HYMN (verses 3 & 4) *Touch the Earth Lightly* TENDERNESS

BENEDICTION Variation on *Peace I Leave with You, My Friends* Repp

POSTLUDE

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***THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!***

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***REMINDERS…***

The summer ***These Days*** devotional have arrived in the Church office. If you would like one, please call the office and we will mail one to you.

**Don’t Forget Your Church During This Time:** You can give your offering or pledge online at: members.myeoffering.com.

**Church Bookkeeper/Data Entry Volunteer Needed:** For more information, see Pat Stienstra or Hal Hoffman.

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| Any news to share? Turn in your articles for the newsletter by the last Sunday of the month. |

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**Sunday, July 19, 2020**

**“Weeding Out the Contradictions”**

**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

741 Taborton Road

Sand Lake, New York 12153

518-674-1039 (office)

518-712-5008 (parsonage)

**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

**Service of the Worship of God**

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Rev. Hafidha F. Saadiqah, Pastor \* Ms. MaryPat Stienstra, Board Moderator

Ms. Kate O’Neill, Musician

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PRELUDE Variation on *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* Manley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

 L: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens,

God is the Lord of all life.
**P: In God we live and move and have our being.**
L: God requires our faithfulness and our service.
**P: We reach out to others with the same kind of love**

**with which God has touched our lives.**
L: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.
**ALL: Let us praise God who walks daily by our side.  Amen.**

https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/10/call-to-worship-proper-24a.html

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN (verses 1 & 2) *Touch the Earth Lightly* TENDERNESS

PRAYER of CONFESSION

 God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways.

We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns

 and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing.

We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult,

 and quick to question Your presence and Your power.

Forgive us, God.

Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing.

Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—

 to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it.

And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience,

 trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.

We praise You for Your faithful love,

 and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name.

Hear us now as we come to you in silence.

https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/07/prayer-of-confession-commitment-august.html

***Words of Assurance (*minister*)***

 ***Gloria Patri* (spoken)**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One!

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;

 World without end. Amen. Amen.

***Offering Signs of Peace***

INVITATION to STEWARDSHIP

***Doxology (*spoken)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

 Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise Godabove, ye heavenly host.

 Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication***

 **Gracious God: we give you what is your own; whatever the gift may be.**

 **All that we have is yours alone, a trust, O God, from you. Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:24-30, 36-39

SERMON Weeding Out the Contradictions

PRAYER of RESPONSE

 **Gracious God: may the words of scripture burn deeply in our hearts**

**so that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Amen.**

**2**

**HYMN**

**for the**

**LORD’S DAY**

**TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY**

HYMN TUNE: TENDERNESS

LYRICS: Shirley Erena Murray

1. Touch the earth lightly,

use the earth gently,

nourish the life of the world in our care:

Gift of great wonder,

ours to surrender

trust for the children

tomorrow will be.

1. We who endanger,

who create hunger,

agents of death for all creatures that live,

We who would foster

clouds of disaster -

God of our planet,

forestall and forgive.

1. Let there be greening,

birth from the burning,

water that blesses,

and air that is sweet;

Health in God’s garden,

hope in God’s children,

regeneration that peace will complete.

1. God of all living,

God of all loving,

God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,

Teach us, deflect us,

Christ reconnect us,

using us gently,

and making us one.

