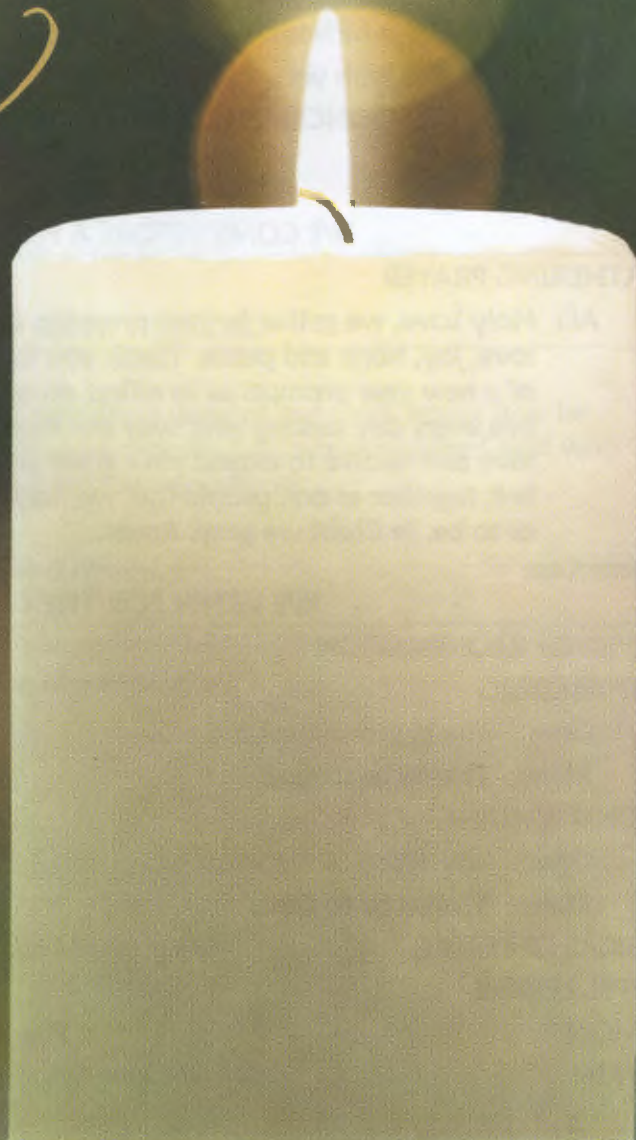


Arise, shine;

for thy

Light

is come



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

January 1, 2023

First Sunday after Christmas

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Away in a Manger"

arr. Innes

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#185

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Holy Love, we gather in your presence, for you are where we find fullness of love, joy, hope and peace. Thank you for being among us on today. The dawn of a new year prompts us to reflect on our past and hope for our future. Help us live every day seeking your way and moving on your path. Help us commit to love and resolve to extend your grace and mercy to our neighbor. May we be knit together as one people that we may reflect the new creation you have made us to be. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:10-18

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Mary's Boy Child" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

SERMON

Flee to Egypt

*** HYMN**

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

#191

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

“Coventry Carol”

arr. Innes

* Doxology

Greensleeves

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king, to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go now in peace to proclaim the wondrous ways of our God; letting love be our compass, and mercy our guide. And may the God who calls, the Christ who companions and the Holy Spirit who guides, go with us.

All: Amen!

* HYMN

“Another Year is Dawning”

see insert

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

arr. Innes

[Faint, illegible text from the reverse side of the page, including phrases like "United Evangelical Church" and "An Open and Affirming Congregation"]

United Evangelical Church, UCC
3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224
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Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music
E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net





Suddenly the heavens were opened to him
and he saw the Spirit of God...

--Matthew 3:16b

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

January 8, 2023

First Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Good Good Father"

see insert

"What a Beautiful Name"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: God of mind, body and spirit, we come into your presence to experience your love and affirmation. We are saddened by our actions that have drawn us away from you and our neighbors. We have participated in the systems of the world that are actively opposed to your kingdom. Wash us in the baptized life for renewal and revitalization. Remind us of our connection to you and your covenantal relationship with us. We yearn for your guidance and direction. Show us your path that we might show the world the way to new life, liberation and hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-43

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Only Jesus" The Worship Team

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

see insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Innes

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go to share the good news of Jesus Christ, for the world needs to hear the Voice of Love. And may the hope of God, the peace of Christ and the transforming joy of the Spirit go with you.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Arise, Your Light is Come!"

#231

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"To Jordan Came Our Lord the Christ"

Bach

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**WALKING WITH
THE LORD**

PSALM
40:1-11

**I delight to do your will,
O my God;
your law is within my heart.**

--Psalm 40:8

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

January 15, 2023

Second Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

see insert

"Your Love O Lord"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: O God of the Universe, we hear your voice to follow where you lead. Just like Abraham, we have no way to know what this following will take. Our hope is that this journey is leading us deeper into the heart of your love. For recognizing the path and the following, equip us. To the revelation and the wonder, open us. With the vision and the possibility, convict us. In the struggle and the seeking, be with us, for there is no telling when the struggle will end, we only have faith in a future we cannot yet behold. Holy One, manifest your love, make your justice known in and through us. In the Powerful Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"You Are the Light of the World" The Worship Team

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Runyan

* **Doxology**

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* **Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Go forth to be epiphanies of God’s redeeming love and liberating justice. And may the God of calling, the Christ of forgiveness and the Holy Spirit of liberation be our companion.

All: Amen.

* **HYMN**

"Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

#132

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Voluntary"

Swan

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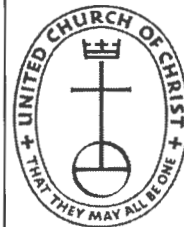
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**SEEKING
THE FACE OF GOD**

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

*Come, " my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, Lord, do I seek.*

-Psalm 27:8

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Mighty to Save"

"As the Deer"

NO WATER IN
CHURCH DONE
ONLINE ONLY

see insert

#471

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: We rejoice in this gathering, Holy One. We've come seeking you and we are grateful to find you. For we know that we turn toward ourselves or others for validation, salvation, and deliverance rather than seek your wisdom, will, and way. Call us back to your presence, plan, and purpose, O God. Make us receptive to your voice and the instruments of your love in the world. Thrill us with your majesty and inspire us with your humility. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Who at My Door is Standing" The Worship Team

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"The Lord is My Light"*

Allitsen

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.**** Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go to follow Jesus into the world to spread the radiance of Christ, to proclaim the good news, and to be instruments of healing and wholeness. And may the God of love, the Christ of mercy and the Spirit of hope be our guide.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult"*

#345

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"Trumpet Tune"*

Johnson

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**CONSIDER
YOUR CALL**
BROTHERS AND SISTERS

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

*For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,
and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.*

*Consider your own call, brothers and sisters:
not many of you were wise by human standards,
not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.
But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise;
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong...*

--1 Corinthians 1:25-27

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"I Will Follow"

see insert

"Mighty to Save"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Just and Loving God, we enter your holy presence, in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places. You have expressed your hope for us and your vision for abundant life for all. Yet we know that we avoid confrontation and accountability which can build up and create a more just world. Too often we settle for a temporary truce over real peace. We do not relentlessly pursue your will when discomfited by the cost of discipleship. O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us. Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation, and to contribute to your kingdom on earth. In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Micah 6:1-8

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

*"Who at My Door is Standing"
"What Does the Lord Require of You"
The Worship Team*

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

Consider Your Call, Brothers and Sisters

*** HYMN**

"Give Thanks"

#359

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

COMMISSIONING AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

see insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"You Are My All in All"

Jernigan

*** Doxology**

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Go to be the good news to a world shrouded in brokenness, pain, and despair. Show the world the kingdom that lives in you by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God. And may the faithfulness of God, the embracing love of Christ and the strength of the Holy Spirit meet you on your path.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN**

"Blest Are They"

#666

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Tune"

Johnson

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Salt, Light & the Realm of Heaven

Matthew 5:13-20

You are the salt of the earth;
but if salt has lost its taste,
how can its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything...

You are the light of the world.
A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket,
but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

~Matthew 5:13a-15

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"You Are Salt for the Earth, O People"

see insert

"Holy and Anointed One"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Faithful God, we gather to worship you in spirit and in truth. You know that it is not easy to follow your path. Your way requires sacrifice and intention--resisting cultural norms and societal pressures, and abandoning our need to control and to function from our own power. Yet, your way is simple. Soften our hearts and encourage us to return to the journey with you. May we resist empty actions. Let our rituals and routines hold meaning and connect us to you. May we receive your revelation and be transformed, healed, and renewed. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Doxology" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:13-20

SERMON

Salt, Light and the Realm of Heaven

* HYMN

"With the Body That Was Broken"

#691

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Shine, Jesus Shine"

Kendrick

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Break forth in the world secure in the love of God. Trust the good news. Proclaim the good news. Be the good news. And may the God of justice the Christ of resurrection and the Spirit of power go with us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Song for the Nations"

#563

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Christ the Lamb of God"

Bach

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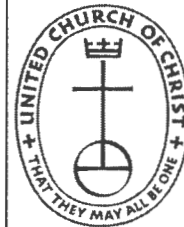
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Planting, Watering & Growing

1 Corinthians 3:1-9



So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose...

