

Blackstone Valley
United Methodist Church



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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2011 10:00 AM

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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 Candle

Opening Song "They'll Know We Are Christians" #2223

Call to Worship

L: God's strong voice calls us to move beyond all that divides us from one another.

P: *With generous grace, Jesus welcomes all that we are.*

L: The Spirit invites us to be enfolded into a community of mutual affection and respect.

P: *Jesus' tender voice stirs within us a desire for harmony and peace.*

L: The Spirit makes us kin with all in Christ and reveals how we are to live together.

All: *The Holy One creates this space for worship so we can rest in Sabbath's time. Come; let us worship and praise our Lord!*

Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" #64

Opening Prayer

We rise on Sunday morning and discover creation is already awake, pulsing with the Spirit's energy. If we pay attention, we recognize in the bird's song, the rustling of leaves, the kind word spoken, the flower's opening, the music of the community, and the silence... (pause) God's calling deep within and all around us. Amen.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Mackenzie Elizabeth Brower,

child of God and of Becky & Brandon Brower

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Offertory "More Love, More Power"

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Doxology #95

~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Offertory Prayer

May our offerings be an expression of genuine love that reflects your love for us, O God. We seek to honor you as we serve one another in Christ's name. We reach out to overcome evil with good. Direct our use of the resources you entrust to us that we may not only contribute to the needs of the saints but also devote our lives to the building of a peaceable worldwide community in which all are valued. Amen.

(Children may be dismissed for Summer Sunday School)

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Anthem "Somebody Bigger Than You and I"
by J. Lange, H. Heath & S. Burke
Soloist, Merrill McNelly

Hymn "Come Away With Me" #2202

Sending Forth

L: Seek every day the presence we have known and experienced here. God offers us strength for every challenge we will face in the coming week.
P: *Let us give thanks and call on God to help us keep our eyes and ears open so that we may see the miracles and hear the good news of Jesus' before us each day. Amen.*

Closing Song "Shine, Jesus Shine" #2173

Bringing the Light Into the World

Reading of the Word

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New Testament 1 Peter 3: 19-22
Gospel Matthew 3: 6-17

Hymn "We Will Glorify the King of Kings" #2087

Message Rev. Michele Ewers

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time for 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 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.

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer:
from *Seasons of the Spirit*.
Offertory Prayer and Sending Forth:
from *Taught by Love*
by Lavon Bayler

Other Lectionary Readings
Exodus 3: 1-15
Psalm 105: 1 6, 23-26, 45c
Romans 12: 9-21
Matthew 16: 21-28