.

Then Aram's king said, "Go ahead. I will send a letter to Israel's king."

So Naaman left. He took along ten kikkars of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. He brought the letter to Israel's king. It

read, "Along with this letter I'm sending you my servant Naaman so you can cure him of his skin disease."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he ripped his clothes. He said, "What? Am I God to hand out death and life? But this king writes me, asking me to cure someone of his skin disease! You must realize that he wants to start a fight with me."

When Elisha the man of God heard that Israel's king had ripped his clothes, he sent word to the king: "Why did you rip your clothes? Let the man come to me. Then he'll know that there's a prophet in Israel."

Naaman arrived with his horses and chariots. He stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent out a messenger who said, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan River. Then your skin will be restored and become clean."

But Naaman went away in anger. He said, "I thought for sure that he'd come out, stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the bad spot, and cure the skin disease. Aren't the rivers in Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than all Israel's waters? Couldn't I wash in them and get clean?" So he turned away and proceeded to leave in anger.

Naaman's servants came up to him and spoke to him: "Our father, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, wouldn't you have done it? All he said to you was, 'Wash and become clean.'"" So Naaman went down and bathed in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. His skin was restored like that of a young boy, and he became clean.

## **Second Reading: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 (CEB)**

After these things, the Lord commissioned seventy-two others and sent them on ahead in pairs to every city and place he was about to go. He said to them, "The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest. Go! Be warned, though, that I'm sending you out as lambs among wolves. Carry no wallet, no bag, and no sandals. Don't even greet anyone along the way. Whenever you enter a house, first say, 'May peace be on this house.' If anyone there shares God's peace, then your peace will rest on that person. If not, your blessing will return to you. Remain in this house, eating and drinking whatever they set before you, for workers deserve their pay. Don't move from house to house. Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and say to them, 'God's kingdom has come upon you.' Whenever you enter a city and the people don't welcome you, go out into the streets and say, 'As a complaint against you, we brush off the dust of your city that has collected on our feet. But know this: God's kingdom has come to you.'

Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me. Whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy-two returned joyously, saying, "Lord, even the demons submit themselves to us in your name."

Jesus replied, "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Look, I have given you authority to crush snakes and scorpions underfoot. I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you. Nevertheless, don't rejoice because the spirits submit to you. Rejoice instead that your names are written in heaven."

## Sermon

"K.I.S.S."

Rev. Tara

## Hymn of Response

*Enviado Soy de Dios (Sent Out in Jesus' Name)*

Sent out in Jesus' name,  
our hands are ready now  
to make the earth the place  
in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change  
a world of hurt and pain  
into a world of love,  
of justice and of peace.

The task is ours to do,  
to set it really free.  
O help us to obey  
and carry out your will.

## Invitation to Generosity

Beloved people of God, let us give to the work of God's kingdom today. May we take this opportunity to work for the common good, and especially for the family of faith.

## Offertory

*The Summons* - arr. Smith

## \*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

## \*Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God, you share your kingdom with all humanity, drawing closer to us than our very breath. May our offering this day support your holy work, and may all come to know that your kingdom has truly come near. Amen.**

SCAN TO DONATE



## COMMUNION LITURGY

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

#### Invitation

Pastor: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ...was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**ALL: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ's table.**

Pastor: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

### Communion Prayer

Pastor: God be with you. **PEOPLE: And also with you.**

Pastor: Life up your hearts. **PEOPLE: We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**PEOPLE: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: We give you thanks...With your sons and daughters of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy.

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

L: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion...  
...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**ALL: Christ's death, O God, we proclaim.**

**Christ's resurrection we declare. Christ's coming we await.**

**Glory be to you, O God.**

Pastor: Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith...Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

**ALL: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen.**

**Prayer of our Savior**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**Sharing of the Elements**

*(We practice open communion here at Christ Church and use gluten free bread and grape juice. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and we will come to you).*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn**                      *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*                      **Hymn #698**

**Announcements**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Song**                      *Send Me, Jesus*                      **Hymn #713**

**Postlude**                      *Song of Hope - arr. Donterr*

**Sources:** CCLI License #1905256 | *Worship & Rejoice Hymnal*, Hope Publishing 2001 | *The New Century Hymnal*, The Pilgrim Press 1995 | *Along the Road: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Pentecost* was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ



**MISSION MINUTES | Surprising Prophets | 2 Kings 5:1-14** | Do you know someone who is an overthinker, complicating life with their if’s, and’s or but’s? Perhaps you know someone who can take the easiest tasks and turn them into trying ordeals. Do I even dare ask if you could be that person?

If so, you are not alone. Many people overthink, which ultimately leads to unnecessary worry. I’ll admit that I’m one of those people who does both—overthinks and overcomplicates. I’m not sure why I do that? Maybe because it’s hard to let ourselves truly believe that faith in God can move the mountains that we create out of life’s mole hills. And maybe, just maybe, we can’t allow ourselves to believe in a mountain-moving God because that belief requires us to give up the façade that we’re in control.

Let me introduce you to Naaman, an overthinker standing in the need of more faith and healing. The celebrated army commander of the King of Syria, whose name in Hebrew translates into “pleasant and beautiful,” is anything but. He is suffering from a skin affliction, most likely leprosy, which carries with it the societal stigma of being unclean.

But when Naaman hears that Elisha, the prophet of Israel, can heal him, he seeks him out. The visit doesn’t go well. Naaman becomes furious with the seemingly dismissive way the prophet speaks to him. How dare this lowly servant of God tell a prominent army commander to simply jump into the Jordan River and bathe. Not only does Naaman have more impressive rivers back home, but healing leprosy cannot be as easy as washing.

Naaman turns to leave in a huff, but his servants convince him to listen to the prophet’s surprising remedy. One even makes the very convincing point that if the instructions were complicated, would Naaman be quick to follow through? Perhaps it’s time for Naaman to check his ego and stop overthinking the mysterious ways that God works. He gives in, washes himself as instructed by Elisha, and his skin is healed.

More times than not, we are like Naaman, seeking healing and answers to life’s questions but then not trusting the surprising ways God leads us to healing. What if we decided to finally trust God this day? What if we stopped making things harder for ourselves by overthinking and overcomplicating life? Could wholeness and restoration be as simple as crying out to God, “I believe, now help my unbelief.” We won’t know until we try.

*Healing God, we stand before today in need of Your gentle touch. Restore us to wholeness. Increase our faith and help us to stop overthinking and overcomplicating the life You have blessed us with. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen..*

Monthly Activity	June	YTD
Income	\$14,053	\$87,116
Expenses	\$15,855	\$99,238
Budgeted Amount	\$14,867	\$89,200

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