For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building."

~1 Corinthians 3:7-8a, 9

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"10,000 Reasons"

see insert

"Holy Spirit Rain Down"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Loving God, we come to you bringing our hopes and our fears, our joys and our sorrows, our successes and our disappointments. And as we come, you faithfully come to us, bringing your life and liberty, compassion and care, redemption and reconciliation. For you recognize we are human; made in your image, and filled with contradictions. Holy God, let your fire warm our hearts when they grow cold to the pain of the world. Shine brightly, Holy Flame, and illuminate the shadows where we hide from you, and provide fuel to energize us when we grow weary of the work. Revive us again, O God, revive us. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"To Know You More" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:21-37

SERMON

Planting, Watering & Growing

* HYMN

"Seek Ye First"

#349

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Purify My Heart"

Doerksen

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Go forward from this gathering with the good news written on your heart. And may the faithfulness of God, the love of Christ, and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit lead us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"We Are Called to Be God's People"

#580

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"The Church's One Foundation"

arr. Innes

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Get Up & Do Not Be Afraid

Matthew 17:1-9



*Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun,
and his clothes became dazzling white...*

*Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them,
and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved..."*

*When the disciples heard this,
they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.*

*But Jesus came and touched them, saying,
"Get up and do not be afraid."*

~ Matthew 17:2, 5-7

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

February 19, 2023

Transfiguration Sunday

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"How Can I Keep from Singing"

see insert

"Spirit of God"

see insert

"Give Me Jesus"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Mighty God, we meet you with gladness in this place where heaven and earth collide. As we come to you on this mountaintop, come to us in the valleys where we dwell. For sometimes we find ourselves wanting to retreat from the harsh realities of life. Our concern for our neighbor too often dissipates at the point of our discomfort. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your realm in the world. Keep us near to you, O Lord. Transform us with new energy for the work of your ministry. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 24:12-18

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYER OF COVENANT WITH BRIDGE, MD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"How Lovely are the Messengers" Solo—Mary Strassner

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

* HYMN

"Knowing You"

#357

REFLECTION

SERVICE OF RECOGNITION AND RELEASE OF AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

see insert

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go from here to fight the good fight, to finish the race that is before us, and to keep the faith. May the shining radiance of God warm us. May the dazzling splendor of Christ surprise us. And may the wonder and awe of the Holy Spirit transform us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Go My Children with My Blessing"

#719

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Festival Toccata"

Fletcher

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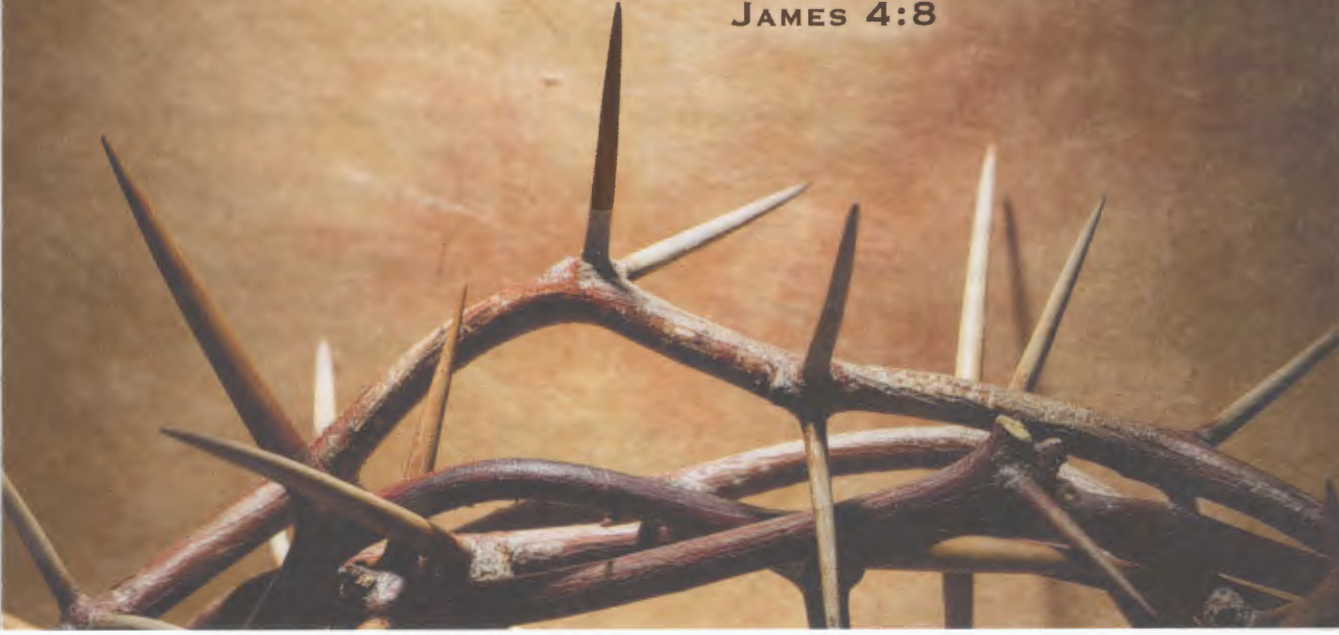




LENT

PURIFY YOUR HEARTS.

JAMES 4:8



United Evangelical United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone.
Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

7:30 pm

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

Bach

GREETING

One: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** LITANY OF JOURNEYING TO THE CROSS**

One: Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. Rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Many: Let us return to the Lord, our God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"

#378

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

One: Have mercy, tender God, forget that I defied you. Wash away my sin, cleanse me from my guilt.

Many: I know my evil well, it stares me in the face. Evil done to you alone before your very eyes.

One: How right your condemnation! Your verdict is clearly just. You see me for what I am: frail, a sinner.

Many: You love those centered in truth; teach me your hidden wisdom. Wash me with fresh water, wash me bright and clean.

One: Fill me with happy songs! Let the bones you bruised now dance. Shut your eyes to my sin, make my guilt disappear.

Many: Creator, reshape my heart, God, steady my spirit. Do not cast me aside stripped of your holy spirit.

One: Save me, bring back my joy, support me, strengthen my will. Then I will teach your way and sinners will turn to you.

Many: Help me, stop my tears, and I will sing your goodness. Lord, give me words and I will shout your praise.

(moment of silent reflection)

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(All who wish are invited to come forward to receive ashes as a sign of repentance. Ashes can be placed on your forehead or the back of your hand.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Turn toward God in the confidence that, through Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Many: Thanks be to God.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 58:1-12

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING:

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

MESSAGE

* HYMN

"Change My Heart, O God"

#373

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

LENTEN PRAYERS – 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

arr. Johnson

#47

*** Doxology**

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

(Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex. We will take communion together seated in our pews. All will be directed when to partake of the elements.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Compassionate God, for this bread that makes us whole and this cup that fills us with hope. As we rise from this place to follow you to the cross, may we go in joy to serve you, and by our lives may your love overflow to others. In Christ we pray. Amen.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

*** PARTING HYMN**

"The Old Rugged Cross"

#260

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"O Savior Blest"

Bach

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www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net

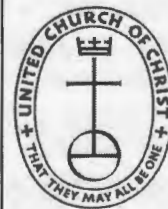
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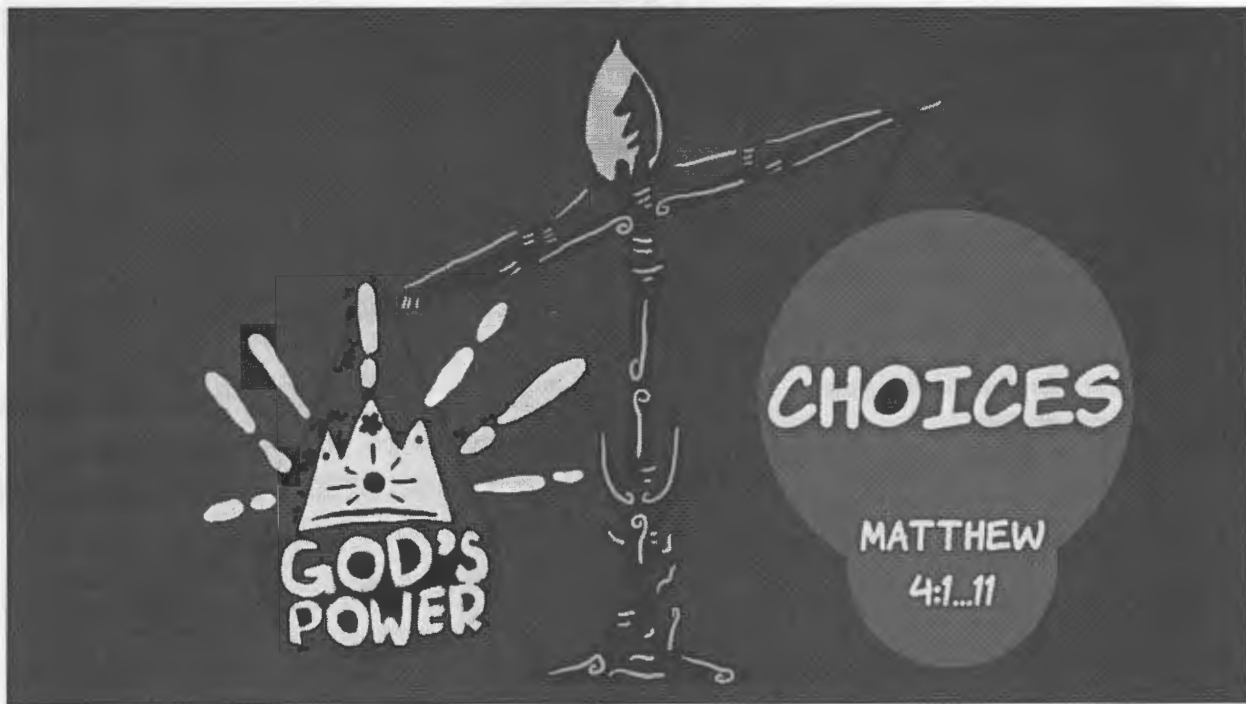
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Cell Phone: 336-675-5401 * E-Mail: vplittle1@gmail.com

Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net





Then Jesus was led by the Spirit
into the desert
to be tempted by the devil.

