

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
10:30am • August 3, 2025

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**Mission Statement:** As a community of faith, we welcome all who seek understanding. • As a community of hope, we offer friendship and comfort to those in need. • As a community of love, we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all.

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WE ARE A COMMUNITY CHURCH. OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND MEMBERS COME FROM MANY PLACES AND MULTIPLE FAITH TRADITIONS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO FIND A SPIRITUAL SANCTUARY HERE.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASSING the PEACE —

— WELCOME —

CENTERING MUSIC

*Sharon Novak*

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Adapted from Genesis 45*

One: I am your brother, I am your sister.

*People: You are the one whom we envied, whose words we did not want to hear, whose vision we could not bear.*

One: By your actions, and inactions, my brothers, my sisters, you dropped me into a pit without water, without hope.

*People: O sister, O brother, it would have been easier if you died.*

One: Then you sold me. Made me as a slave. Sent me to a foreign land. You told those who cared for me, that I was dead. You tried to erase my life.

*People: O brother, o sister, we went on with our lives, never wondering what happened next to you. We tried to forget.*

One: And now God gives me this message for you. 'Do not be distressed or angry with yourselves, for God sent me before you to preserve life.'

*People: Now, you call to us with mercy, and say 'Come to me; do not delay.' This morning, we come to you, bringing our whole lives, our whole hearts, our whole minds, to be near you.*

*All: God will provide for all of us.*

SONG #212

*Sing of One*

*Who Walks Beside Us*

*Sharon Novak*

— PRAYING —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. *Amen.*

— REFLECTING —

SCRIPTURE

*Genesis (excerpts)*

REFLECTION

*WHOSE DREAM &  
WHOSE BLOOD?*

*Rev Gail Doktor*

SONG #500

*O for a World*

*Sharon Novak*

— COMMUNION —

PRAYER of CONFESSION

One: We have listened to reports from the world around us.

*People: We have witnessed reality in all of its complexity.*

One: Yet we have turned aside, denying what our hearts and minds already know.

*People: Sometimes we try to intervene, other times we do not bother.*

One: We do not want to see. We do not want to hear.

*People: Despite the ways we have caused harm through word or deed, or permitted harm to occur when we did not act or speak, you show us mercy.*

*All: Hear our confession, O Christ. Once more offer us your boundless grace, and make us instruments of your peace, servants to God's children and stewards of God's creation. Forgive us.*

— COMMUNION CONT'D —

ASSURANCE of PARDON & INVITATION TO TABLE

BLESSING & SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*SONG #314            *As We Gather*            Sharon Novak

— OFFERING —

\*SONG #44            *Doxology*            Sharon Novak

PRAYER of DEDICATION

— CLOSING —

**\*BENEDICTION**

*May the love of God live in us today, may the love of God live in us today.*

*May the warmth we feel within us show in all we do and say.*

*May the love of God live in us today.*

*May the peace of God be with us today,*

*May the peace of God be with us today.*

*May it guide us and protect us as we go our separate ways.*

*May the peace of God be with us, May the love of God live in us,*

*May the love of God shine through us today.*

**PRAYERS for PEOPLE:**

*Focus this week:* Alexis, Ann C., BJ, Bob G., Bunny C, Cindi, Dave & Beth, Deb L., Haisley, Huntley, Irene, Jenn, Judy, Kailee, Karen, Larry, Linda, Nancy, Rob, Ruth, Steve, Tom, Tyler, Val. For those who grieve.

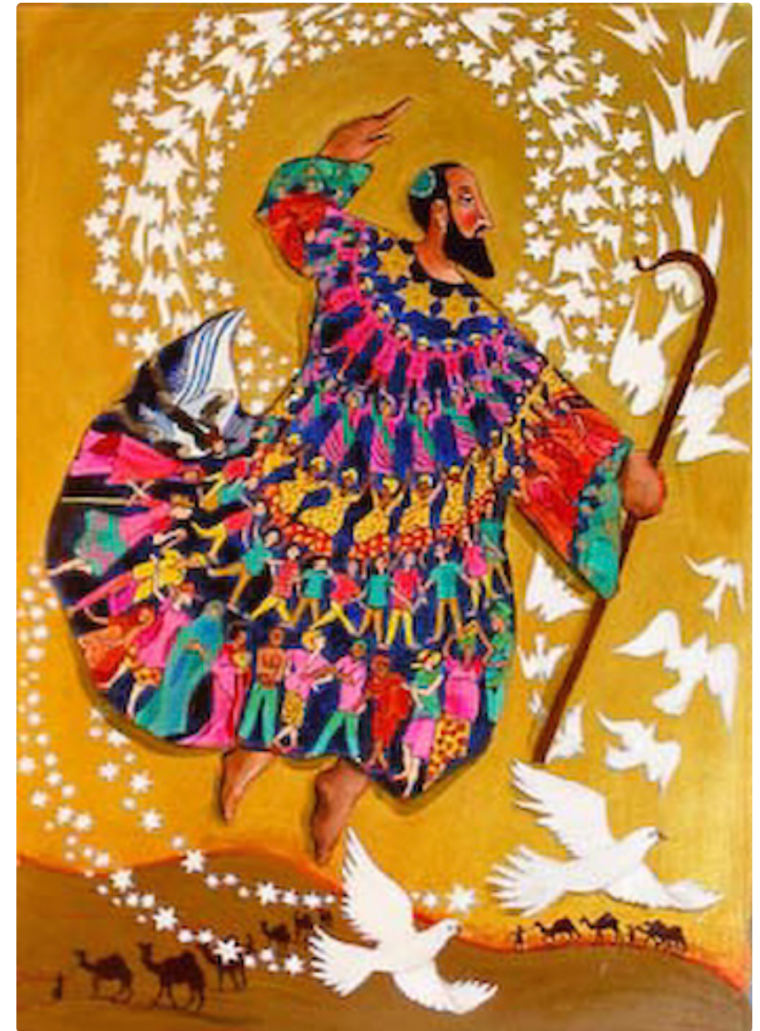
*Continuing:* Alice, Annie, Arden, Barbara, Bilo, Bob, Bruce, Cal, Cameron, Carl, Corey, Dean, David, Dawson S., Deb W., Don, Ed, Emmie, George, Karen, Kevin, Jan, Jean, Jim H., Joe, Joan, John, John H., Joyce, Jonathan, Judy, Karen, Kim, Kathy, Ian, Laurie, Marcia, Matteo, Maureen, Mary, Meg, Michelle, Parker, Petros, Phaedra, Robert G., Sally, Sam, Sarah, Sascha, Spencer Elizabeth, Tom, Tony, Rob, Robert, Val, Wayne, Lori's niece & nephew.

