



~~~~~

# MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026

~~~~~

(* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

PRELUDE:

“My Life is in You, Lord”

By Daniel Gardner

WORDS OF WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, whether weary or rejoicing.

All are welcome here.

Come, whether at peace or in the midst of a struggle.

All are welcome here.

Come, whether growing or wilting.

All are welcome here.

OPENING PRAYER

God of new beginnings and ancient stories, help us see ourselves in your stories, in your promises, and in your garden. Light our way with your word today, and guide us with your Spirit of love.

Amen.

***HYMN: 539**

“O Spirit of the Living God”

vs 1-4

PRAYER OF YEARNING

Holy God, we want to be your perfect children. But like Jacob and Esau before us, we are far from perfect. In our yearning, we’re as likely to settle for second best or to reach for things that seem so right but ultimately draw us further away from you. Help us choose the better portion. Give us the courage to grow as disciples in your word, even when it seems hard. And when the thorns and weeds begin choking us, resuscitate us with your grace, revive us with your love, and reclaim us as your children, imperfect though we may be. In grateful hope, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Spirit of Christ is strong enough for even the weariest of spirits. Rest in Christ's Spirit, and you will find comfort. Trust in Christ's Spirit, and growth will begin anew.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Setting aside past hurts, let us offer signs of peace and love to friends and family both near and far.

OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 25:19-34 (NIV)

This is the account of the family line of Abraham's son Isaac.

Abraham became the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean.

Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

The LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples from within you will be separated;
one people will be stronger than the other,
and the older will serve the younger."

When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.)

Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

"Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left.

So Esau despised his birthright.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 119:105-112 (NIV)

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.

I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.

Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law.

The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts.

Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

EPISTLE: Romans 8:1-11 (NIV)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9,18-23 (NIV)**

The gospel according to Matthew.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON GOD’S WORD

Pastor Rob Odum

HYMN: 707

“Hymn of Promise”

vs 1-3

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, you have created us for your purposes and blessed us to accomplish your promises. May the gifts and lives we offer to you serve your purposes and your promises, and may we be instruments of peace and love in your world each day.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

“Spirit of Faith, Come Down”

Music from Sacred Harp

***DOXOLOGY: 94**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS 8:35, 37-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

***CLOSING HYMN: 600**

“Wonderful Words of Life”

vs 1-3

***BENEDICTION**

As children of God’s promises,
we will bring God’s promised love the world.
 As recipients of Christ’s peace,
we will bring Christ’s peace to the world.
 Blessed by the Holy Spirit,
we will bless everyone we meet.

***POSTLUDE:** *“We’re Marching to Zion”* Arr Cindy Berry



July	Liturgists	Ushers
12th	Lynn Sirna	Mike & Hope Fails
19th	John Hurley	Mike & Hope Fails
26th	Connie Ziegler	Mike & Hope Fails



July 19th	Connie Zeigler
July 26th	Heide Careaga

MONTHLY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Sunday, 9:15am
CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday, 10:30am
CERAMICS: Mondays, 1-9pm
NAMI: 1st Wednesday of the month @ 6:30pm
CHANCEL CHOIR: **No Summer Meetings**
JOYFUL BELLS: **No Summer Meetings**
KNITTING/CRCHETING GROUP:
 Wednesday, July 8th &
 Wednesday, July 22nd from 1-3pm
SASSY SOWERS: (new time!)
 1st Tuesday & 3rd Thursday, 9:30am-Noon
DINING OUT GROUP: Tuesday, July 14th, 5pm
 at 84th Street Classic Café, 1650 S 84th St,
 West Allis, WI 53214
WOMEN’S BREAKFAST: 3rd Tuesday, 9am at
 Honey Berry Pancakes & Cafe,
 4900 S 76th St, Greenfield, WI 53220
MEN’S BREAKFAST: 3rd Thursday, 8:30am
 at Meyers, 4260 S 76th St, Greenfield, WI 53220
SCRIPT CARD PROGRAM:
 Orders for Script Cards (gift cards) are due
 on the 3rd Sunday of each month.
SOUP BOWL SUNDAY WITH CAFÉ: Sunday,
 September 20th (sponsored by Ceramic Class)
OKTOBERFEST PORK DINNER:
 Saturday, October 24th
YARN EXTRAVAGANZA 2:
 Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14th
QUILT BLESSING: Sunday, November 22nd



Pastor Rob would like to have the coffee hours again in the Chapel Lounge after the church service. This would include having coffee and light refreshments available. Please consider assisting in this project. The following are the date have been filled by volunteers:
***Sunday, July 12th (Jeanne Seebacher & Lee Colony)**
***Sunday, July 19th (Hope & Mike Fails)**
Please sign up on the form on the pedestal in the chapel lounge for a Sunday in June & July. Thank you~~Mary Schultz

MEMORIAL UMC

General Information & Staff

3450 South 52nd St,
 Greenfield, WI 53219

Church Phone: 414-545-2440

Church Email: mumcgreenfield@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

Pastor’s Email: robdodum@gmail.com

Director of Music: Sarah Brumm

Hymn Leaders: Sarah Brumm,
 Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

Pianist & Organist: Karen Fetzer

Live Stream Production Team:
 Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,
 John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlle

Office Administrator: Peggy Leonhardt

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

