



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

P.O. Box 267, Walker, MN 56484 (218) 547-1093  
[www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com) [commchurchucc@gmail.com](mailto:commchurchucc@gmail.com)

***“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”***

***“Eye of the Needle”***  
***Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost***  
**October 13, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Worship Leaders:**  
**Pastor: Michael Small**  
**Liturgist: Deb Farrell**  
**Special Music: Doyle Turner**  
**Greeter: Gay Jacobson**  
**Keyboard: Sabbastian Wilson Webb**

**Tech:** Aurora Diehl (Video), Esther Covert (Audio)  
Spiritual Life, Chancel and Communion Preparation

**PRELUDE**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**WORDS FOR CHILDREN**

**+HYMN**                      **“How Firm a Foundation”** (vss. 1, 2, 3)                      #407

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Inspired by Psalm 90*)

One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**All: The Holy One meets us in the stillness of our thoughts, in the joy of our laughter, in the spontaneity of our encounters, in the hope of our presence.**

One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**All: The Creator sustains us with mercy, reassures us with compassion, and challenges us with grace.**

One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**All: Let us worship our Maker in spirit and in truth, through pain and despair, with the fullness of our being.**

### **A TIME OF CENTERING**

*(During this time of centering, open your hearts to God; be in the present, here and now.)*

### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Everlasting God, we come before you with questions, and you question us in return. We declare that you are good, and you have declared us good. May we acknowledge that you make all things new, you redeem our days, and you empower us to be your people. In your presence, there is joy, and there is struggle. Peace surpasses understanding, and our hearts break. This defines the fullness of human community and experience in companionship with you. We give thanks for your presence and trust that you continue to transform the impossible into the possible. Make it so in us and through us in your precious name. Amen..

### **PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**All: Just God, we confess our attachment to things of this world, to our possessions, and to objects of status. We acknowledge the pride we take in doing good things that require little of us while turning away from the needed thing that challenges our wants and desires. Make us repairers of brokenness and restorers of lost. Help us to discern that life in full pursuit of your kindom is rich, full, and freeing. Even as you test us, help us meet the moment with abounding love and abiding faith. Amen**

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*(Each person can take this time to surrender to God privately anything weighing heavy on their heart.)*

### **WORDS OF GRACE**

One: Dear Ones, God is with you. Hear these words of assurance from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:13, "No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful and will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing God will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it."

### **+PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Doyle Turner

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:17-31** *Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 2202-2203). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition.

<sup>17</sup> As he was setting out on a journey, someone came running up and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to share in everlasting life?” <sup>18</sup> Jesus answered, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: No killing. No committing adultery. No stealing. No bearing false witness. No defrauding. Honor your mother and your father.”

<sup>20</sup> The other replied, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my childhood.”

<sup>21</sup> Then Jesus looked at the person with love and said, “There is one thing more that you must do. Go and sell what you have and give it to those in need; you will then have treasure in heaven. After that, come and follow me.”

<sup>22</sup> At these words, the inquirer, who owned much property, became crestfallen and went away sadly.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus looked around and said to the disciples, “How hard it is for rich people to enter the kingdom of God!”

<sup>24</sup> The disciples could only marvel at these words. So Jesus repeated what he had said: “My children, how hard it is to enter the realm of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to pass through the Needle’s Eye gate than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God!”

<sup>26</sup> The disciples were amazed at this and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible—but not for God. With God all things are possible.”

<sup>28</sup> Peter was moved to say to Jesus, “We have left everything to follow you!”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The truth is, there is no one who has left home, sisters or brothers, mother or father, children or fields for me and for the sake of the Gospel <sup>30</sup> who won’t receive a hundred times as much in this present age—as many homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, children and property, though not without persecution—and, in the age to come, everlasting life.

<sup>31</sup> “Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

## **REFLECTION**

### **“Eye of the Needle”**

## **HYMN**

### **"There Is a Name I Love to Hear"**

#52

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison, using debts)**

**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.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Doyle Turner

## INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

One: Generosity is a spiritual gift that may be cultivated, grown, and nurtured. Let us plant seeds today with our gifts that will bloom and provide a harvest beyond our expectation or imagination.

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

**DOXOLOGY:** *(as collection plates come forward)*

Tune #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

One: Gracious God, may the gifts we bring be magnified and do miracles in our community. Use them for restoration and hope as your kingdom is demonstrated before us all. Amen.

## +HYMN

**“I’m So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me”**

#474

## PARTING WORDS

One: Be strengthened in God’s love.  
Be held in God’s goodness.  
Be enriched in God’s generosity.  
Do the hard thing by the power of the Spirit.  
Love our neighbors with the love of Jesus Christ.  
And, repair and restore the Holy One’s good creation. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

“+” (for those who are able, please stand)

**WI-FI – “Guest” Scan QR Code for Internet Access**



**Eye of the Needle: Service Prayers for the Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost Year B** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.