

COLLEGE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



The Life of Abraham by Debby Topliff

Welcome

***Whether this is your first time here or your ten thousandth,
we are delighted that you're here!***

Thank you for sharing this holy and joyful gift of worship

As we **prepare for worship**, feel free to greet those around you, but please also be respectful of those who might be listening to the prelude as a centering moment.

During **Time for Children**, all children and youth are invited to join the youth minister at the front of the church. Parents are welcome to join them.

Our **Time of Prayer** begins with joys and concerns that we share with God and one another, followed by a pastoral prayer. Please share what God has placed on your heart as you feel comfortable. In order to make space for everyone, we limit our sharing to a few sentences.

During our **Offering**, you are invited to reflect on the ways in which God is calling you to give in the world. For members and friends, this is also a time to support the ministry of the church.

After the **Benediction**, you are invited to sit for the postlude as you reflect on worship.

***Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.***

If you need help with hearing. We have amplifiers available. Please ask one of the ushers or speak with the pastor about a sign language interpreter.

May 24, 2026
Third Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: Blessed Jesus, We are Here

J. S. Bach

Welcome in-Person and Zoom

Invocation

*Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 116)

Leader: We call on the Holy One as long as we live! What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

All: With love and laughter, we praise the Holy One!

Leader: What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

All: Lifting the cup of salvation and offering a sacrifice of thanksgiving, we praise the Holy One!

Leader: What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

All: With the fruit of our worship and the fruit of our lives, we praise the Holy One!

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of Grace, we give you thanks for love that transcends our shortcomings, that greets us with mercy, and that offers the possibility of transformed life. Plant seeds in us that will stretch our faith in you and in us. Nurture us to live miraculous lives. Let our faith and our work join with your power to make us fruitful despite our limitations, doubts, and fears. May the fruit we produce add sustenance and hope in your kingdom. Amen.

Silence is kept

*Words of Grace

Gracious ones, you may receive the nourishment and encouragement of God to be fruitful even when the Holy One amazes us beyond expectation and dream. God is with us in season and out of season. Expect an abundant and bountiful harvest to witness to God's grace at work in and through us.

*Hymn 172: Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

WE LISTEN AND REFLECT UPON GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Genesis 12: 1-9, Matthew 9: 9-13; 18-26

Time for Kids

Ikey Spear

Reflection

Rev. Jessica Derise

*Hymn 495: Called as Partners in Christ's Service

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

Announcements

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Time of Prayer

**Our God, 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Generosity

What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us? God calls us to live fruitful and faithful lives that witness to and spread the good news of the kingdom in the world. God provides for our needs abundantly so that all may flourish. May we use the bounty that we receive as gifts to share rather than as resources to hoard. Let generosity, trust, and hope guide us to support the ministry of this faith community and the wider church.

Offertory Anthem: How Can I Keep from Singing

R. Lowry

Deb Wright, soprano and Mark Pennington, tenor

**We give thee but thine own
What-e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O God, from thee. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Faithful God, thank you for the gifts we receive and that we give. Bless them so that needs will be met, your beloved will experience communal embrace, and you will be honored and glorified. Amen.

WE GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

*Hymn 493: O Jesus, I Have Promised

Benediction

Postlude: Organ Voluntary

E. Milnes

**Congregation may stand*

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 12: 1-9;
MATTHEW 9: 9-13 AND 18-26**

Genesis 12: 1-9

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Reader: This is the word of our Lord, Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 9: 9-13 and 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

Reader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God.

Church Happenings*

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| Sunday, June 14 | Worship In-person and Zoom |
| Monday, June 15 | Book Group (Zoom)
Marjorie MacNeill at seekrvt@mac.com |
| Wednesday, June 16 | Men's Group
Mark Mulder at mulderent@aol.com |
| | Team Heads Meeting
Nick Hardin at njhardin127@gmail.com |

* Interested in these groups? Please contact the people listed above for more information!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, June 14

- 10 am **Worship In-person and Zoom**
- 11:30 am **Caring for Loved Ones Group**

Monday, June 15

- 7:00 pm **Book group (Zoom)**

Tuesday, June 16

- 8:00 am **Men's Group**
- 6:30 pm **Team Heads Meeting**

Wednesday, June 17

- 7:00 pm **Noyana Rehearsal**

Thursday, June 19

- 6:00 pm **Bell Choir Rehearsal**

Saturday, June 20

- 9:30 am **Al-Anon**

Sunday, June 21

- 10 am **Worship In-person and Zoom**
- 11:30 am **Prayer Shawl Group**

Monday, June 22

- 7:00 pm **Book group (Zoom)**

Wednesday, June 24

- 6:30 pm **Quarterly Team Leaders Meeting**

Thursday, June 25

- 6:00 pm **Bell Choir Rehearsal**

Many thanks to those who assisted with worship this morning:

- Host:** Stephanie Dorgan
- Greeters:** Anne Kreisel and Claire Willis
- Reader:** Fran Griffis
- Zoom:** Pete Labrie and Sue Kamp

God has blessed us with gifts of skilled music and deeply compassionate hearts; God has provided us a beautiful building in a central location in which our music and our hearts might resonate. God has filled our congregation with wise and generous people, many of whom have been given the gift of leadership.

President: Nick Hardin

Vice President: David Brush and Deb Wright

Clerk: Becky McMahon

Treasurer: Laura Nassau

At Large Representative: Melissa Bruce

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Derise
jderise@collegestreetchurch.org

Music Director: Eric Milnes
emilnes@collegestreetchurch.org

Children's Ministry Leader: Lacey Sanchez
lsanchez@collegestreetchurch.org

Youth Ministry Leader: Will Robinson
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Office Administrator: Gail Stevenson
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Ministry Team Leaders:

Communication: Scott Mackey

Congregational Care: Claire Willis

Faith Formation: Lisa Northup

Finance & Administration: Elaine Hubert

Outreach: Mary Alice Favro & Marjorie MacNeill

Property: Billy Northup

Worship: Stephanie Dorgan & Melinda White-Bronson

Sexton: Tim Gibbo
tim.gibbo@yahoo.com

College Street Congregational Church regards all persons with equal respect and concern, whether they are people of faith or in search of faith. It is open and affirming of all individuals, regardless of race, age, gender, economic condition, disability, marital status or sexual orientation. We welcome all people to share in the worship, life, leadership and employment opportunities of the Church.