—Matthew 4:1

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"When the Morning Gilds the Skies"

#111

"How Great is Our God"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Gracious God, as we begin again our Lenten journey, we ask your help in truly seeing ourselves, our propensity for sin, our predisposition toward making the poorer choice, our affinity with Adam's weakness. How much we need an infusion of the nature, the spiritual strength, and the faithfulness of Jesus. As we worship you this day, grant us the grace of forgiveness and establish us in the hope won through him, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"More Like You" The Worship Team

SERMON

Choices

* HYMN

"Lord Who Throughout These 40 Days"
(Use tune: ST. FLAVIAN)

#349

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Forty Days and Forty Nights"*

Gesangbuch

* **Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.** **Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* **SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to love as God in Christ has loved us, forgiving as we have been forgiven, doing justice, and showing kindness and mercy in Christ's name. The blessing of God, who has gifted us with Jesus, the new Adam, is upon us.

All: Amen.* **HYMN***"Christ, You Call Us All to Service"*

#571

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"Trumpet Voluntary"*

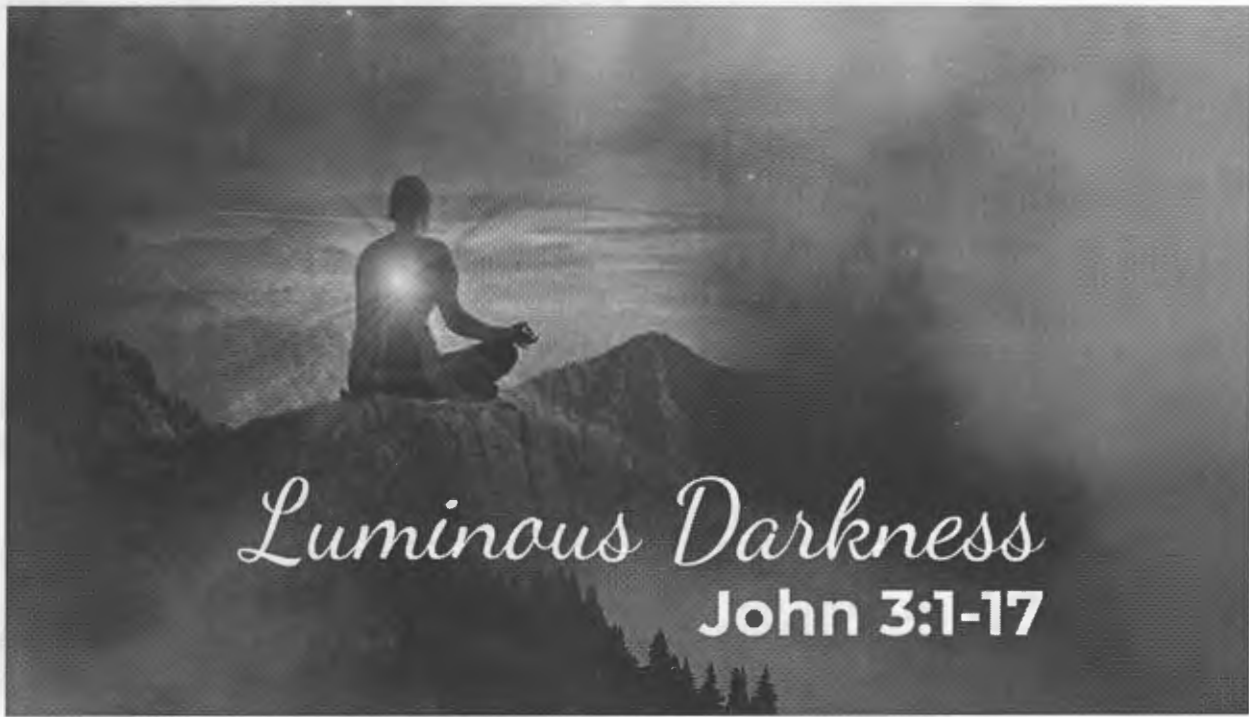
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What is born of the flesh is flesh, and
what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

--John 3:6

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"The God of Abraham Praise"

#16

"Amazing Love"

#259

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: God of the glorious light and God of the luminous darkness. God of the mountaintop and God of the Valley. You are the one true God, creator of Heaven and Earth. You have given us all that we are and all that we have through Jesus Christ. Everything belongs to you, including each one of us. When the world is scary, when we feel rejected, when we are afraid; Help us to remember that you are all we need. You are God Almighty; you give us the strength we need to face life's challenges. We praise you for the gifts of faith, hope, and love. Help us to live into all that you have created us to be. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Just As I Am" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17

SERMON

Luminous Darkness

* HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

#419

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"God So Loved the World"

Stainer

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go forth from this place knowing that you are fully known and fully loved by God Almighty. Go forth knowing that there is no darkness that God's light can't transform. Go forth, celebrating faith, celebrating hope and celebrating the love that surpasses all understanding. Go forth to be the transformed people that God has called you to be. And may the love of God, the peace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit carry you from this place.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

#426

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

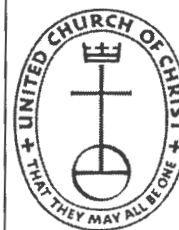
"In Peace and Joy I Now Depart"

Frescobaldi

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*Come,
See a
Man*

John 4:5-42



*Come, see a man
who told me everything I ever did.
Could this be the Christ?*

—John 4:29

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

March 12, 2023

Third Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

#501

"Come Just as You Are"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Lord Jesus, you come to us even today as long ago you came. You come to meet us where we are and as we are, accepting us, loving us, bringing Good News, revealing truth and the way of eternal life. We believe in who you are, and desire to follow you more faithfully. Help us to see you, to hear you, to feel your presence in the everyday, and also as we worship you this day; help us to be ever expecting you in whatever unforeseen ways you may come; and help us to be ready to respond to you in love. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Exodus 17:1-7

SECOND READING

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 5:1-11

MUSICAL OFFERING

"All Who are Thirsty" The Worship Team

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Fill My Cup, Lord"*

Blanchard

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.**** Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to invite others to come and see Jesus, the One who says "I am he... the Messiah," that they may drink for themselves the living water he freely offers. The blessing of God who gifts us with faith, of Jesus who alone can satisfy our thirst, and of the Holy Spirit who leads us into all truth, is upon us, this day, and always. Go now in peace.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

#261

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"Rondo in G"*

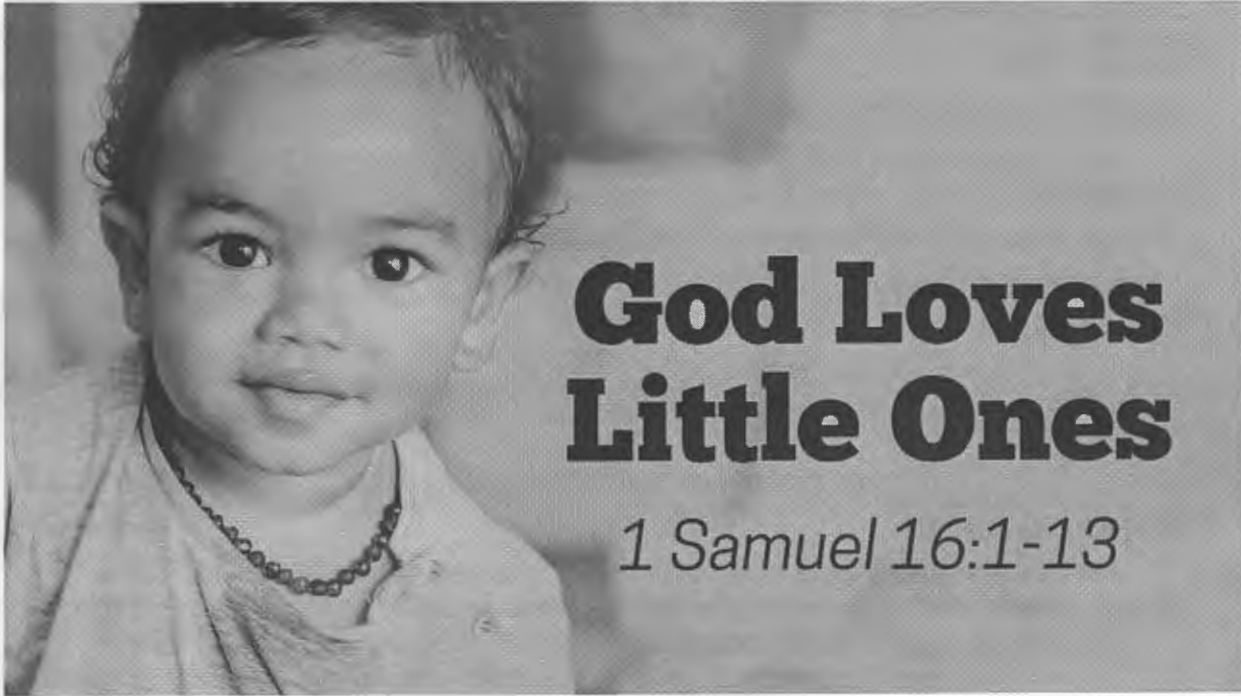
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God Loves Little Ones

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD does not see as mortals see;
they look on the outward appearance,
but the LORD looks on the heart.

