

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MOUNT DORA
ORGANIZED 1883

**WELCOME TO OUR HISTORIC CHURCH
OF GOD'S REDEEMING LOVE**
650 North Donnelly Street – 352.383.2285

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – 6 OCTOBER 2024
11 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP – HOLY COMMUNION



THE LORD'S SUPPER

"This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out
for many for the forgiveness of sins." - Matthew 26:28

THE REVEREND GARY ALLEN MARSHALL, PASTOR
GAIL COOMER, LITURGIST – KARYN HOLMES, ORGANIST
KAREN MARSHALL, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
LIA DUFOUR - ACOLYTE

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to the Historical Congregational Church of Mount Dora. We trust you will find in our service a sincere and faithful worship of our Lord and in our Ohana a redeeming and inviting love of Christ for His people. Please leave a record of your visit by signing the Guest Book in the vestibule and filling out a visitor's card located in the pew.

PRELUDE: "The Prayer"

David Foster

**Denotes please stand all who are able*

OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE NO 87: "May Jesus Christ Be Praised" (vs 1-3)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist: We are God's holy tapestry, touched with mystery and filled with wonder, a fine garment of divine blessing and human care. Together this morning we worship the One who has made us.

People: **Holy One, mold our worship with Your tender hands that the words of our mouths and the whispers of our hearts find You. With Your gracious touch, shape our celebration of life in Your presence so that our prayers may reach You and our songs bring You joy.**

ALL: **Gracious Spirit, forgive the blind eyes which do not see Your truth and the hesitant heart that knows not Your presence. Let us all feel again the breath of life which flows from Your constant care. We cannot trust in our own strength as we long to be in Your embrace through the mercy of Christ, Your precious Son. Let us worship our Gracious Lord God and Savior!**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*): I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into Hades. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION & CONFESSION** (*in unison*): Bless all Your children this day, O Lord, wherever they may be. Through them may righteousness be established in the earth. Help us to commit ourselves to Your purpose and live our lives in loving obedience to Your will. Words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts sometimes may not seem acceptable to You, as we often listen to the world and are lured by the glitter of material wealth rather than striving to do Your will. We earnestly beg Your mercy and humbly thank You for still another chance to be more like the children You redeemed us to be. Help us to be receptive to the leading of Your Holy Spirit and to hear Your Word with whole hearts and minds during this hour of worship and throughout our lives. May we follow the example of Your Son Jesus Christ to advance Your Kingdom and bring glory to Your Holy name. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI NO. 623:

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S HOLY WORD

Job 1:1, 2:1-10 – Rob Dailey

Gradual Hymn Ensemble: “I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord” *Brian Wren*

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON HYMN Solo: “Set Me Like a Seal”

Carey Landry

Karen Marshall, Soprano

SERMON: “Jesus vs Pharisees”

Rev. Gary Marshall, Pastor

PRAYER HYMN NO 101: “His Name is Wonderful”

CALL TO PRAYER

We are a loving and prayerful Church and invite all to pray with us. If you have loved ones in need of prayer, place their names on the card located in the pew and leave it in the Offering Plate.

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *(use debts/debtors)*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: The Lord God is our glory and strength. By His breath He divided the waters of death and brought the faithful unto dry land. From our bondage He redeemed us. With His loving Spirit in our hearts, let us, out of our generous giving this morning, enable others to walk in the power of God's presence, run in the joy of His Spirit, and rest in the peace of His love.

OFFERTORY: "O Perfect Love"

Sir John Barmby

***DOXOLOGY NO. 625**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(in unison):* Loving God, You created us for love, called us to share love and to mirror in our relationships the kindness, care and generosity that You show us. Forgive us when we fall short of being true to Your will, when we are selfish and take lightly the needs of others. Restore our vision that we might see our brothers and sisters with the compassionate eyes of Christ. Grant to us this day such a blessing of the Holy Spirit that the days ahead may be so full of good works and good relationships that Your kingdom may be spread all over the earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN NO 383: "Open Our Eyes, Lord"

ACCLAMATION *(in unison):*

At the communion table we forsake our petty grievances against one another and remember all that Christ has forgiven us. We examine our hearts, forsake our guilt, and receive the mercy that the atoning blood offers us. We stand united as Jesus' Body, forgiven sinners, loving one another, with gratitude for all Jesus did for us. All are invited to the Lord's Table.

***HOLY COMMUNION**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord most high

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name.

ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(Please wait until all have been served; then let us partake together.)

