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# Spring Creek United Church of Christ

9th Sunday after Pentecost  
July 30, 2023

*We are an Open and Affirming, God-is still-speaking Congregation.  
We embrace our diversity to make a divine difference together.  
Wherever you are on life's journey, there is a place of welcome for you here.*

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*Welcome to Spring Creek United Church of Christ!*

**9th Sunday after Pentecost – July 30, 2023**

*(Please stand as you are comfortable at the places marked \*)*

Meditation: “Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide” -- Gehring

Musician

Welcome

Pastor David

**\*Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 119:129-136)

**Worship Leader &  
People**

Come let us praise the Lord  
**Whose decrees are wonderful,**

Whose words give light  
**And impart understanding,**

Who is gracious  
**To those who love the Lord's name,**

Whose face shines upon us  
**And redeems us from oppression.**

Prelude: “Morning Mood” – Edvard Grieg  
Arr. Barbara Brocker & Rob Pearson

Joyce & William Zartman

**\*Gathering Prayer**

**Worship Leader &  
People**

**We gather together, eager to listen and discern your Word, ready to learn from the stories of our faith. Prepared to grow from the lessons learned. Humbly, we offer our hearts and hands to serve you with love. Amen**

**Confession**

**Worship Leader &  
People**

**O God, we confess  
We yearn for heaven  
But too often search for towering cedars,  
Rather than embracing the hope of a tiny mustard seed.**

**We refrain from using yeast,  
Ignoring that it can yield much good.  
We search for treasure or a pearl  
But fail to discover the joy in finding you.**

**We cast our net  
Into the wide and choppy sea,  
Hoping for bounty,  
Not knowing your net and grace are cast for all.**

**Forgive us, O God.  
Help us to find heaven  
In our faith and trust in you,  
And your promise of love and grace.  
Amen**

**\*Prayers of the People**

**Pastor David**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor David &  
People**

**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.**

**Reading:** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Worship Leader

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

<sup>31</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

The Parable of the Yeast

<sup>33</sup> He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with<sup>[a]</sup> three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

Anthem: “God Leads His Dear Children Along”  
-George A. Young, arr. Tim Doran

Joyce & William Zartman

Sermon: “Finding Heaven on Sunday Creek”

Pastor David

Offertory: “For the Beauty of the Earth”  
- Folliot S. Pierpoint, arr. Tim Doran

Joyce & William Zartman

**\*Offertory Response**

**(tune of Old Hundredth)**

**Congregation**

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor David

**Sacrament of Holy communion. Please see insert.**

Announcements

Worship Leader

Lighting a Candle for Ukraine

Pastor David

Benediction

Pastor David

Postlude: "Ceremonial March" -- Wetherill

Tom Stein

*NCH - New Century Hymnal – The Pilgrim Press*

**Pastor: David Sheridan**  
**Guest Musicians: Joyce & William Zartman**  
**Musician: Thomas Stein**  
**Worship Leader: Becky Grace**

**Production Team: Bob Tissot & Mike Carr**  
**Usher: Sue McPherson & Ann Patel**  
**Greeters: Barb & Dan Mugavero**

**Prayer Requests:**

- We pray for Janna and Sam Wyant's friends, **David and Bridget Jacobsen**, and their **4-year-old son, Jayden**, who is preparing for his third heart surgery.
- We pray for Sam Wyant's sister-in-law, **Haley Wyant**, who is recovering from back surgery on July 25.
- We pray for Janna Wyant's stepdad, **Patrick**, who is preparing for heart valve replacement.
- We pray for Ann Patel's friends, **Uma and Gail**, and nephew **Rasheet**, all facing health concerns.
- We pray for **11-year-old Mary Kate**, the daughter of Amanda Janitzky's colleague, **Heather**, and her family. Per Amanda, "Our prayers are being heard. Keep praying for them."
- We pray for a family member of Ann Patel, **Patty**, who is starting chemo for breast cancer.
- We pray for **Ann Patel**, who had successful surgery for a detached retina.
- We pray for **Dan Mugavero**, who is experiencing heart and memory problems.
- We pray for **Liz & Brent Schultzes' friend & long-time neighbor, Shawn**, who has been diagnosed with ALS, and for his wife and six kids and their families.
- We pray for **Phil Adkins**, who continues to suffer with cardiovascular problems.
- We pray for **Jean Klemme**, who had successful surgery and has completed radiation treatment.
- We pray for **Leslie Carr**, who has been diagnosed with soft tissue cancer and has completed chemo treatments, showing improvement.

- We pray for **Todd**, brother-in-law of Pastor David and Leslie, who continues cancer treatment.

**Attendance**

7/9-39

7/16-27

7/23-39



**Anniversaries:** Barb & Dan Mugavero – 8/1  
Deb & Bob Orlando – 8/3

**Birthdays:** Deb Orlando – 8/5

**Pastor David's Office Hours**

Wednesdays 8 am - 4 pm

or call the office for an appointment.

**Church Office hours: Tuesday,  
Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m to  
2 p.m.**

**815/877-2576**