



Nicolls Memorial Presbyterian Church
Sunday Morning Worship

September 24, 2017

16th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

Our Mission

To live out Christ's love by nurturing spiritual growth and fellowship,
and by reaching out in faith and love.

***We invite those who are able, to stand.**

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Call all the laborers, O God, tell us to roll up our sleeves
for we know that we have work to do. Let us find you in the work we share here and now,
in Christ's presence we pray. Amen.

WELCOME & PRELUDE

INTROIT – *Let Us Build a House*

#301

CALL TO WORSHIP (*inspired by Matthew 20:1-16*)

Joyce Turner

One: Our eyes are heavy.
Our hope is soaring.
We wait in the marketplace.

All: Our God is gracious.

One: Our feet are tired.
Our expectations rise.
We are hired first.

All: Our God is merciful.

One: Our backs are sore.
Our spirits are low.
We are paid last.

All: Our God is slow to anger.

One: Our temples flare.
Our anger rages.
We take what belongs to us.

All: Our God abounds in steadfast love.

***HYMN** – *Praise God for this Holy Ground*

#405

CALL TO CONFESSION (Call and response)

If My People

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*If I have Been the Source of Pain, O God, The New Century Hymnal 1995 Pilgrim Press*)

If I have been the source of pain, O God; if to the weak I have refused my strength; if, in rebellion, I have strayed away; forgive me, God. If I have spoken words of cruelty; if I have left some suffering unrelieved; condemn not my insensitivity; forgive me, God. Receive, O God, this ardent word of prayer, and free me from temptation's subtle snare, with tender patience, lead me to your care. Amen, Amen.

MOMENT FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION, PRAYER & CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*inspired by Psalm 145:1-8*)

Sing aloud! These are God's might acts!
In grace and mercy, God abounds in steadfast love.
Bless God's name forever!

***THE PEACE** Greet those around you with
"The peace of Christ be with you."

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Know that God is Good

#659

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH

We invite all children & youth to come forward.

RESPONSE – *Listen to the Word*

#455

ENGAGING THE WORD

Joyce Turner

One: In the beginning was the Word

All: And the word was with God.

One: A reading from Isaiah 55: 1-13

Pg. 598

Matthew 20: 1-16

Pg. 801

One: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON – *The Art of Tying and Picking*

Rev. Pamela J. Peterson

***HYMN** – *Loving Spirit*

#293

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Ken Strike

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

When our eyes are heavy, we dream of another world.
When our spirits are low, we turn to each other.
When our anger flares, we need each other's gifts most.
We give our gifts of tithes and offerings to create your kingdom of heaven.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

***DOXOLOGY** – *Give Thanks*

#647

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, you have called your laborers to give their gifts.

Bless these offerings so that they reflect the work of the kingdom of heaven. With Christ, our servant, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** For the Fruit of All Creation

#36

***BLESSING** (*inspired by Philippians 1:21-30*)

One: Let us continue in our work.

All: Let us live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

One: Let us be in one spirit, striving side by side,

All: Let us find Christ in our struggles,

One: Let us be surprised by the joy in our faith,

All: Let us find you, O God, in all our work. Amen.

***EXTROIT** (all sing) – *For Everyone Born*

#769

POSTLUDE

Liturgy and Litany Written by the Rev. Elsa A. Cook, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, a budding spiritual director and wandering interim minister. She writes liturgies and shares her thoughts on cookingwithelsa.org. Copyright 2017 Local Church Ministries, Faith Formation Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

Notes and Announcements

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you to our fellowship in Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel comfortable and will be strengthened in your walk with God. We invite you to join us for fellowship and sustenance in the Social Room following worship.

We begin our worship this day by remembering our baptism. Also, please notice the empty plate (paten) and cup (chalice) on the center of the Communion Table. These symbols speak to us of our hunger for Christ who feeds us at this table.

Scripture Reading for Next Sunday, October 1, Matthew 21

PRESBYTERY OF UTICA IS COMING TO NICCOLLS

The fall meeting of the Presbytery of Utica will be held at Niccolls Church this Tuesday September 26, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The meeting includes worship and a dinner meal. Please help us be Adirondack guide style hosts! You may sign up to set up, cook, serve and clean up for the meal. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex or see Cindy Rose for details.