--1 Samuel 16:7b

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Peace be to this house and to all for whom this is home.

Many: **And also to you.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

#480

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

#656

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Just and loving God, many of us feel of small importance in the eyes of the world. And of our own goodness we know ourselves undeserving of your attending to us. But in Jesus you have shown that you know us and love us without condition, that we are of inestimable value to you. You raise us up to high places. This day, oh God, we gather in celebration, rejoicing that our smallness is no obstacle to you, desiring to honor you and one another, as you honor us.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 9:1-41

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

See insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Open Our Eyes, Lord"*

Cull

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.**** Prayer of Dedication****GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD**

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to live for Jesus and love like Jesus, seeing others as he sees them.
The Blessing of the All-knowing God, All loving God is upon us. Go now in peace.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

#440

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"Postlude in C"*

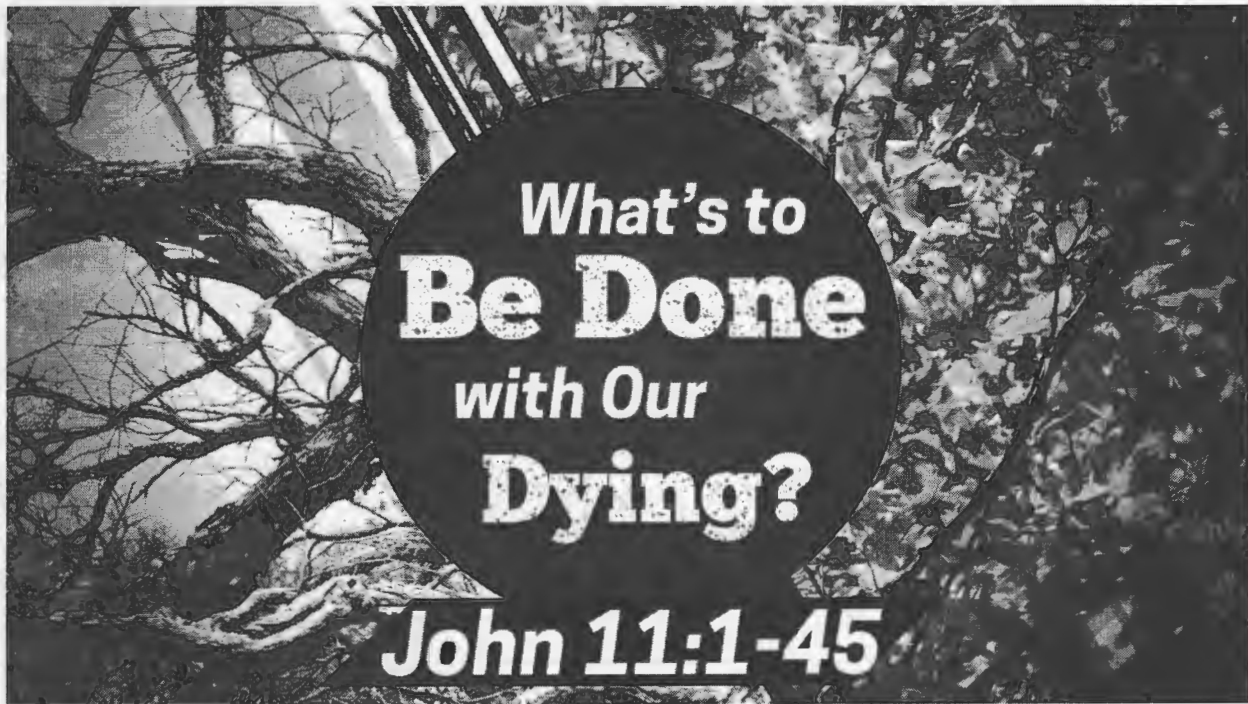
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Jesus said to her,
"I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live..."

-John 11:25

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Many: **Let us praise God for the life we have been given; let us worship Jesus, the Lord of life.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Spirit of the Living God"

#492

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: God of the living and the dead, although the self-examination of Lent causes us to become aware that we are yet in captivity, we have heard your command to come forth from the dark tombs that hold us, to be loosed from the ties that bind us, and be released to live in the victorious freedom of the light of your eternal day. And we arise to come forth in response to your call, to be amazed again, and to lift up our praise to you the Lord of life. For you are the One who reigns over death and life forever, the One in whose name we gather to worship and pray this day. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING*"I Will Arise" The Worship Team***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 11:1-45

SERMON**What's to Be Done with Our Dying?***** HYMN***"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"*

#461

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Tranquility"*

Schalkwijk

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

*** Prayer of Dedication****GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD***** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to live faithfully and confidently, following Jesus who is able to keep us steadfast and strong as we walk the road with him through death to life. The blessing of God our Life-Giver, of Jesus our Life-Savior, and the Holy Spirit our Life-Sustainer, is upon us. Go now in peace to be the church in the world.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"Hymn of Promise"*

#515

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"Postlude in C"*

Cappelan

United Evangelical Church, UCC
3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224
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www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net
An Open and Affirming congregation

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Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music
E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net



“Hosanna”

“BLESSED IS HE
WHO COMES IN
THE NAME OF
THE LORD!”

JOHN 12:13



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Hosanna!

Many: Hosanna in the highest!

All: Praise be to God!

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Hosanna"

#266

"The Palms"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather at your house of prayer, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that united with Christ and all the faithful we may one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory forever. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Hosanna (Be Lifted Higher)" The Worship Team

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"With Palms Before Thee"

Nordman

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: We go out with sure faith that the drama of our every day lived out with Jesus is one of passion that leads to victory. The blessing of God, the Creator who ordained the plan of ongoing redemption, the Son Jesus who first endured in obedience, and the Holy Spirit who strengthens us for our participation, is upon us, this day and always. Go out from this place renewed and refreshed to be the church that Jesus Christ calls us too joyfully be.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

#267

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Innes

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OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God

April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Ah, Dearest Jesus"

Middleton

GREETING

One: We are gathered in the presence of God, who asks us to choose between life and death, between blessing and curse.

Many: We are gathered like the people of Israel, who were challenged to choose the way of life.

One: Like them, we often follow the ways of death.

Many: Yet, like them, we have the freedom each day to begin anew by the grace of God.

One: By our presence here, we are saying that we choose life.

All: Let us praise the God of love and life who has called us to this place. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE

* **GATHERING HYMN**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

#255

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

CONFESSION OF SIN

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Many: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

One: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us confess our sins in silence and ask God for the forgiveness we need.

silence

One: Let us pray.

All: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Wash us through and through from our wickedness and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

All: While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. The love of God for us is shown in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

INTRODUCTION OF HAND WASHING

One: Friends in Christ, we are reminded by the scriptures, in diverse words and symbols, of what God intends for us. The water of our baptism is a cleansing sign of our dying and rising with Christ. The bread and wine of Holy Communion are saving food, announcing to us again Christ's sacrifice and victory for our salvation. Now, at Christ command, we share the water of humility, and cleansing, as once Christ did, to cleanse others, in the washing of feet of others. How happy we will be if we put into practice the truth of humility. With God's help, may we each practice humility.

* PRAYER OF CLEANSING

All: Jesus, Lamb of God, we gather this night to remember what you have done for us; how you poured out your life to show us the love of God. In ways too numerous to mention, we fail to respond to this love. On this night of fellowship at the table with you, pierce our hearts with a conviction of our own betrayals. Replace our arrogance with the humility and caring service you modeled in the washing of feet. Transform us by Your Spirit, O Christ, for truly we are not greater than you, our Teacher and Savior. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

RITUAL OF CLEANSING

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Wondrous Love

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!*

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:16-25

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL LESSON

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

MEDITATION

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#699

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Bach

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

(All will be invited to come to the front of the Sanctuary to receive communion)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Holy God, you have fed us all out of your own generous and gracious hands. At this table, we have received welcome, nourishment, hope, and consolation. May these things grow in us, alongside the gift of faith, so that we may plant their seeds in the world around us. As we rise from this table to follow Jesus to the cross, may your Holy Spirit guide us and strengthen us to take our place in your great and ongoing story of resurrection, redemption, and restoration. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* HYMN

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

#272

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished,
pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"O Savior Blest"

Bach



GOOD FRIDAY

IT IS FINISHED

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God

April 7, 2023

Good Friday

7:30 pm

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Were You There"

arr. Innes

GREETING

One: We are gathered in the presence of God, who asks us to choose between life and death, between blessing and curse.

