

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PLAINVILLE

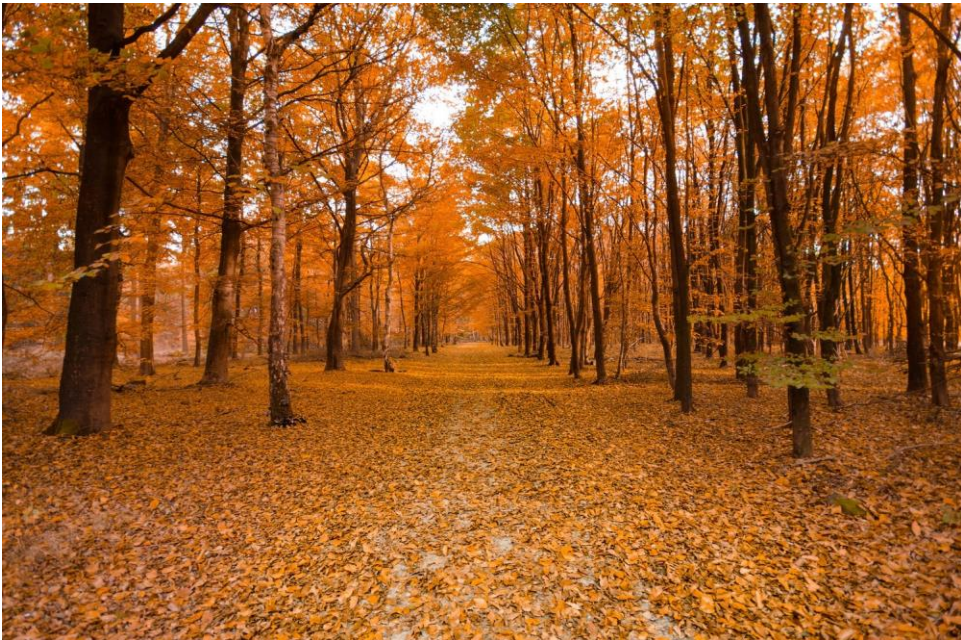
Founded in 1840

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

A “God is Still Speaking” Church

*The Congregational Church of Plainville serves the community
in the Spirit of Christ.*

All Welcomed. All Valued. All Loved.



**The Order of Morning Worship
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 13, 2020

10A.M.

GATHERED TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

I Thank You Jesus

K. Morris

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS ON GOD

Bringing in the Light of Christ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bless GOD, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless GOD, O friends, and never forget God's gifts. Forgiveness flowing into healing, tireless goodness and joy: Strength and youth of the Eagle's flight. Vindication, justice for all those oppressed; Liberation from bondage, and guidance for the way; Unending mercy, steadfast love. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is GOD's love toward those who are faithful; as a parent has compassion for children, so our GOD has compassion for us.

Bless GOD, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name.

Bless GOD, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In scripture, "Seven" is seen as a sacred number, a number pointing to perfection, to what is complete, even to infinity. So when Jesus tells his disciples to forgive not just seven times but seventy times seven, he is opening hearts to the endless and ever expanding dance of grace.

Confession and repentance may seem like antiquated ideas, but they represent something prescient – a transformed life progressing on. Resilience, newness, and a forgiving spirit are the results. The capacity to relate to another with compassion is a result. These things may seem impossible, but Jesus calls us to live the impossible through him and the changed heart he fosters.

Let's take a few moments to ponder our lives, personal, and in wider community. Where do we need forgiveness? Where do we need to forgive? Where do our lives intersect in the wider community with structures, practices, attitudes that deeply hurt our neighbors? Where must we seek forgiveness? Where must we seek to effect change? How have we been wounded with structures, practices, attitudes of the wider community that need transformation? How may we begin to forgive?

Silence

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Holy One, You call us into this ever expanding dance of grace; turning “seventy times seven” is not too much when we follow your lead into a future of hope and peace. Glory be to the One who, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

NCH # 451 (1st vs)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

THE GOSPELS

Matthew 18:21-35

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.

SERMON

“Debts Cancelled”

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN INTERLUDE (*listen only*) *Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped* NCH #22

RESPONDING TO GOD’S LOVE

INVITATION TO SHARE

Like Paul, who was showered with an abundance of mercy from God, we too have been blessed. Like Paul, we are called to go forth and witness to the presence of Christ in our lives in so many diverse ways. One of the ways in which we tell the story is through the giving of gifts to God. In our gift-giving we participate with God in providing for the needs of God’s people.

You are invited to share by mailing your pledges in or online. Please email the office if you need help with setting up an online account.

DOXOLOGY

NCH #780

Praise God for whom all blessings flow. Praise God all Creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May our gifts become symbols of our intention to minister with God to satisfy the needs of those whom God loves.

SCATTERED TO SERVE

Carrying Out the Light of Christ into the World

CLOSING HYMN

We Are Marching

NCH #526 (1st vs)

BENEDICTION

Let us go forth to forgive as we have been forgiven: seventy times seven! Freed of the paralyzing burden of sin in order to do justice, love mercy, walk confidently, and humbly, with God. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Christ Is The Mountain of Horeb

anon.

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*We hope you received God's comfort, insight and inspiration through worship, prayer and song that carries with you through the week.*

## WEEKLY FACEBOOK LIVE SCHEDULE

|             |            |                                         |
|-------------|------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Sun (9/6)   | 10:00 a.m. | Worship                                 |
| Wed (9/9)   | 7:00 p.m.  | Midweek Meditation                      |
| Thur (9/10) | 11:00 a.m. | Coffee Hours with Rev. Don at Rebel Dog |
| Sun (9/13)  | 10:00 a.m. | Worship                                 |

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### *In our Prayers this week, we remember:*

Martha, Eva and Waylon Stahl (Mary Fuller's daughter and grandchildren), Erin James & Family (Marianne Wright's friend), Ruthe Boiczuk, Rose Mirante (Lynette Susco's friend), Charlene Archambault, John Borry, John Dombroski, Sandy Dombroski, Cliff Carlson, Charlotte Karabin, Gordon McCann, Tommy McCormack, Sarah Soucy, Kristin (Russ & Diana Drachenberg's friend), Leslie Urbanski, **and the families and friends of:** Sue Bentley, Irene Boiczuk (Ruthe Boiczuk's mother-in-law), Carol Johnson (Lynette Susco's friend), **as well as members and friends serving in the military:** Renny Astolfi Sr., Beth Smith, Mark Joseloff, Adam Smith, Spencer Pelletier, James Palmer, Mark Terrill, Ryan Steikers, Shawn Ellis & Quinn Coughlin.

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The Rev. Don Erickson, Senior Minister  
Peter Peluso, Interim Organist  
Teresa Talarico, Church Administrator  
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