HELP FOR HARVEY

Your Mission Committee will donate \$500 to the PCUSA Disaster Relief Fund to help support their response to Hurricane Harvey. You can also contribute to this by putting a check in the offering or dropping it off at the office in the next two weeks. Please remember to put "Harvey Relief?" on the memo line.

MIDWEEK FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

“Why does God seem so different in the Old Testament than in the New Testament?” This question comes up often when groups study the Bible together. This fall, our Midweek Faith and Fellowship Group, meeting on Tuesday mornings, will discuss this question using a book called, *When Did God Become a Christian?* Please join this group each week beginning on Tuesday, October 3rd. We will meet in the Social room at 9:30am and will conclude by 11:00am.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Tina Yukel. If you or someone you know has a special need, please call her at 315-369-2823.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY – Praying for others is a blessing and a privilege. If you know of someone who is in need of prayer, please ask if you may share his or her name and need with the prayer chain at Niccolls. If the response is yes, please call Sue Mahoney at 315-390-4025, and she will initiate the chain. All information is confidential and is not shared with anyone other than prayer chain members.

CHURCHES PRAYER CYCLE – The Presbyterian Church is connectional by design and practice. Every week we lift up in prayer a church or ministry within the Presbytery of Utica. This week we pray for Bethany Presbyterian Church, Utica.

STAFF OPENINGS

Our church has 2 paid staff openings. We are looking for a part time Music Director who will lead our singing church. Must be able to play either organ and/or piano, direct our Sunday choir and be willing to work with our pastor and worship committee in creatively taking our church to wonderful places in worship through music. We are also seeking a part time church secretary. This person must be proficient in office technology and Microsoft Office Suite. For inquiries into either position, please e-mail us at niccollschurch@gmail.org or call the church office at 315-369-3475.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SOON! WATCH FOR INFORMATION HERE, IN NICCOLLS NEWS ‘N NUGGETS AND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

LISTENING SESSIONS, PRAYER AND HEALING WORSHIP SERVICE

During this transitional time the spirit of welcome and support for everyone has been challenged. There is a need for friends and members of the congregation to share their thoughts: frustrations and fears, along with hopes and joys. Communicating openly is an essential step in creating an atmosphere for God to bring healing and wholeness to Niccolls.

In the journey toward healing Rev. Jeanne Kumbalek and Kevin Bailey from Utica Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry will be present at the church on Saturday September 30 to facilitate listening sessions. You are invited to sign up for one session. Following the last listening session there will be a Prayer and Healing Worship Service which everybody is encouraged to attend.

The sessions are planned for 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 pm with the Prayer and Healing Worship Service scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm. Each session will last 45 minutes. Sign-ups are necessary, as we would like to hold each group to no more than 12 people. You may sign up in the church office, e-mail your requested time to niccollschurch.org or leave a message on the church office phone with your desired time at 315-369-3475. For more details, please feel free to contact the church.

Calendar of Events Week of September 24-Oct 1

Monday 10am-12pm Mission Boutique Sorting
5:30 pm Grief Group

Tuesday 10:00 am CE Curriculum Crew
4:00 pm Presbytery of Utica State Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday 10am-12pm Mission Boutique Sorting
10am-2pm Senior Activity Program
7-8:30 pm Mission Boutique Open

Friday 10am-12pm Mission Boutique Open
7-8:30 pm Mission Boutique Open

Saturday 10am-12pm Mission Boutique Open
2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm Listening Sessions
5:00 pm Service of Prayer and Healing

Sunday 7:30 am 10:00 am Worship Service
NEW!! Caregiver Support Group 9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall ***

Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church
PO Box 605, 228 Crosby Blvd. Old Forge, NY 13420
Office Hours: Monday Friday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Phone: 369-3475; E-mail: niccollschurch@gmail.com
Website: www.niccolls.org www.Facebook.com/niccollschurch
Sunday Service Broadcast WBRV-900 AM, 101.3 FM, WLLG-FM 99.3
Listen live online from anywhere in the world at themoose.net

Interim Pastor – Rev. Pamela J. Peterson

Pastor Emeritus – Rev. James L. Ulrich

Organists – Judith Barker, Susann Rundell

Ushers – Gerry and Lawson Rutherford, George Lapinsky, Leslie Bailey