Many: **We are gathered like the people of Israel, who were challenged to choose the way of life.**

One: Like them, we often follow the ways of death.

Many: **Yet, like them, we have the freedom each day to begin anew by the grace of God.**

One: By our presence here, we are saying that we choose life.

All: **Let us praise the God of love and life who has called us to this place. Amen.**

* GATHERING PRAYER

ALL: **Almighty God, as we hear your word tonight, look with mercy on this your family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is live and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

* OPENING HYMN

"Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

#263

SILENCE

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* TIME OF CONFESSION AND PRAYERS FOR MERCY

All: **God of Passion, last night around a table we were told to remember your faithfulness and love. On this day of betrayal and death, we also remember those times we have been part of the crowd seeking our best interest over what is right and good. On this day of fear and denial, we remember those times when we choose the path of safety over loyalty to your way. On this day of despair and loss, we remember the ways we have wandered away from your presence, only to complain that we are abandoned. God of the Cross, for all the ways we have missed the mark, all the ways we have come up short, forgive us. Renew our healing convictions, restore our call to service, rekindle our flame for justice, that we may once again pick up our cross and follow you. In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Even in the face of betrayal and rebellion, even in the face of death and denial, even in the face of fear and despair, God's grace knows no bounds. We are forgiven, we are called back into relationship, we are set back on the path that leads to the realm of God. Thanks be to God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***OUR RESPONSE OF PRAISE TO GOD'S GRACE**

Wondrous Love

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!*

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

READINGS AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS

At the end of the readings, all light in the sanctuary will be extinguished and a loud noise is heard symbolizing the closing of Jesus' tomb. The bells will toll 33 times, symbolic of each year of Jesus' life. Afterwards the lights will be raised to allow for safe exit from the sanctuary. Please wait for the return of lights before leaving in silence.

MEDITATION

FIRST READING	<i>Shadow of Betrayal</i>	Matthew 26:20-25
SECOND READING	<i>Shadow of Desertion</i>	Matthew 26:31-35
THIRD READING	<i>Agony of the Soul</i>	Luke 22:39-44
* HYMN	<i>"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"</i>	#261
FOURTH READING	<i>Unshared Vigil</i>	Mark 14:32-41
FIFTH READING	<i>Father, the Hour is Come</i>	John 17:1-6
SIXTH READING	<i>That They May All be One</i>	John 17:15-22
* HYMN	<i>"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"</i>	#284
SEVENTH READING	<i>Arrest in the Garden</i>	John 18:1-5
EIGHTH READING	<i>Shadow of the Cross</i>	Mark 15:16-20

FINAL READING

The Word was with God

John 1:1-4, 14, 10, 12; 3:19

* HYMN

"Were You There"

#283

THE BELL TOLLS

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SILENCE

* HYMN

"The Lord's Prayer"

#740

RELIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SILENCE

DEPARTURE

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*He is
not here,
but is
risen!*

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OUR MISSION

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Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God

April 9, 2022

Easter Sunday

10:00 am

* indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

*** GREETING**

One: Death has been swallowed up in victory!" (1 Cor 15:54b). Jesus Christ has been raised from the grave and the forces of evil overcome.

Many: Our Redeemer liveth! Praise be to God!

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Alleluia No. 1"

#291

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#288

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Resurrecting God, on this glorious day, the Day of Resurrection, we gather to celebrate the triumph of life over death, the success of love over human failure. Help us to realize the awesome truth of Easter, the implications of Christ's rising, of his appearing in a spiritual body. We need not fear that death is the failure of life but rather its success, its fulfillment! May our worship give you praise and thanks, and honor to Jesus, the Divine Deliverer of the message of forgiveness and life everlasting. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME—THE LIVING CROSS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Acts 10:34-43

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God

MUSICAL OFFERING

"He is Risen" The Worship Team

SERMON

Easter is an Earthquake

* HYMN

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

#289

(Tune: HYFRYDOL)

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

arr. Hustad

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us follow Jesus wherever we are led, ready at all times to speak a word for the sake of the gospel, confirming our witness with our deeds. The blessing of Christ, the One who sends us forth, and the empowering of the Holy Spirit remain with us always. Amen

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"The Day of Resurrection"

#298

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Easter Hymn"

Innes

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**THE CHANGE
THAT IS EASTER**

John 20:19-31

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe."

-John 20:29

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Alleluia! Praise God in the temple on earth;

Many: Praise God in the temple in heaven.

One: Praise God for mighty deeds and transcendent greatness!

Many: Praise God with instruments and dance!

One: Let everything that breathes praise God!

All: Alleluia!

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"He is Lord"

#305

"He Lives"

#302

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: God of wonder, it is because of the mighty thing you have done in raising Jesus from the tomb to appear to his loved ones that we gather as the church this day. It is because we, too, have believed, although we have not seen, that we seek to honor you with our praise and with our worship. Help us sense the presence of the risen Christ in our midst and His speaking of peace to our souls, the peace that casts out all fear. And as the spirit is breathed upon us, may we be strengthened for service in God's name. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING*"We Walk By Faith" The Worship Team***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 20:19-31

SERMON

The Change That Is Easter

*** HYMN***"Thine is the Glory"*

#310

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"*

Handel

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

*** Prayer of Dedication****GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD***** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to be the church of the resurrection that the world may know by the witness of our life and our love that something surely happened at Easter! The blessing, the peace, and the power of our risen Lord is upon us always.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"Lift High the Cross"*

#287

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE*"The Strife is O'er"*

arr. Hustad

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What
Happens
on Your
Road to
Emmaus?

Luke 24:13-35

He was a prophet
mighty in deed and word
before God
and all the people...

-Luke 24:19b

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: God is with us; we are not alone.

Many: Christ is with us; he comes to us as to the first disciples.

One: For he comes in his risen glory to comfort and bless, to counsel and enlighten.

All: Let us worship God and anticipate awareness of Christ among us.

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"I Love You, Lord"

#85

"You Are My King (Amazing Love)"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Lord Jesus, as you walked beside your friends on the Emmaus Road, help us to recognize you beside us here. We remember how in our past, you have walked with us even when we only knew it in retrospect. We remember how we saw signs of your presence and heard you call our name just when we needed you most. As we gather in community today, open our eyes to see you, our ears to hear you speaking, our minds to receive the truth in Scripture, and our hearts to love you more deeply. Gather us in and send us out to spread the good news of Christ with us wherever we go. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-23

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Spirit of God" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:13-35

SERMON

What Happens on Your Emmaus Road

* HYMN

"Trust and Obey"

#443

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Interlude"

Stainer

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Since the risen Christ is with you, go into the world as confident and joyful disciples. Stay close to him who is ever beside you as companion, guide, and sustainer; and be empowered for faithful ministry, in Jesus' name. The blessing of God, who in Christ walks with us on our Emmaus Road, sharing all that life holds, is upon us in love, always.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Christ is Alive!"

#312

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Prelude in C"

Bach

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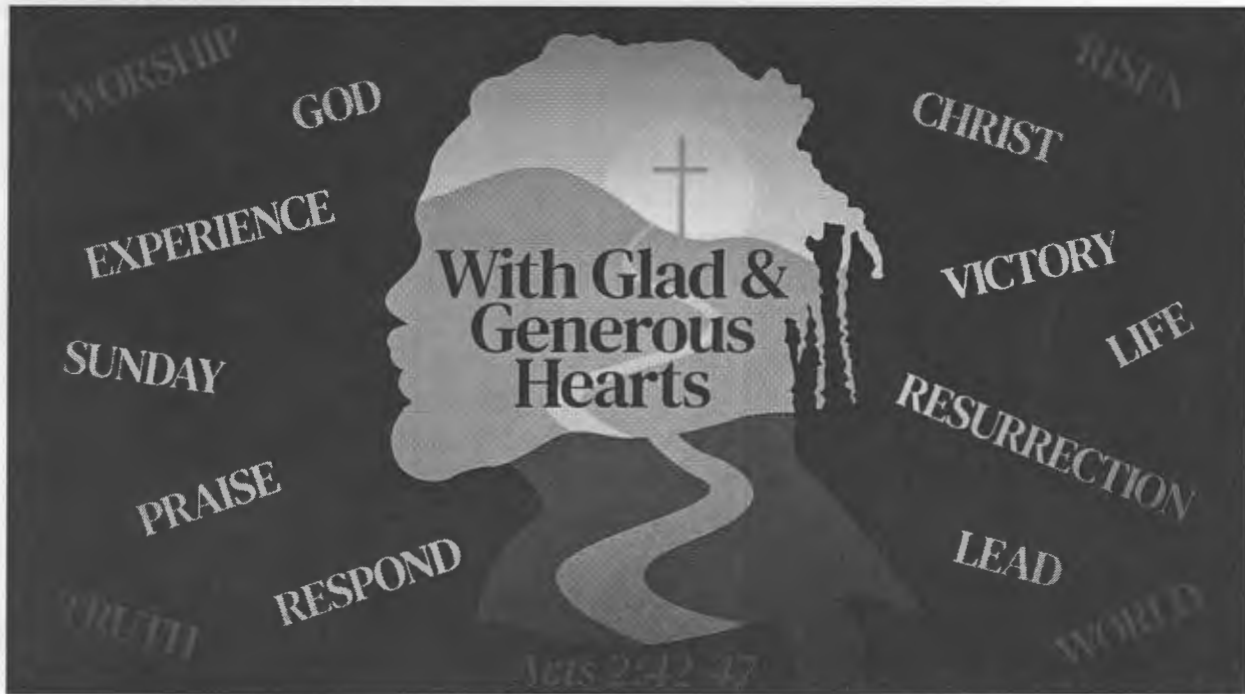
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All who believed were together
and had all things in common;
they would sell their possessions and goods
and distribute the proceeds to all,
as any had need.