***PLEASE STAND**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*: Holy God, Giver of new life, we are reminded that as we approach this holy table, we are no longer a people of sin, but a people redeemed by the blood of Christ. Gracious God, You are the fount of every blessing. As a deer longs for flowing streams, so our souls long for You. As a tree planted by the water continues to bear fruit despite the heat and lack of rain, so we seek to be sustained through the droughts of our lives. Thank You that we could draw near and drink deeply from Your living water this day. Amen.

***BENEDICTION:**

Pastor: Our Almighty God and Heavenly Father reigns over all things in wisdom, power and love. This is the message we have heard from Him. Rest assured that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. Let it be well with your soul.

People: We adore You, O God, for Your glory and majesty and we praise You for Your grace and truth to us in Your Son our Savior. Grant us the aid of Your Holy Spirit that we may always worship You in spirit and in truth.

ALL: Your amazing grace, O Lord, lifts us from despair, comforts us in darkness, surprises us on sad journeys, brings us hope when the path seems lost, and holds us firm when fear is near. You surround us with light and fill us with joy. Help us endeavor even more diligently to embrace our brothers and sisters with the sweetness of life, the reason for living, and the joy that is found within knowing and following You. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO 64:** “All Creatures of our God and King” (vs 1-3)

POSTLUDE: “Look Ye Saints”

Thomas Chesterton

Scripture Lessons for October 13: Job 23:1-9,16-17 - - Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

YOU ARE NEVER A STRANGER AT OUR HISTORIC CHURCH

**CHURCH OFFICE 352.383.2285 FOR PASTOR CONSULTATION, ARRANGE A WEDDING,
OR PRAYER FOR YOURSELF OR OTHERS.**

Website: CongregationalChurchMtDora.org

Email: MtDoraCC@gmail.com

This church is a member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches.

PLEASE LIFT THESE LOVED ONES IN PRAYER

Illness: Steve, Karyn, Kelly, Francis Linn, Ezra, Dr. Sam, Linda & Joe, Kathy, Rev. Ron, Linda, Thelma, Millie

Special Concerns: Marcia, Bette, Dr. Don, Gloria, Joyce, Carol, Rob, Gail, Owen & Bailey, Wesley & Rebecca, Victims of Hurricane Helene

Deployed: Kevin, Aaron, Justin, Cody

Belated Birthdays: Bette Dufour (2nd), Richard Dufour (5th)

Travel: Christopher, Gail, Mike, Laurel, Richard, Bette, Lia

Eternal Rest: Nina Rosania, George Wade, Clyde Gomez

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, 9 October, No Bible Study

POT LUCK LUNCHEON, 12:30 p.m. on the 13th
(Please sign up on bulletin board to bring food)

RENAMING of the Fellowship Hall

OCTOBER MISSION FUNDS:
Father Turkey Thanksgiving Fund

Now through December we will collect FOOD for Lake County Missions.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN RESPONSE
TO THE NEEDS OF YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS!**

MOUNT DORA CRAFT FESTIVAL – 9 TO 5

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 26 & 27 OCTOBER
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FUNDRAISER
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHURCH AND
WE APPRECIATE YOUR CHEERFUL GIFTS OF SELF & DONATIONS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS RESPONSE TO MAKE
THIS CRAFT FESTIVAL CHURCH FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!**

Dear Friend,

How are you? I just had to send you a note to tell you how much I love you. I saw you yesterday as you were talking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk with me too. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you and – I waited – but you never came. Oh yes, it hurt me – but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night and I longed to touch your brow, so I spilled moonlight upon your pillow and face. Again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts I want to give you. Then, you awakened and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.

Today you look so sad – so all alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand how you feel. My friends let me down and hurt me many times too, but I love you!

Oh! If you would only listen to me! I love you! I try to tell you in the blue sky and in the quiet green grass of the garden. I whisper it in the leaves on the trees and breathe it in the colors of flowers. I shout it to you in the ocean waves and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature scents. My love for you is deeper than the blue seas, higher than the mountains, and bigger than the biggest need or longing of your heart. Oh! If you only knew how much I long to walk with you and talk with you. We could spend an eternity together in heaven.

I know how hard it is on this earth. Yes, I really know! And I want so much to help you. I want you to meet my Father too. He wants to help you just as I do. My Father is that way you know.

Just call me – ask me – talk with me. I have so very much to share with you!

I won't bother you anymore now. You are free to choose me. It is your decision. I have already chosen you. And because of this, I will wait – because I love you.

Your Friend,
Jesus