

Christ Congregational United Church of Christ
14920 S. W. 67 Avenue, Palmetto Bay, FL 33158
305-235-9381, Fax 305-238-4801

E-mail: christch@bellsouth.net

Web site: www.christcongregationalucc.org

The Rev. Candace Thomas, Interim Minister

Jay Harrigan, Director of Music

Daniel D. Best, Liturgist

Our Vision: A church that listens, praises God, inspires, and serves others.

July 12, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

**Preparation for Worship: “Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve, Waiting for the harvest and the time
of reaping, We shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.” Knowles Shaw**



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: The Word of God awaits us here; come to worship. The Holy Spirit welcomes us; gather to pray.

People: From the routines and struggles of our lives we come. Amid the worries of every day, we gather.

L: Come to be renewed in the Spirit of Christ. God is waiting to offer us a new life of freedom.

P: In hope, we seek God’s caring presence; in faith, we dare to trust God’s steadfast love.

***OPENING HYMN: “Be Now My Vision” (No. 451, NCH)**

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart; nothing surpasses the love you impart
You my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, your presence
my light.**

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word; ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me, now and forever your child I will be.**

**Riches I need not, nor life’s empty praise, you, my in her i tance, now and
always;
You and you only are first in my heart, great God, my treasure may we never
part.**

**Sovereign of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright
heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, what ever be fall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Loving God, you created life in us and all around us.
Open us to receive your gifts of your world and your word
that we may be not just hearers of the word, but doers also. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Song Without Words Op 19 #3” Felix Mendelssohn

***THE COMMANDMENT OF JESUS (*John 15:5, 12*)**

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear
much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. "This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23* NRSV

*That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great
crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole
crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying:
“Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path,
and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they
did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of
soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they
withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked
them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of*

the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Gracious God,
your gifts to us: our lives, this world, and your word to us.
When we receive your word, may we nurture it so that it grows roots within us. May we not be distracted by the lure of wealth or the cares of the world. Let us be good soil, receiving your word, understanding it, and acting upon it. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (based on Romans 8:1-11)

We claim what the apostle Paul teaches:
the Spirit of God dwells in you.
You are forgiven and free.
There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER SONG: "I Need You Every Hour" (NCH, No. 517)

**I need you every hour, O God of grace;
The peace your voice affords, I now embrace.
I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you;
O bless me now, my Savior; I come to you.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS(*Unison*)

We join our hearts together as we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

OFFERING THOUGHTS

O God, with our gifts we present practical expressions of thanksgiving, to extend your purposes in the world. May this offering scatter seeds of love in life-changing ways. May we learn from all we help, that all of us may grow in our discipleship. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING: “God Bless the Child”

Arthur Herzog Jr & Billie Holiday

MESSAGE: “Sooo, Sew!” Pastor Candy Thomas

CLOSING HYMN: “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” (No. 410, NCH)

**If you but trust in God to guide you, with hopeful heart through all your ways,
you will find strength, with God beside you, to bear the worst of evil days;
For those who trust God’s changeless love build on the rock that will not
move.**

**Only be still, and wait God’s pleasure in cheerful hope with heart content,
trusting that grace which knows no measure will by unbounded Love be sent;
Nor doubt our inmost wants are clear to One who holds us always near.**

**Sing, pray, and keep God’s ways unswerving; offer your service faithfully,
and trust God’s word though undeserving, there find the truth to set you free;
God will not fail to guide and bless those who embrace God’s faithfulness.**

COMMISSION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Welcome to Everyone!

*Whoever or whatever brought you to our on-line worship service this morning, we believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in you joining us. I hope that you feel the Holy Spirit in our service of prayer and praise. At Christ Congregational Church we strive to love one another as God has loved us and welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. Therefore, we are an **Open and Affirming** church, loving and welcoming all people in all of God's variety; including racial, ethnic, and economic diversity, gender diversity and expression, sexual orientation, and physical and mental abilities.*

Dear Church,

During this time of pandemic, we are now live-streaming worship from our Christ Congregational United Church of Christ Sanctuary on our Facebook page @christcongregationalchurch. Our web page offers a link to our Facebook page. I hope you will join us! We want to stay connected with each other. You will continue to receive the weekly e-newsletter and our web page is also a source of information. Please let me know if you need help with anything. I am only a phone call, text, or email away.

God Bless You!

Pastor Candy

JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please let Pastor Candy know of any joys or concerns you would like lifted up in worship by notifying me by Sunday morning at 10 a.m. via phone, text or email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATIONS: Please stipulate when your giving is other than pledge or plate by letting Judy Carlson or Michelle Simone know!

THE NEXT ZOOM FELLOWSHIP TIME WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 19th AT NOON. IN THE FUTURE THESE ZOOM SHARING TIME VIDEO CALLS WILL OCCUR ON THE FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH. THANKS TO JOAN CHANDLER FOR MODERATING! PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW.

Topic: CCC FELLOWSHIP

Time: Jul 19, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2868326251?pwd=dHIDWGtMZDBLSm1iWEZoMEl3bWIydz09>

Meeting ID: 286 832 6251

Password: 287563

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,2868326251#,,,,0#,,287563# US (New York)

+13017158592,,2868326251#,,,,0#,,287563# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 286 832 6251

Password: 287563

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8447123456>

ONLINE GIVING - We invite you to use our online giving option as a quick, simple and secure method to make your pledges and any ancillary contributions. **Clicking on the “Give Online Today” button at the bottom of this newsletter, or going to our church website at christcongregationalucc.org and clicking “online giving”** will bring you to the secured Moon Clerk site which will allow you to enter your credit card information.

Please note that our electronic contributions go through multiple layers of security for processing. We have been made aware that Moon Clerk transactions may show up as going to “Emerging Market”. Please note that we have looked into this and can ensure you that this is the name for the card processor and is legitimate. At this time, we are working with our web designer and host to make security enhancements to our website. **This will not have any impact on your ability to make donations online.**

Please let Michelle, our Administrative Assistant, know if there are names on the Prayer List that should continue to be listed beyond Sunday, July 5. She may be e-mailed at christch@bellsouth.net or call her at 305-235-9381. The list will be updated in an effort to be current. We will also add names, per your requests, in the months ahead. Thanks be to God for prayers answered and for comfort given!

Prayer List: Ray Radkiewicz, Lauren Kline, Heath Rosenbaum, Jim Ketzle, Margarita Morell’s sister, All medical professionals and first responders, Bill & Maggie McDowell, Gloria Fuller, Wendy Olson, Connor Thomas, Dolly Bryan.

For **Pastoral Care Needs**, please call *Pastor Candy* at **925-640-9289** or you may call or leave a message at the **Church Office, 305-235-9381, Monday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m –2:30 p.m.** and our Office Administrative Assistant, *Michelle Simone*, will assist you in reaching *Pastor Candy*. **When the office is closed** you may call the **Board of Deacons** Chairperson, *Jim Ketzle*, at **305-495-4452** and he will be able to help you. For **Use of Property Needs** or if you identify a Maintenance Concern call the **Board of Trustees** Chairperson, *Julio Balcells*, **305-282-7882**. For **Other General Questions** or Needs call the Church President/Moderator, *Lorrie LeGrand*, **305-978-3801**

CALENDAR July 12 to July 19, 2020

Sun. 12	10:30 a.m.	Video Worship Service
Thurs. 16	7:00 p.m.	Zoom call with Pastor Neal Watkins
Sun. 19	10:30 a.m.	Video Worship Service
	Noon	Fellowship Zoom call

