

**Eighth Sunday After Pentecost  
August 7, 2011 10:00AM**

**Blackstone Valley  
United Methodist Church**

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*Our Mission is to change people's lives  
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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**~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~**

**Greeting of Peace**

**Lighting of the Altar Candles**

**Opening Song**      *"What a Mighty God We Serve"*      **#3016**

**Call to Worship**

**L:**      Over the wind and waves, Christ comes to us.  
Do not fear to meet Christ here.

**P:**      *We have heard the invitation.  
Our hopes have brought us together.*

**L:**      The storms of life do not have the last word.  
Our faith keeps us from sinking.

**All:**    *We will sing of God's wonderful works.  
We will share with others God's marvelous deeds.*

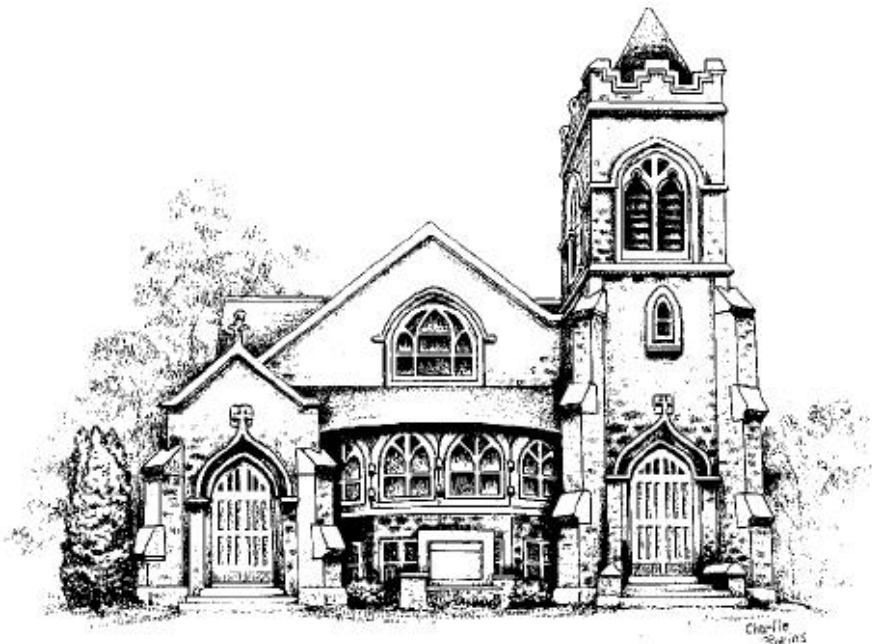
**Hymn**      *"Give Thanks"*      **#2036**

**Opening Prayer**

We seek your presence, holy God. Break through all our pretenses that we might sense the vibrant energy embracing the whole universe yet know ourselves to be personally loved within the vast expanse of space and time. How amazing are all the miracles of life that surround us! We praise you. We thank you. We bow in awe before you. In this hour, we pray that our faith may be enlivened, our trust deepened, our commitment expanded to meet the challenges of our times. Amen.

**This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church**

**Offertory**      *"God is Speaking"*      **#3025**



61 Linwood Avenue  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
508-234-2275

**Doxology**

#95

**Offertory Prayer**

God, we cannot deceive you with the appearance of generosity. You know how we manage the wealth entrusted to our care. Help us to know the joy of sharing from the abundance you provide. Help us to trust when we feel we do not have enough. We give thanks that you enable us to be givers, not just receivers. May what we offer here provide a helpful ministry to many. May what we offer to our families, friends, and co-laborers tomorrow also be blessed as ministry. Amen.

*(Children may be dismissed for Summer Sunday School)*

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**~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~****Anthem***"You Are The Light"**By Steve Fee**Soloist, Jeff Vollmer***Reading of the Word****Epistle***Romans 10: 5-15***Gospel***Matthew 14: 22-33***Message***Rev. Michele Ewers*

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**~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~****Celebration of the Sacrament****Invitation**

Pg 12

**Prayer of Confession**

God, we confess that we are dreamers more intent on our own importance than on your vision for us. We like our favored position on this earth, and we are jealous of those who have even more than we. We want to walk on water before we have learned to stand upright on the land. We want to rise above others rather than reaching out with helping hands, that all might be uplifted by you. We pray for pardon, for greater insight, for another chance to live and serve with faithfulness. Amen.

**Words of Assurance****The Great Thanksgiving****The Lord's Prayer****Sharing the Bread & Cup***"Sing Alleluia to the Lord"*

#2258

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**~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~****Hymn***"Here I Am, Lord"*

#593

**Sending Forth**

- L: Go out to share the good news, without favoritism.  
Meet both friend and enemy with forgiveness and grace.
- P: ***God's Word is on our lips and in our hearts.  
We face a dangerous world with assurance and trust.***
- L: Take heart; do not be afraid.  
God is with you wherever you go.
- P: ***We are assured of God's presence and protection.  
We believe God's help is always available.***
- L: Let faith grow as doubts are explored.  
Christ invites us to follow new pathways.
- All: ***We will listen for Christ's initiation.  
We will follow where God leads us. Amen.***

**Closing Song***"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*

#2129

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**Bringing the Light into the World**

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Offertory Prayer, Sending Forth:  
From: *Taught by Love* by Lavon Baylor

**Other Lectionary Readings**

Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28  
Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45