

United Church of Strafford, Vermont
October 17, 2021
Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost
MH=Methodist Hymnal; PH=Pilgrim Hymnal

Gathering Music

Annemieke McLane

Silent Prayer of Invocation

Rachel Guaraldi

Prelude Sonata K.430, D. Scarlatti

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Leader: Let us pray for peace and the things that make for peace as we light the peace candle. *[the candle is lit]*

Leader: In him was life, and the life was the light of the world.

People: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.**

Introit "Heleluyan", MH 78 (Muscogee/Creek Indian Alleluia)

Call to Worship

Hymn MH #451 "Here I am Lord"

Children's Time and Lord's Prayer

Anthem "Be Thou my vision", arr. Peter Amidon

Readings Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21; From Psalm 104; Mark 10:35-45 Annemieke McLane

Sermon Doubt & Faith: Wrestling with Turbulent Times

***Hymn** MH #454 "Open my Eyes"

Sharing of Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests and Reflections

"Doubt is a pain too lonely to know that faith is his twin brother." Khalil Gibran

"One of the ego's favorite paths of resistance is to fill you with doubt." Ram Dass

"I believe every day your life speaks to you – through experience, through the people you meet, and even through pain, fear, and self-doubt." Oprah Winfrey

"The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves but wiser people are so full of doubts." Bertrand Russell

Questions: What are some moments you have experienced doubt and faith over the past year and a half? Has your experience of doubt deepened your faith? Has it weakened your faith? How might your experiences of doubt be inviting you into deeper relationship with God?

Time of Prayer

Benediction

Benediction Response MH#336 "Of all the Spirit's gifts to me"

Postlude Sonata in G, D.Scarlatti

** Those who are comfortably able may stand.*

*Please stay for refreshments and neighborliness outside,
weather permitting.*

Upcoming Sunday Services

Oct. 24 Mark Kutolowski
Oct. 31 Rev. Deadra Ashton
Nov. 7 Rachel Guaraldi
Nov. 14 Rev. Deadra Ashton
Nov. 21 Pastor Tom Kinder returns, Thanksgiving Sunday and Reign of Christ Sunday
Nov. 28 First Sunday of Advent

Next Concerts Held on Fridays (except where noted), 7:00-8:15 PM. Admission by donation, 20% goes to the church's Manheim Fund for the Arts. **Save these concert dates: 11/5 and 12/3 (Noel!)**

Sing with the Choir: Weekly choir for ages 12-92. Gather at 8:50 AMish. Rehearsals start 9 AM. All are welcome.

Heartfulness Contemplative Training Circle gathers weekly on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. You are invited to be part of the circle anytime in person or by Zoom. See our website .

Thank you Justin Wylie, Recording Engineer and Zoom Master!

Please Contribute to Our Fund Drive to Support Afghan Refugees in Vermont in Honor of Martha Manheim The US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) has been approved to welcome up to 100 Afghans in Vermont. USCRI Vermont is working to meet the needs of arriving Afghans and of the community. Donations will be used to supply these refugees with basic items like furniture, household goods and food.

Our Mission Committee is supporting this in honor of Martha Manheim who urged us to undertake this effort. Our goal is to raise \$1000 to help the 100 Afghan refugees who will re-settle in Vermont. We welcome donations of any amount. You may mail a check made out to the United Church of Strafford to Danette Harris, PO Box 143, South Strafford, VT 05070 or donate online. Please indicate that your gift is for the refugees. We will continue to gather contributions until we have met our goal. Thank you! The Mission Committee: Cameron Speth; Maggie Hooker; Danette Harris, Chair

Childcare Today Please let one of the Deacons at the back of the sanctuary know if your child needs care during the service.

Pastor Tom Kinder is away until November 17th.

Haiku by Mel Goertz:

A porcupine
slowly turns an apple in his paws
as he munches.

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