-Acts 2:44-45

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: This is a day of Resurrection, a day of community celebration and thanksgiving.

Many: This is a day that reminds us of who we are, people of God and disciples of Jesus called to live resurrection lives in the world.

All: Let us glorify God as we worship here together and pray to be prepared to extend our worship offering into daily living.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"The Lord My Shepherd Guards Me Well"

#73

"Show Me Your Ways"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Great and gracious God, on this Lord's Day we gather to offer joyful worship, for we serve a risen Lord! You did not leave Jesus in the tomb, but as the sun appears to die and then to rise again, so Christ who was crucified, was raised from death. On this "sun day" we give you thanks for him who is alive and present in our midst. Enable us to offer ourselves with the praise we sing, the prayers we bring, the reflections of our minds, and the resources we lay upon the altar. Gather us together this day O God and receive our offering we pray, and bless us in our fellowship with you and one another, in Christ's name. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING**1 Peter 2:19-25**

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING*"Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God"*
*The Worship Team***GOSPEL LESSON****John 10:1-10****SERMON****With Glad and Generous Hearts***** HYMN***"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"***#440**

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE**#744**

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Sheep May Safely Graze"***Bach***** Doxology****#47**

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go out to be love incarnate, to live, to give, to work, and to witness to God's wondrous deeds in Christ Jesus, as we continue our worship in the world to the honor and glory of God's holy name. The blessing of the victorious God, the risen Christ, and the incarnating Spirit is upon us as we go forth to be the church in the world for all people.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"We Are All One in Mission"

#552

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Time"

Johnson

United Evangelical Church, UCC

3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

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An Open and Affirming congregation

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Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net





Homecoming

John 14:1-14

Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If it were not so, would I have told you that

I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come again and will take you to myself,

so that where I am, there you may be also.

-John 14:1-3

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Death does not defeat God's power to save, for Jesus is alive, risen, and with us still!

Many: And the living Lord reaches toward us, to draw us close in a relationship that is now and forever.

All: Let us all with joy worship the God of resurrection!

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Be Still My Soul"

#451

"The Way"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Lord Jesus, on Easter you defeated death, you rose from the dead, you sallied forth from the tomb and gave death dealing evil the slip. Then, in an act of extravagant love, you came back to us. You forgave us, embraced us, taught us, reassured us, gave us peace. Lord, as your people gathered together in this place on this day, we pray you will keep coming back to us. Keep coming back for us. Do not leave us until you have bestowed upon us abundant life. Bring us home. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Cornerstone" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 14:1-14

SERMON

Homecoming

* HYMN

"As We Gather at Your Table"

#695

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"I Come, O Savior to Thy Table"

Kretchmar

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go out in the confidence that your relationship with God is everlasting. Go forth in love, joy, and peace to tell the world the truth of eternal life. The blessing of God, the homemaker; of Christ, the way home; And the Holy Spirit, the beckoning voice, is ever with us in patient love. Go now and be the church in the world.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

#544

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

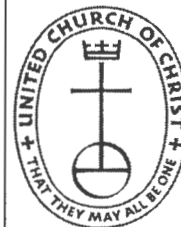
"Postlude on The Church's One Foundation"

Innes

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The Love of
A Mother

John 13:31-35

*I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another.*

*Just as I have loved you,
you also should love one another.*

*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another.*

--John 13:34-35

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: We come together as a community of both believers and seekers, come to meet the Risen Christ.

Many: For it is in meeting Jesus, risen from the dead, that our whole being is transformed.

All: Let us worship God and praise Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life everlasting.

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Faith of Our Mothers"

see insert

"Refiner's Fire"

#374

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Gracious Lord, you have promised to meet those who seek your face. Come now, as we worship you with prayer and song, be present as we read and hear your words in scripture, attend us as we celebrate your love and ask your blessings to be upon all people. Bless us to be a blessing unto the family and the world you have given to us, both now and forever more. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Marvelous" The Worship Team

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Consolation"

Mendelssohn

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfill our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ. Go in peace. Love and care for one another in the name of Christ Jesus, gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer be with all of us this day and always.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#358

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on O Love, That Will Not Be Let Go"

Johnson

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Gone Up

Acts 1:6-14

They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

-Acts 1:11

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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May 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: "Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

Many: **When it says 'He ascended,' what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth?**

One: He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things" (Ephesians 4:7-10).

All: **Let us worship God who in Christ Jesus is our ascended Lord.**

*** TIME OF PRAISE**

"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

#323

"He is Exalted"

#122

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: **As we are gathered in community divine one, we know you came down to us in Jesus Christ. You lived with us and died for us because of love for your creation. And now you have not only raised Jesus from the grave, but raised him to reign and rule in the universe as Lord, mighty and compassion and power. We praise you; We worship and adore you for establishing us forever in your favor through him, and for the assurance that his Kingdom of peace and justice shall surely one day be manifest on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING*"Blessing and Honor" The Worship Team***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 17:1-11

SERMON

Gone Up

*** HYMN***"Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"*

#320

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH**Call for the Offering****Musical Reflection***"Glorify Thy Name"*

Adkins

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.**** Prayer of Dedication****GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD**

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Go to live in the world as faithful followers of Jesus. Go to do Christ's will, to live in Christ love, and to share the gospel with Christ's authority, for such is your commission. The blessing, power, and peace of God, cosmic creator, ascended Christ, and enabling Spirit is upon you always. Go now into the world and be the church.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN***"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

#317

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

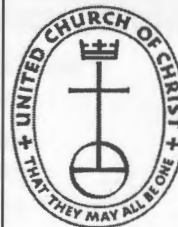
“Postlude on *Diademata*”

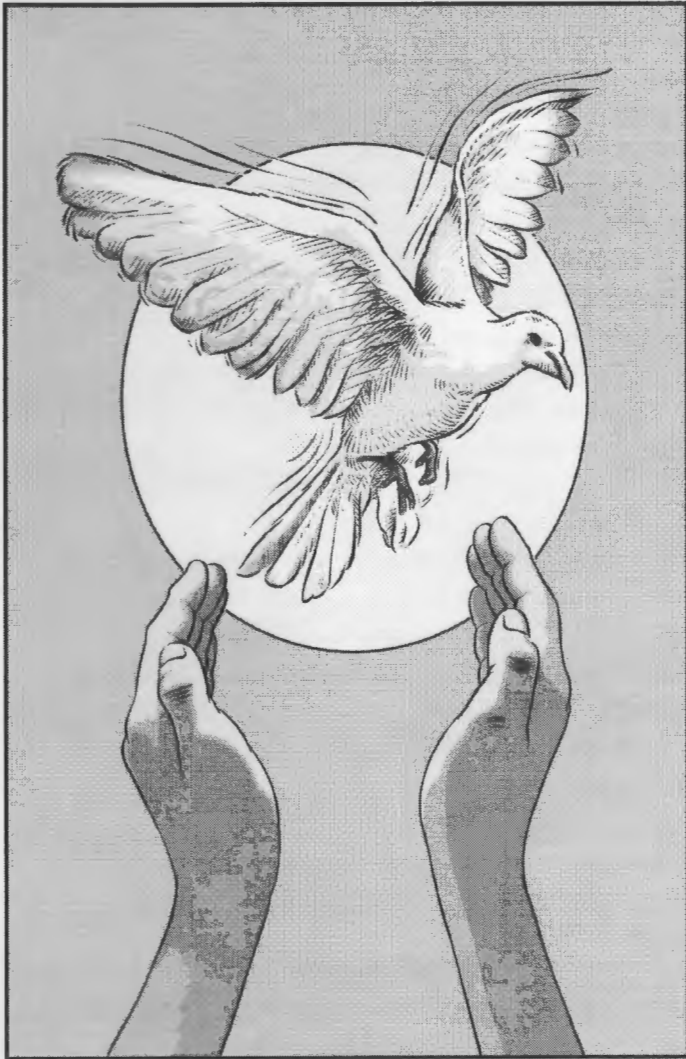
Johnson

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Doris Voelker (née Osburne)

December 3, 1937—April 1, 2023

Sacrament of Holy Communion

To this table of love and grace, all who desire are invited to partake. In order to remove any obstacles one might have from full participation at the table, communion is comprised of grape juice. Today we celebrate by the ancient tradition of intinction. As you are able, you are invited to come forward, take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. For those who need the sacrament brought to them, please raise your hand and the servers will come to you.

