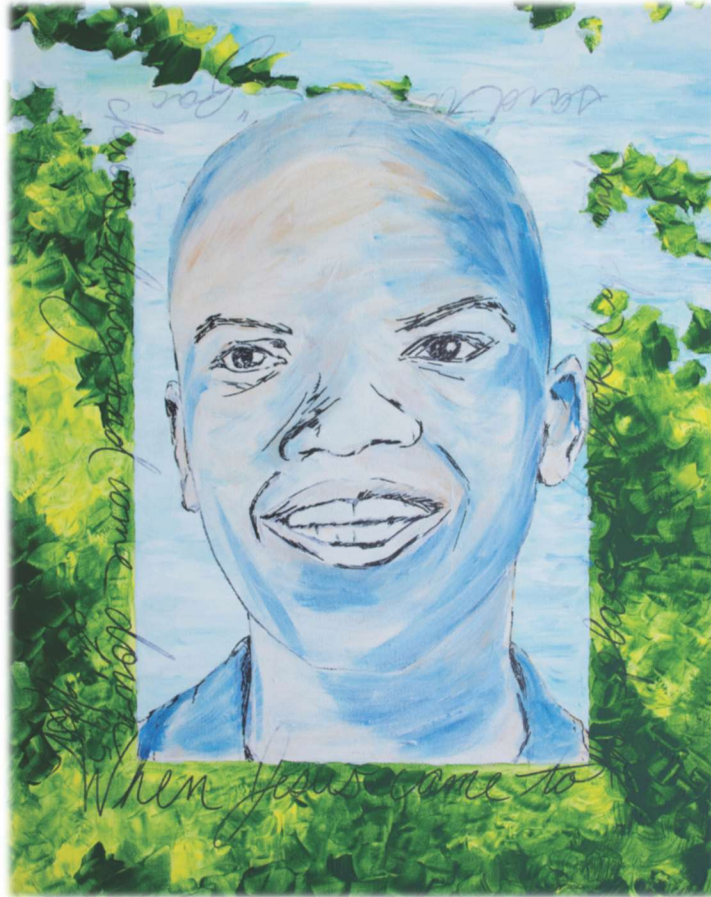




*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of The United Church of Christ*



**Order of Worship for
June 30, 2024 10:00 am**

**Welcome to Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are with us today.**



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

GATHERING MUSIC

Put Your Hand in the Hand

E. Presley

Chorus:

Put your hand in the hand of the man who stilled the water.

Put your hand in the hand of the man who calmed the sea.

Take a look at yourself and you can look at others differently,

Put your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee.

Verse:

Every time I look into the Holy Book I wanna tremble (tremble)

Or when I read about the part where the carpenter cleared the temple (temple)

For the buyers and the sellers were no different fellas than what I profess to be

And it causes me shame to know we're not the people we should be (to chorus)

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is in this house today,

All: For God longs to be in relationship with us.

One: God is in this house today,

All: For God loves the sinners and the saints.

One: God is in this house today.

All: For God sees all, claims all, and loves all.

One: God is in this house today.

All: So let us worship Holy God.

*OPENING SONG: I am A Friend of God

M. Gungor/I. Houghton

**Who am I that You are mindful of me, that You hear me when I call.
Is it true that You are thinking of me, how You love me, it's amazing.**

**I am a friend of God, I am a friend of God, I am a friend of God, you call me friend (2X).
God Almighty, Lord of Glory, You have called me friend (2X).**

**We all are friends of God, we all are friends of God,
We all are friends of God; you call me friend (2X).**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Congregation sings:

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja (3X) Halleluja! Hal-le-lu-ja!

Caribbean Melody

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV)

SERMON When Vocation Unravels

The Rev. Liza Arulampalam

SONG The Zacchaeus Song

The Porter's Gate

Arunan Arulampalam & Logan Singerman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone

Traditional/C. Tomlin

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures (To Chorus)**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine
You are forever mine!**

(Chorus)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, Amazing grace!**

***DOXOLOGY: Give Thanks**

D. Moen

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now let the weak say, "I am strong", Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us, Give thanks..."**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God,
Zacchaeus valued money over people and power over equality.
He was a sinner, but so are we.
As we dedicate these gifts to you, we confess:
Like Zacchaeus, we are quick to prioritize the wrong things—
Valuing our to-do lists over family time,
Our own success over a relationship with you,
And wealth over generosity.
We lose sight of what really matters.
We lose sight of love.
Forgive us for our ignorance and impatience.
Call us back to the life you long for us to lead.
With humility and gratitude, we pray,
Amen**

***CLOSING HYMN NCH 573**

Lead on Eternal Sovereign

LANCASHIRE

**Lead on Eternal Sovereign, we follow in Your way;
Loud rings Your cry for justice, Your call for peace this day:
Through prayerful preparation, Your grace will make us strong,
To carry on the struggle to triumph over wrong.**

**Lead on Eternal Sovereign, we follow not with fear,
For in each human conflict Your words of strength we hear:
That when we serve with gladness, You will not let us fall,
Our trust is in Your promise that love will conquer all.**

**Lead on Eternal Sovereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And all Your saints together will sing a hymn of peace;
Then all in Your dominion will live with hearts set free
To love and serve each other for all eternity.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone Traditional/C. Tomlin

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see**

(Chorus)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, Amazing grace!**