



Urbandale  
United  
Church of  
Christ

God is still speaking 9

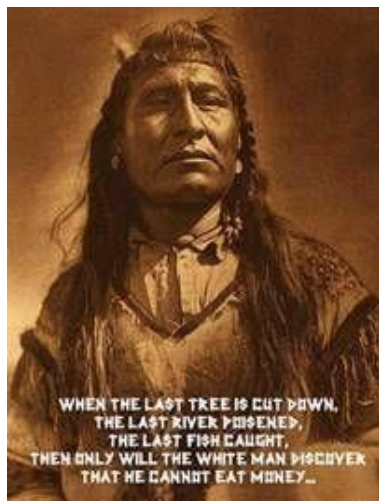
"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are invited and welcome here."

*A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation*

July 19, 2020

10:00 a.m.

## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



### PRELUDE

### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- You may wish to have the bulletin to follow along. You can pull up the bulletin for this service by going to [urbucc.org](http://urbucc.org)
- If you want to take a moment to prepare your space for whatever helps you pray, meditate, or be mindful of God's presence, please do that. Perhaps it is a candle or a cross.
- We will be asking you to jot some things down, which you may be able to do on the device you are using to watch this or grab a pad and pen/pencil.
- Later in the service we will read from the book of **Genesis 28:10-19a** so if you have a Bible, you might want to turn to that passage. We will be reading from the Inclusive Bible, so you can compare it with your translation.

### GREETING

"Folks in Indian Country didn't just wake up one day with addiction problems. Poverty and violence didn't just randomly happen to this community. These issues are the result of a long history of systematic discrimination and abuse...The Trail of Tears was part of this process. Then we began separating children from their families and sending them to boarding schools designed to strip them of all traces of their culture, language and history. And then our government started issuing what were known as "Civilization Regulations" - regulations that outlawed Indian religions, ceremonies and practices - so we literally made their culture illegal.

So given this history, we shouldn't be surprised at the challenges that kids in Indian Country are facing today. And we should never forget that we played a role in this. Make no mistake about it - we own this. And we can't just invest a million here and a million there, or come up with some five year or ten-year plan and think we're going to make a real impact. This is truly about nation-building, and it will require fresh thinking and a massive infusion of resources over generations. That's right, not just years, but generations. I mean, given what these folks have endured, the fact that their culture has survived at all is nothing short of a miracle." ~Michelle Obama

### CALLING OUR ATTENTION TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

We gather to celebrate God's blessings to us. We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love. We long to see more clearly God's presence in our lives. We come to see God in this community of seekers. Let us ready ourselves to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may learn to recognize your presence in all places. Surely God is in this place! AMEN

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"Water from Another Time"  
Jon Duvick, Vocalist

John McCutcheon

## TAKING STOCK OF OUR BLESSINGS AND RESOURCES

Urbandale UCC has a “Donate” tab at our website, [urbucc.org](http://urbucc.org) or you may wish to donate to the wider church and may wish to visit the church’s national website at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org).

Take a moment and write down what you have that you can share with others. Perhaps you may wish to show your support by donating blood, shopping at locally owned black businesses, reading and educating yourself on matters of white privilege and racism, continue reaching out to the vulnerable among us, letting others know you care. There are many ways we can continue to support one another. Think about how you might reveal the Presence of the Holy to the world through the sharing of your gifts and resources that God has so richly blessed you with.

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

God of steadfast love and presence, you assure us you are with us always, you will keep us safe and never desert us. We are grateful for this reminder as we hear the sacred story of our ancestor Jacob and your timeless reminder that you come to us in the most unexpected of ways. Thank you for the power of dreams and the hope they instill within us. We give you thanks for our faith, for crucial conversations and the ability to learn and grow as we continue to work for justice, healing and peace. We give you thanks for partnerships like Simply Smiles and the work of this organization that fosters community, partnership and education. We give you thanks for story and the ability to see history through the eyes of the vulnerable and oppressed because only then we can work to bring about understanding and change. Help us to have empathy always and see you in everyone we meet. AMEN.

