



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
SERVICE LEAFLET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 23, 2019

The Second Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 7

* PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 22:19–28 (*read responsively by verse*)

L: But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

P: Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

L: Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

P: I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

L: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him,
all you offspring of Israel!

**P: For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.**

L: From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

P: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

L: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

P: For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 65:1–9

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine’s flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, “Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.” These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors’ iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, “Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,” so I will do for my servants’ sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

THE SECOND READING Luke 8:26–39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

HOMILY

“The Genius of Gladden”

Rev. Ahrens

MISSION INVITATION

Tyler Reeve

Cash and designated checks go to **CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services)**. CRIS is an independent non-profit agency serving refugees, asylees and immigrants in central Ohio. Among local community-based organizations, CRIS is the largest agency providing services to immigrants in Central Ohio, and is the agency providing the most extensive services to immigrant populations in our area. Those services include immigration legal services and interpretation and translation. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN 394

In Christ There Is No East or West

McKee

Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve insert for more information and a QR link.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Rachael Gardner Purdy, *celebrant and liturgist*

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*

Kevin Jones, *pianist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Liturgist: Nate and Donna Vogt

Communion Preparation and Refreshments: Vogt Family

At the 11 a.m. service this morning, we welcome Whitney Carr and Jason Bumbico (daughter Julia), Janet Miller (husband Rev. Laurence Miller, Jr., friend of First Church), Megan Smith, and Barbara Sterrett into membership.