



Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We Don't Need a Smaller Table

Exodus 12:1-14

Sharing God's Love Since 1878
United Church of Christ Congregational
Spearfish, South Dakota

**Spearfish United Church of Christ Congregational
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

September 6, 2026

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME to our service today. We hope you find this time of worship meaningful and uplifting and will join us again soon. Please join us for refreshments in Fellowship Hall after the service.

***All who are able may stand.**

Please wear your nametags & turn off your cell phones.

Prelude

Emma McKirdy-Wilsey

(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

***Choral Call
to Worship**

Surely the Presence of the Lord

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: God said to a people who had almost forgotten how to hope: *Get ready!*

Congregation: Freedom is nearer than you think.

Liturgist: Set the table. Call the children. Invite the neighbor. If there is too much for your household ...

Congregation: Share it, knowing there is room enough at the table.

Liturgist: Eat with your coat around you, your shoes on your feet, and your walking stick in your hand.

Congregation: For the God who meets us at the table is also the God who calls us forward.

Liturgist: Remember where you have been. Remember who brought you through. Remember that you do not make this journey alone.

Congregation: We remember. We give thanks, and we make room for those still coming.

Liturgist: People of God, the table is prepared and the road is opening before us.

ALL: Come, let us worship the God who feeds us for the journey!

***Hymn** *As We Gather at Your Table* No. 332

Call to Confession

Liturgist: There are things we carry that cannot come with us into freedom. Old resentments. Old fears. Old assumptions about who belongs and who doesn't ... The comfortable belief that tomorrow must look like yesterday.

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As we come to a time of confession, let us remember that Israel was told to eat with sandals on their feet *because God was about to do a new thing.*

Before we come to Christ's table, let us ask what we need to leave behind so that, when God says “**Go,**” we’re ready.

Let us pray.

Responsive Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: God of freedom, we confess that sometimes captivity is easier than change. We become accustomed to the way things are. We hold tightly to what we know, even when You are opening a door before us. You tell us to make room for our neighbor,

Congregation: but sometimes we guard our tables.

Liturgist: You tell us to remember,

Congregation: but sometimes we remember only the wounds and forget the grace that carried us through.

Liturgist: You tell us to be ready to move,

Congregation: but sometimes we would rather stay where we are.

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ALL: Forgive us, O God. Loosen our grip on yesterday. Free us from fear of tomorrow. Teach us to recognize Your presence today.

Liturgist: Give us courage to set another place, open another door, welcome another traveler, and follow wherever You lead.

Congregation: Feed us for the journey, and make us ready to go. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Unison Response** Glory to the Creator No. 759

**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.**

Welcome and Opportunities

Call to Prayer FWS No. 2193
Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

**Pastoral Prayer, Prayer of Our Savior
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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Oh, The Cross* Felicity Dykstra

***A Doxology** *Praise God* No. 780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Unison Prayer of Dedication

**May these offerings help to free Your people, O God,
from bondage to sin. Unite us in a community of
mutual care in which differences are resolved as we
listen to one another and seek to offer understanding.
May the light of Your love shine through all our
efforts to share Your Good News. Keep us in the light**

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when we are tempted to ignore Your promises and violate Your commandments. With these prayers, we dedicate our gifts. Amen.

***Hymn**

Open Our Eyes

No. 2086

Scripture Exodus 12:1-14

Sermon “*We Don’t Need a Smaller Table*” Todd Jones

The Order for Communion

Pastor: God be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God most high!

