

and yet the distortions of our shortcomings keep us from entering this gift of being. Join with me in this articulation of our missing the mark of our best selves.

Prayer of Confession

We stand before God and this company knowing of the spaces of our need. We have missed opportunities for good and sat out some chances for justice. We have allowed time to pass by without words of thanks and gestures of love. We have leaned into the future while missing the present. For these failures of our spirit, we ask for forgiveness and pray for the resolve to live into our best selves.
AMEN

Assurance of Pardon:

We are creatures of a loving God. We are the blessed as vessels of God's image. We give thanks for being made new. Alleluia. Amen.

Special Music: Op. 68 No. 1

Grieg

The Word of God

The Junior Sermon

The Prayer for Illumination

Open our eyes to the truths this word holds for us today. Bless our hearing and understanding. Amen.

Old Testament: Genesis 15:1-6

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 12:32-40

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Wait Time"

A Prayer for Blessing upon the Word

The Response of God's People

Hymn: I Waited for the Lord My God

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The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The 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.**

The Benediction (Please stand if you are able.)

The Postlude: Anitra's Dance from Peer Gynt Suite

Grieg

Announcements

Parents with infants and small children are reminded of the room behind the balcony with an audio system to hear the worship service if needed.

On September 23, from 11-3, Rev. Viki Brooks will begin holding weekly office hours to provide pastoral support for our Church family. She is happy to have private conversations with you regarding the church, your faith, your relationships or the general state of the world! While Rev. Brooks is not a licensed therapist, she is an excellent listener and an experienced pastor who has served the greater Church for 36 years . Rev Brooks was also the chaplain at Union College for 20 years. You may reach her at the church in the Christian Ed office or call or text her at (518) 698-7496 to set up a meeting.

Our annual Flea Market will be on September 25th from 9am- 4pm. We still need folks to help with parking, runners and floaters for this event. We also need folks to sign up to make our famous vegetable soup, chili, chowder, and pies. Please sign to help, or to make one of our delicious food items with Ellen, and she can send you the recipes.

The H & A committee will host two Revolutionary War cemetery tours on Saturday, October 2nd. The first tour begins at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. There are **no** advance reservations required this year. Please arrive 10-15 minutes prior to your tour time to check in, inside of Fellowship Hall. A \$5 donation will be collected at the door in support of the church's archives preservation projects. There will be complimentary cider, donuts, and cookies along with a video presentation for those who wish to stay indoors.

The 2022 offering envelopes are due. If you wish to receive offering envelopes or to stop receiving envelopes, please contact Ellen by **September 30th**. If you **DON'T** have any changes and wish to continue receiving envelopes, there is **no** need to contact Ellen. There are several envelopes that were never picked up from 2021. If you still want them, please call the office at 518-785-5575.

Scripture

Genesis 15:1-6

15 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." **2** But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"^[a] **3** And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." **4** But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." **5** He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." **6** And he believed the LORD; and the LORD^[b] reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Luke 12:32-40

32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. **33** Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. **34** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Watchful Slaves

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."