Invitation to the Table

Prayer for the Cup & Bread

Memorial Prayer and Christ'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 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.

Blessing and Serving

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Hymn of Grace** *"God Bless America"* (see below)

Committal

Closing and Blessing God's People

God Bless America

*God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above*

*From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home*

*God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above*

*From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home*

*From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home*

Irving Berlin

Dementia

On a clear day!!!!!! Being a caregiver for someone with Alzheimer's is a blessing and a curse.

I am blessed to know I have a few people who understand.

My mom has Alzheimer's, and I am her caregiver, I get to see the beautiful soul of my mom and hear the stories of her life, most people will never get those blessings,

There are clear days,

There are days she remembers times gone by and smiles recalling stories, she may not know exactly who I am, but she knows enough to trust me with her memory gems ...

There are days she has no clue who anyone in her family is, and can't finish a sentence for loss of words...

There are nights when I say, "good night" and she says "I love you" that I'm not sure she will wake up, and there are nights I pray God would lovingly take her, so she doesn't have to go thru this any longer. The guilt associated with that prayer always hurts my heart.

The hardest days are when she fills up with tears and ask me if anyone called and I can't say yes,,,,,

She is going blind and deaf, and is starting with early stages of Parkinson's...

What kind of God gives one loving, caring, innocent, person all these challenges? And the bigger question is how she always praises this God????

I pray that everyone who reads this will never have to experience the challenges my mom has every day, but I pray you get to experience the love I have for my mom and the trust she has in me.

Love you,
Woody



Receive the Gift

-Acts 2:1-21-

*When the day of Pentecost had come,
they were all together in one place.
All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in other languages,
as the Spirit gave them ability.*

-Acts 2:1,4

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

May 28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: "O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Many: Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day-to-day.

One: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

Many: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised (Ps 96:1-4a)."

All: Let us worship the great God of our salvation, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ with our lips and our lives.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

#134

"Holy Spirit"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Holy God, if you hadn't given us the Spirit, how would we know Jesus as Lord and Savior? If you hadn't given us the Spirit, how would we understand his truth, or proclaim his message? Let your Holy Spirit descend upon us gathered here as it fell upon those gathered on that first Pentecost. Equip us with your Spirit's power and blessing, that we may offer you a pleasing worship, comprehend your living word for us this day, and be enabled to witness in our living to your wondrous deeds. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-21

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Holy Spirit Rain Down" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-23

SERMON

Receive the Gift

* HYMN

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

#132

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

Gottschalk

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go out committed to testifying to the kindness of God and the love of Jesus as the Spirit leads and enables our witness. The blessing of God, the merciful one; of Jesus, the saving one; and the Holy Spirit, the empowering one, is upon us, that we may faithfully fulfill Christ's command, to love one another and proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom until he comes back.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"America, the Beautiful"

#727

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

“Come Holy Ghost, Creator Blest”

Bach

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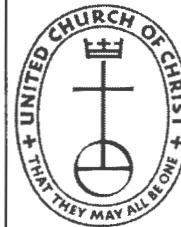
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-THERE IS MORE-

MATTHEW
28:16-20

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything
that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always,
to the end of the age.*

-Matthew 28:19-20

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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June 4, 2023

Trinity Sunday

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The Lord our God is one God, one Holy Trinity of love.

Many: The Lord our God is the one who, as creator, seeded life into us.

One: The Lord our God is the one who, as Jesus the Christ, has come and shared an earthly journey- living, suffering dying, and rising.

Many: The Lord our God is the one who, as Holy Spirit, is present and active with, within, and among us always.

All: Praise be to God, one Holy Trinity of love!

* TIME OF PRAISE

"How Majestic Is Your Name"

#42

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

#136

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God of abundant outpouring, you are manifest in this world in countless, magnificent, creative ways. All nature sings your praise in harmony with the music of the spheres, and we, your human creatures, echo with our own songs of adoration. You are our God, the blessed trinity of love and power, and we bow head and heart before you. Receive the worship we offer this day, through Jesus Christ, our savior. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"With Broken Bread in Our Hands"
The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:16-20

SERMON

There is More

* HYMN

"Come, Share the Lord"

#696

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Meditation on Nicaea"

Post

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go out to share in God's continuing love, relationship, and conversation with the world, working and witnessing as the Spirit of Christ leads and empowers. The blessing of the one God: divine lover, Jesus the beloved, and the Holy Spirit of loving abides in and among us always. Go now, out from this place to live and love as the Church of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

#592

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Nicaea"

Post

United Evangelical Church, UCC

3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

Office: 410-276-0393, Wed-Fri 9 am-4 pm

www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net

An Open and Affirming congregation

Rev. Dr. Vertie Powers, "Supply" Pastor

Cell Phone: 336-675-5401 * E-Mail: vpittle1@gmail.com

Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net





As Jesus was walking along,
he saw a man called Matthew
sitting at the tax booth;
and he said to him, "Follow me."
And he got up and followed him.

-Matthew 9:9

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: God said to Abram, "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you ... so that you will be a blessing."

Many: We constitute a company of ordinary people, much like Abram and Sarai;

All: Let us worship the One God who blesses us all on the journey. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Open Our Eyes"

#491

"The God of Abraham Praise"

#16

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Journeying Jesus, your call to discipleship has arrested us right where we are and penetrated our lives. We are amazed that you call us just as we are and promise to make of us more than we can imagine. We want to follow wherever you lead. We want to be strengthened in our obedience and faithfulness. We want to be a blessing in your name in the world. By your spirit, do an uncommon work in us. Prepare us for the journey as we worship you this day.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"My Tribute" The Worship Team

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"El-Shaddai"

Card

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go out to fulfill our calling to mission in great or small ways, with great or small effects, knowing that all ministry done as unto Christ is a blessing. The God of covenant, the Christ of commission, and the Holy Spirit of counsel blesses us all on our journey. Let us go out from this place into the world to be the church of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

#72

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Rondo in G"

Bull

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We should not be surprised that evil can only be maintained by evil. It cannot survive except by propagating more evil. But the point about our faith is that God takes something that was an instrument of evil, of death, of destruction, of shame – the cross – God takes that and transfigures it so that it becomes a source of light.

– Bishop Desmond Tutu

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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June 18, 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The Lord our God is great.

Many: The Lord is worthy of our praise.

One: Come; Let us remember the great things God has done for us.

Many: Let us not neglect to teach our children the greatness of God.

One: Let us not forget our past and those who have gone before us.

Many: We remember our ancestors, our history; and we name our future.

One: Let us lift up our voices in song, lift our arms in praise, and open our hearts in gratitude.

All: Let us greet God with our hymns of praise.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Faith of Our Fathers"

#530

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

#729

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* UNISON GATHERING PRAYER

All: Almighty God, we come to worship you today with open hearts and open minds. We want to hear and receive what you have to say to us in this service. Speak to us today as you spoke to those who went before us. Tell us the stories of your wonders and greatness. We are ready to hear them. Remind us once again of your grace and love. Help us teach your goodness to our children and the next generation. Amen

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST WORD

Juneteenth and Father's Day Celebration

Rev. Vertie Powers

SECOND WORD

Let My People Go
by James Weldon Johnson

read by Alissa Huber

MUSICAL OFFERING "Go Down Moses (Let My People Go)"
The Worship Team

THIRD WORD Judgement Day read by Alissa Huber
by James Weldon Johnson

MUSICAL OFFERING "Fix Me, Jesus" The Worship Team

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

* HYMN "Amazing Grace" #422

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"This Little Light of Mine"

Traditional

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: God’s peace go with you into the worlds in which you live; be nurtured by the time of gathering, be faithful in the time apart. Love and serve each other in the name of the faithful God, who calls us to be God’s people; and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be with us always.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"God Be with You"

#716

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

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POSTLUDE

"Postlude"

Couperin

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*"Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand,
for I will make a great nation of him."*

~ Genesis 21:18

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: "...Be strong, do not fear!... For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert."

Many: Let us worship the One who hears those who cry in the wilderness and who comes to rescue;

All: Let us praise and lift up God's merciful Name.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Glorify Thy Name"

#146

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God of the Desert, you reach out in compassion toward all who cry to you in their need. Those who have been called "forgotten," you name "beloved;" those who have been cast out, you gather to yourself; those who have been reviled, you bless. In our worshiping this day, we bow our hearts before you, desiring to be fashioned after your own heart, that we may love as you love and care as you care. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 21:8-21

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 6:1b-11

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"As We Go" The Worship Team

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Gabriel

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go out to dig a well with Christ in the wilderness of the world, and lead those who are perishing from thirst to God's refreshing stream of living water. The blessing of the God of Abraham and Isaac, of Hagar and Ishmael, is upon us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"

#99

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Tune"

Swan

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*Whoever welcomes a prophet
in the name of a prophet
will receive a prophet's reward; and
whoever welcomes a righteous person
in the name of a righteous person
will receive the reward of the righteous;*

~Matthew 10:41

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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July 2, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

* HYMN *"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"* #728

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Loving God, we gather in your presence, for you are where we find fullness of love, hope and peace. Thank you for being among us today. You direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape our world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 28:5-9

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 6:12-23

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 10:40-42

SERMON

Prophetic Voices

* HYMN

"As We Gather at Your Table"

#695

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Interlude"

Stainer

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go now in peace to proclaim the wondrous ways of our God; letting love be in our words and mercy in our actions. And may the God who creates, the Christ who saves and the Holy Spirit who guides, go with us every step of the way.