Congregation: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer

Pastor: (ending with) ... so, with all the company of heaven, we proclaim:

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**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
love and joy, the whole universe declares Your glory!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Words of Institution

Pastor: (ending with) ... And so, we can proclaim the
mystery of faith:

**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come
again.**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Closing Hymn** *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence*

No. 2234

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** *Benediction* C. Barrows

**May God's blessings surround you today,
as you trust Him and walk in His way;
May His presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.**

***Postlude**

Emma McKirdy-Wilsey

PRAYER LIST: World, National, Local leaders, and our Pastor; Paula Cottrill; Rodger, Michele (parents), and Dylan Slott (spinal cord injury); Grayson Chapeau; Pat Patterson (cancer); Rhian Elmid (sponsored child); Elsie Hanson; Angie Riggs (friend of Lorie Umphrey – 3rd round of cancer battle); Les Turgeon; Lorrie Loobey (Jo Hansen’s sister) and Martina Loobey (Jo Hansen’s niece) for health concerns; Marna Bergstrom for recovery; Hilda Locke; Joyce Collins; Carolyn Greenfield; Karen and Bob Collins; June Klinkel; Leo Orme; Beth Novotny (knee replacement); Lynne Quissell (spinal stenosis); Family of Rosemary Lutz; Family of John Daum; Family of Bud (Charles) Breedlove (Karen Carmichael’s brother).

Please let Shirley B. know if you have any updates or additions.

Women’s Fellowship will meet at 1:00 pm on September 16, 2026, in the Fellowship Hall. (Note the change of venue!) A luncheon will be provided by the Women’s Fellowship executive committee. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Food Pantry

We still need volunteers for our time at the Food Pantry in September. Check the glass counter for the yellow signup sheet!

~~ September 2026 CALENDAR ~~

Mon, Sept 7		Labor Day – Office Closed
Tues, Sept 8	9:00 a.m.	Coffee Time/Devotions at Edgewood
	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study in Fireside Room
Sun, Sept 13	9:30 a.m.	Worship/Fellowship
	After service	Potluck Dinner to welcome Pastor Todd and Kim (No Deacons Meeting)
Tues, Sept 15	9:00 a.m.	Coffee Time/Devotions at Edgewood
	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study in Fireside Room
Wed, Sept 16	1:00 p.m.	Women’s Fellowship luncheon in Fellowship Hall
Thurs, Sept 17	8:00 a.m.	Setup for Rummage Sale
Fri, Sept 18	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry
	12:00 p.m.	Rummage Sale
Sat, Sept 19	8:00 a.m.	Rummage Sale
Sun, Sept 20	9:30 a.m.	Worship/Fellowship
Mon, Sept 21	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry
Tues, Sept 22	9:00 a.m.	Coffee Time/Devotions at Edgewood
	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study in Fireside Room
Wed, Sept 23	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry
Fri, Sept 25	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry

~~ September 2026 CALENDAR ~~

Sun, Sept 27	9:30 a.m.	Worship/Fellowship Council Meeting
Mon, Sept 28	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry
Tues, Sept 29	9:00 a.m.	Coffee Time/Devotions at Edgewood
	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study in Fireside Room
Wed, Sept 30	7:45 a.m.	Food Pantry

Rummage Sale

The church rummage sale will be held Friday, Sept 18 (noon – 6 pm) and Saturday, Sept 19 (8 am – 1 pm). Bring your rummage items to the church any time on or before Wednesday, Sept 16. Setup will be on Thursday, Sept 17, starting at 8:00 am. We'll need everyone's help for this event! If you can help with the setup or with the sale itself (or both!), please contact Shirley Jenssen or contact the office at 605-642-8253 or uccl@rushmore.com.

Bible Study

The second session of our Bible Study on Twelve Extraordinary Women will be this Tuesday, September 8, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. This week's extraordinary woman is Sarah. Assignment sheets for week 2 are on the glass counter. We had a lively discussion last week – everyone is invited to come!

CHURCH OFFICE: 920 Main Street, Spearfish, SD

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Pastor Todd: 515-835-1238

Join us online for worship on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/864852954071879>

Website: <https://uccspearfish.org/>

Office Hours:

M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Pastor Todd's Office Hours:

T 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

PASTOR.....Todd Jones

OFFICE MANAGERShirley Brost

MODERATOR.....Shirley Jenssen

ORGANIST.....Emma McKirdy-Wilsey

LITURGIST.....Jim Hood

ALTAR & TABLES.....Shirley Jenssen & Cindy Merkel