



Communion Service Liturgy for June 13, 2021
Community of Faith United Methodist Church

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(inspired by Mark 4:26-34, Matthew 13:31-32)

Lord Jesus Christ,
we remember with gratitude those people
who generously sowed the seeds of faith in our lives.

Above all, we recognize how you have blessed our lives
with the gift of the Holy Spirit
so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown.

We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves
in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others;
the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours;
the times when we have denied others the opportunity to expand their faith
through our lack of interest or involvement;
the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world
that we forget what you have said and done and promised.

Lord Jesus Christ, we know that when we become disconnected from you,
our lives becomes parched and unfruitful and our faith becomes stunted and dry.
Bless and renew our lives, we pray,
so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places,
strengthening our faith to expand and, growing strongly and vigorously,
to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.

THE GOSPEL READING

Mark 4:26-34

More parables about God's kingdom

²⁶ Then Jesus said, "This is what God's kingdom is like. It's as though someone scatters seed on the ground, ²⁷ then sleeps and wakes night and day. The seed sprouts and grows, but the farmer doesn't know how. ²⁸ The earth produces crops all by itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full head of grain. ²⁹ Whenever the crop is ready, the farmer goes out to cut the grain because it's harvesttime."

³⁰ He continued, "What's a good image for God's kingdom? What parable can I use to explain it? ³¹ Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it's the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; ³² but when it's planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade."

³³ With many such parables he continued to give them the word, as much as they were able to hear. ³⁴ He spoke to them only in parables, then explained everything to his disciples when he was alone with them.

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO RECEIVE

BLESSING