**PRAYERS for PLACES:** For places with which we have partnership, including Chikanga Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe and communities in Honduras. For places hurt by natural disaster & human-caused conflict.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP with Communion

10:30am • Sunday

August 3, 2025



*Image by Suzanne Tornquist*

**JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC**  
**JACKSON, NH**

## SCRIPTURE

**Genesis 36: 22** - Now the sons of Jacob [Israel] were twelve.

**Genesis 37: 2-11, 18** - Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers ... and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. <sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>5</sup> Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> He said to them, *“Listen to this dream that I dreamed. <sup>7</sup> There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf.”*

<sup>8</sup> His brothers said to him, *“Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?”* So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

<sup>9</sup> He had another dream and told it to his brothers, saying, *“Look, I have had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”*

<sup>10</sup> But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, *“What kind of dream is this that you have had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow to the ground before you?”* <sup>11</sup> So his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

**Genesis 38: 2, 18, 23-27, 31-33** - So Joseph went after his brothers ... <sup>18</sup> They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him... <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, <sup>24</sup> and they took him and threw him into a pit... <sup>25</sup> Then ... looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, ... on their way ... to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, *“What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?<sup>27</sup> Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.”*

**Genesis 38 cont'd** —... they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

<sup>31</sup> Then they took Joseph’s robe, slaughtered a goat, and dipped the robe in the blood. <sup>32</sup> They had the ornamented robe taken to their father, and they said, *“This we have found; see now whether it is your son’s robe or not.”*

<sup>33</sup> He recognized it and said, *“It is my son’s robe! A wild animal has devoured him; Joseph has surely been torn to pieces.”* ...

**Genesis 39: 1-8, 17** - Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him ... <sup>2</sup> The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup> His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had...

Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. <sup>7</sup> And after a time his master’s wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, *“Lie with me.”* <sup>8</sup> But he refused ... <sup>17</sup> and she told [her husband Potiphar] ... *“The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me ...*

<sup>20</sup> And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison. <sup>21</sup> But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer.

**Genesis 40: 1-8, 17** - Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt ... and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined... One night they both dreamed ... each his own dream and each dream with its own meaning ... and Joseph said to them, *“Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me.”*

**Genesis 41: 1-14, 25-36** - After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, <sup>2</sup> and there came up out of the Nile seven sleek and fat cows, and they grazed in the reed grass. <sup>3</sup> Then seven other cows, ugly and thin, came up out of the Nile after them and stood by the other cows on the bank of the Nile. <sup>4</sup> The ugly and thin cows ate up the seven sleek and fat cows. And Pharaoh awoke. <sup>5</sup> Then he fell asleep and dreamed a second time; seven ears of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. <sup>6</sup> Then seven ears, thin and blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them. <sup>7</sup> The thin ears swallowed up the seven plump and full ears. Pharaoh awoke, and it was a dream. <sup>8</sup> In the morning his spirit was troubled, so he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

<sup>9</sup> Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, *"I remember my faults today. <sup>10</sup> Once Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me and the chief baker in custody in the house of the captain of the guard. <sup>11</sup> We dreamed on the same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own meaning. <sup>12</sup> A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each according to his dream. <sup>13</sup> As he interpreted to us, so it turned out ..."*

<sup>14</sup> Then Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was hurriedly brought out of the dungeon ... <sup>25</sup> Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, *"Pharaoh's dreams are one and the same; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do ... <sup>29</sup> There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. <sup>30</sup> After them there will arise seven years of famine... <sup>33</sup> Now therefore let Pharaoh select a man who is discerning and wise and set him over the land of Egypt. <sup>34</sup> Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years. <sup>35</sup> Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. <sup>36</sup> That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine."*

**Genesis 42:5-6** - <sup>5</sup> Thus the sons of Israel were among the people who came to buy grain, for the famine had reached the land of Canaan. <sup>6</sup> Now Joseph was governor over the land; it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground. ... Although Joseph had recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him.

**Genesis 45: 1-15** - Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, *"Send everyone away from me."* So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup> And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. <sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, *"I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?"* But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. <sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, *"Come closer to me."* And they came closer. He said, *"I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life... <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there... <sup>13</sup> You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."* <sup>14</sup> Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

