

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Cranston, RI

10:00 AM

July 30, 2023

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome! We invite you into a time of preparation for worship. We invite you to unplug, turn off your phones, unwind from the past week, and focus your hearts on God's presence within, around, and between us all.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

L: God is present. L: Everywhere, all the time.

C: **All the time, everywhere.** C: **God is present.**

Prelude

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1-3,7

L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

L: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

C: **The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Invocation

***Hymn** #533, vs. 1,3,4 "Children of God"

Question(s) for Reflection

"To love without condition, to talk without intention, to give without reason, to care without expectation; that's the spirit of true love."

When have I been so busy and preoccupied that I did not take time to really listen to someone in need?

When have I been surprised by how my kind offer of help was met with joy and thanksgiving?

Silence

Assurance of Blessing

***Sharing of the Sign of Peace**

Let us celebrate God's great grace by offering to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Scripture Romans 8:26-39, *The Message Bible*

Sermon Jesus: "the original and intended shape of our lives"

***Hymn** #487 "Surely No One Can Be Safer"

Joys and Concerns / Centering Prayer / Intercessory Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Creator, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

**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

Loving God, bless these gifts and the givers that all might carry forward the ministry you intend here in this church and community, and wherever there is a need on the face of the earth. Amen.

***Hymn** #485, vs. 1-3 "O Love That Will Not Let Me God"

The Take Home

"To give all, to sacrifice all without expecting to get anything in return, this is love."
- Albert Camus

Benediction / Sung Response "Go, My Children" (tune: #82)

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever,
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

Postlude

We thank Pat Kohler for serving as lay reader this morning.

Please keep **Cay Browne, Joe DiCiccio, Ricky Brightman, Michael Bennett,** and **Jeff & Susan Gilborn** in your prayers.

No evil is so great that God’s love can’t overwhelm it.
- Sr. Margaret Farley

The sin underneath all our sins is to trust the lie of the serpent that we cannot trust the love and grace of Christ and must take matters into our own hands.
- *Martin Luther*

When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.
- *Jimmy Hendriks*

Be sure to visit us on the web: <http://edgewoodchurchri.org>

Or on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Edgewood-Congregational-Church-Renewed-871032246620940/>

Ministers All Members
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Music Coordinator Brenda Farrell Muoio
Sexton Tom Ey
Pastor Rev. Bill Sterrett

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Jesus Christ

A GOAL not a MAP

God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him.

Romans 8:29 (Message)

“The original and intended shape of our lives.”

**No matter who you are
or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.**

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