## SCRIPTURE

**Genesis 28:10-19a** (The Inclusive Bible)

<sup>10</sup>Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. <sup>11</sup>When he reached a certain place, he passed the night there. He took a rock and used it for a headrest and lay down to sleep there. <sup>12</sup>During the night he had a dream: there was a ladder, standing on the ground with its top reaching to heaven; and messengers of God were going up and coming down the ladder. <sup>13</sup>YHWH was there, standing over him, saying, “I am YHWH, the God of Sarah and Abraham, and the God of Rebecca and Isaac. <sup>14</sup>Your descendants will be like the specks of dust on the ground; you will spread to the east and to the west, to the north and to the south, and all the tribes of the earth will bless themselves by you and your descendants. <sup>15</sup>Know that I am with you. I will keep you safe wherever you go, and bring you back to this land; I will not desert you before I have done all that I have promised you.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Jacob woke and said, “Truly, YHWH is in this place, and I never knew it!” <sup>17</sup>He was filled with trembling and said, “How awe-inspiring this place is! This is nothing less than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven!” <sup>18</sup>Jacob rose early the next morning, and took the stone he had used as a headrest and set it up as a monument, and anointed it with oil. <sup>19</sup>Jacob named the place Bethel- “House of God”- though before that, the town was called Luz.

## MEDITATION

Simply Smiles Update  
Jasmine Martier, Volunteer Coordinator, Simply Smiles Inc

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Take a moment now to check your own prayer list. Add the names that need to go on it, review the names of those for whom you have been praying. Has an answer or resolution come? If so, make gratitude known to others.

## LORD’S PRAYER

## CLOSING HYMN

“We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

Hymnal 500

## BLESSING

## POSTLUDE

## **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 and ever.

Amen, Amen. Forever and ever. Amen, Amen.

## **“We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”**

**Hymnal 500**

We are climbing Jacob’s ladder, we are climbing Jacob’s ladder,  
we are climbing Jacob’s ladder, bearers of the cross.

Every round goes higher, every round goes higher, higher,  
every round goes higher, bearers of the cross.

Rise, shine, give God glory, rise, shine, give God glory,  
rise, shine, give God glory, bearers of the cross.

# URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3530 70<sup>th</sup> Street, Urbandale, IA 50322

Phone: 515-276-0625 ▪ Fax: 515-276-2451

[www.urbucc.org](http://www.urbucc.org)

[www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC](http://www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC)

*"We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender identity and expression, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ's image and striving for justice and peace."*

## **Staff**

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor..... david.sickelka@urbucc.org  
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator ..... amy.murray@urbucc.org  
Steven Linn, Music Program Director ..... steven.linn@urbucc.org  
Bobby Stinnett, M.M., Organist,  
Children/Youth Choirs and Handbell Director ..... bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org  
Sophiap Eng-Swanson, Office Coordinator ..... staff@urbucc.org  
Sadmire & Umihana Omerhodzic, Custodian ..... sadmir.omerhodzic@urbucc.org

## **Ministry Leaders**

### **Caregiving Ministries:**

Caregivers, Homebound ..... Rachel Siegel..... caregivers.1@urbucc.org  
Care Connectors..... care.connectors@urbucc.org  
Listening Room..... listening.room@urbucc.org  
Prayer Circle ..... prayer.circle@urbucc.org  
Prayer Shawl Ministry ..... prayer.shawls@urbucc.org

### **Leadership Team:**

Moderator..... Jon Greising..... moderator@urbucc.org  
Vice-Moderator..... Diane Dornburg..... vicemoderator@urbucc.org  
Treasurer ..... Jim Nervig ..... treasurer@urbucc.org  
Financial Secretary..... Steve Looney..... financial@urbucc.org  
Recording Secretary..... Becky Swift..... uccrecorder@urbucc.org  
Ad Ministry Liaison ..... Adam Dirks ..... ad.ministry@urbucc.org  
Christian Growth Liaison ..... Chris Jordan ..... christian.growth@urbucc.org  
Membership Team ..... Carol Leadingham ..... membership.team@urbucc.org  
Small Groups Liaison ..... Rachel Siegel..... small.groups@urbucc.org  
Worship Team ..... Patricia Goldberg..... worship.team@urbucc.org  
At Large Members: Kathy Marean, Jennifer Gardner, Wesley Keeler

### **Other Contacts:**

Building & Grounds..... B&G.team@urbucc.org  
Social Media Team ..... Sandy Gahn ..... social.media@urbucc.org

---

Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

---

*For pastoral care, please contact Rev. Amy Murray at  
276-0625 (church office), 650-7661 (cell) or amy.murray@urbucc.org.*