All: Amen!

* HYMN

"America, the Beautiful"

#727

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on America, the Beautiful"

Koulroy

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*Come to me,
all you that are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.*

~Matthew 11:28

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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July 9, 2023

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

* HYMN

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

#111

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

SERMON

Resting In God

* HYMN

"O Come to Me, the Master Said"

#346

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

“Consolation”

Mendelssohn

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go forth from this place knowing that true rest and true peace are found in God alone. Go forth, celebrating faith, celebrating hope and celebrating the love that surpasses all understanding. Go forth to be the transformed people that God has called you to be. And may the love of God, the peace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit carry you from this place.

All: Amen!

* HYMN

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#473

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Karg-Elert

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ORDINARY PEOPLE



Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias.

The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias."

He answered, "Here I am, Lord."

The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul.

At this moment he is praying..."

~Acts 9:10-11

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

July 16, 2023

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: The world has been reconciled to God through Christ, and God has entrusted the good news of this message to us.

Many: As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be ambassadors, for God appeals to the world through ordinary people like us.

All: Let us hear again this high commission, and be prepared to respond in faithfulness.

* HYMN

"Thy Word"

#664

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: O God of great design, you have revealed your plan to draw the whole world to yourself. And, amazingly, you have chosen to work through us to make know your inclusive, forgiving love and your transforming power. As we open ourselves to you in worship this day, may we be so caught up in your Holy Spirit that unworthiness and fear may melt away, and become strong, risk-taking agents of your purpose and participants in your mission.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 25:19-34

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SERMON TEXT

Acts 9:10-19

SERMON

Ordinary People

* HYMN

"Search Me, O God"

#385

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

“More Precious than Silver”

DeShazo

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go into the world committed to doing our best to be faithful to the calling of our discipleship, as the Holy Spirit gives us power. The blessing of God who birthed the human family, Jesus the Christ who broke through every humanly constructed barrier, and the Holy Spirit who summons us to risk living an open, inclusive love, is upon us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

“Hymn of Promise”

#515

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

Lemmens

United Evangelical Church

Worship Service
10:00 am
11:00 am
12:00 pm
1:00 pm
2:00 pm
3:00 pm
4:00 pm
5:00 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm
8:00 pm
9:00 pm

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
GATHERING PRAYER
ALL: O God of grace and mercy, we thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit, who dwells within us and empowers us to live in love and peace with all people. Help us to be instruments of your love and grace in the world.

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A Sower Went Out to Sow

Matthew 13:1-11, 24-30

And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path,
and the birds came and ate them up.

Other seeds fell on rocky ground,
where they did not have much soil,
and they sprang up quickly,
since they had no depth of soil.

-Matthew 13:4-5

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
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July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Lord, you know us so well. We thank you for your presence in our lives, even when we don't recognize it. This day we have gathered, coming from a week of unexpected happenings and events which have surprised us. Make us ready to become stronger witnesses for your love as we receive your word and find our spirits and lives healed.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

#501

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Seed-scattering God, we come to you this day with so many things on our hearts and minds. Some of the events this week have been very positive and have caused us to celebrate; but we are constantly besieged by worries, doubts and fears. These negative things crowd out your word and we become like the useless soil, unable to receive and grow. Slow us down. Continue to pour your love on us because we really hunger and thirst for it. Forgive us when we allow all the negativity to drown out your word. Scatter again the seeds of peace, love, hope and joy that we may be better disciples for you in this world which is in so much pain. AMEN.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-19a

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Consolation"

Mendelssohn

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go forth now into the world in peace, hold fast to that which is good, render no one evil for evil. Rather help the afflicted, support the poor, love and serve all people, rejoicing always in the power of God's Holy Spirit which is mightily at work in you.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#358

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Tune"

Swan

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*And he said to them,
"Therefore every scribe who has been
trained for the kingdom of heaven
is like the master of a household
who brings out of his treasure
what is new and what is old."*

~Matthew 13:52

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: I greet you this morning saying, from the past we reap rich, time-tested wisdom from sacred Scriptures and from faithful saints.

Many: Praise be to God for the heritage of the old!

One: For the future we need fresh inspiration and broadened insights.

Many: Praise be to God for the hope of the new!

One: In the present we live in the power of the Spirit between Christian heritage and Christian hope.

All: Praise be to the eternal God of the old and of the new!

* HYMN

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

#549

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Ever-revealing God, with grateful and expectant hearts we come to worship you. We praise you for the gifts inherited from the past, gifts of the recorded experience of saints of old, graces received through ancient Scripture: stories, poems and hymns, prayers and proverbs. And we bless you for our own past experience and discovery in our journey with Jesus. Yet we come with longing for your word and wisdom for Christian life and service in the time that is now, that we may work faithfully with you to communicate the gospel of your love in a needing world. We are open, and we are listening. Help us to sense the winds of your Spirit, and to respond. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus the Christ and so it is that we say Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 29:15-28

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

Treasure: New and Old

* HYMN

"Seek Ye First"

#349

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"You Are My All in All"

Jernigan

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Honoring the heritage of our past, we go out to embrace the future as God gives it birth. The blessing of God, creator, and recreator of the world is upon us as we go forward in faith.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"I Am Thine, O Lord"

#408

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Oh Praise the Lord"

Croft

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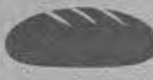
Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music
E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net



ABUNDANCE



NOT



SCARCITY



Matthew 14:13-21

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish,

he looked up to heaven,

and blessed and broke the loaves,

and gave them to the disciples,

and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up

what was left over of the broken pieces,

twelve baskets full.

~Matthew 14:19-20

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

August 6, 2023

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: I greet you this morning in the name of the One who says, "the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must give not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Many: And God is able to provide us with every spiritual blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, we may share abundantly in every good work.

All: Let us join in the worship of God whose nature is divine abundance, not scarcity, and whose will is extravagant giving.

* HYMN

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

#111

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God of unlimited grace, we see the profusion of your love and creativity all around. Creatures and colors abound in field and forest, sea and sky, and the variation of forms, earthly and celestial astounds the human mind. How great are your works, O God; how amazing your divine imagination which births all things. For gifts beyond naming, and generosity beyond understanding we praise you; we worship you. And pray that by your nature implanted in our being, we may bless others as we are blessed. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 32:22-31

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: As Jesus the Christ multiplied loaves and fishes, we are sent to multiply works of love, that all may be fed from the bounty of your provision. The blessing of God, the creator of abundance; of Jesus, the provider of amazing grace; and the Holy Spirit, the purveyor of boundless love, is with us always. Amen.

All: Amen!

* HYMN

"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

#591

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

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POSTLUDE

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COMFORT
IN THE
STORM

MATTHEW 14:22-33

*But immediately Jesus
spoke to them and said,
"Take heart, it is I;
do not be afraid."*

~Matthew 14:27

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

August 13, 2023

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Come, let us use our voices to praise the Lord.

Many: Our mouths will shout forth praise.

One: Let us use our minds to ponder the wondrous deeds of God.

Many: We will call to mind God's mighty acts.

One: With all of our strength and being, let us worship the Lord of love.

All: We will worship from our depths. Our souls exult in God! God our
passionate life.

* HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

#411

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God of grace, we gather in your presence this day and long for more of you. We open our hearts, minds, and souls to worship You this day. Thank you, God, that today we dwell and live in your presence. Thank you, that as we gather together, we join with all of our siblings across the land to glorify your holy name. Come be with us, inspire us, and lead us in our time of worship together. We ask this in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go into the world where sudden storms may darken the skies over homes and relationships, streets and nations. Take faith, for God is present with power to save. Take hope, for peace is in our midst in Christ Jesus. Take courage, for you do not ever go alone. The blessing of God, creator, savior, and sustainer is upon us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story"

#560

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

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*Then Jesus answered her,
"Woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish."
And her daughter was healed instantly.*

~Matthew 15:28.

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

August 20, 2023

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Jesus reaches toward us, calling us to be disciples, gathering us together as church.

Many: We are one people, all members of God's family.

One: Jesus reaches toward others, with love and caring that knows no boundary.

Many: We are one people, all members of God's family.

One: Let us worship God, and be as Christ in welcoming, loving, and caring for all who come in faith seeking the Savior.

All: We are one people, all members of God's family.

* HYMN

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

#72

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Lord Jesus, lover of every soul, you have drawn us to yourself and named us your church. But you have never intended we should become ingrown and inward looking in our fellowship. Give us the grace to look honestly at ourselves, and as we worship this day help us be willing to hear your challenge to a broadened inclusivity. May our hearts be expanded and may the boundaries we put around ourselves crumble. May our loving increasingly reflect your own and be a faithful witness to you in the world. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:1-15

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go out committed to breaking through walls that divide the children of God, willing to be open to differences among us, but yet covenanted by sameness with brothers and sisters of faith, whoever and wherever they be. The God of all-encompassing love enfolds and holds us and the whole human family in caring arms, blessing us with presence, peace, and eternal hope this day and forever.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

#603

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

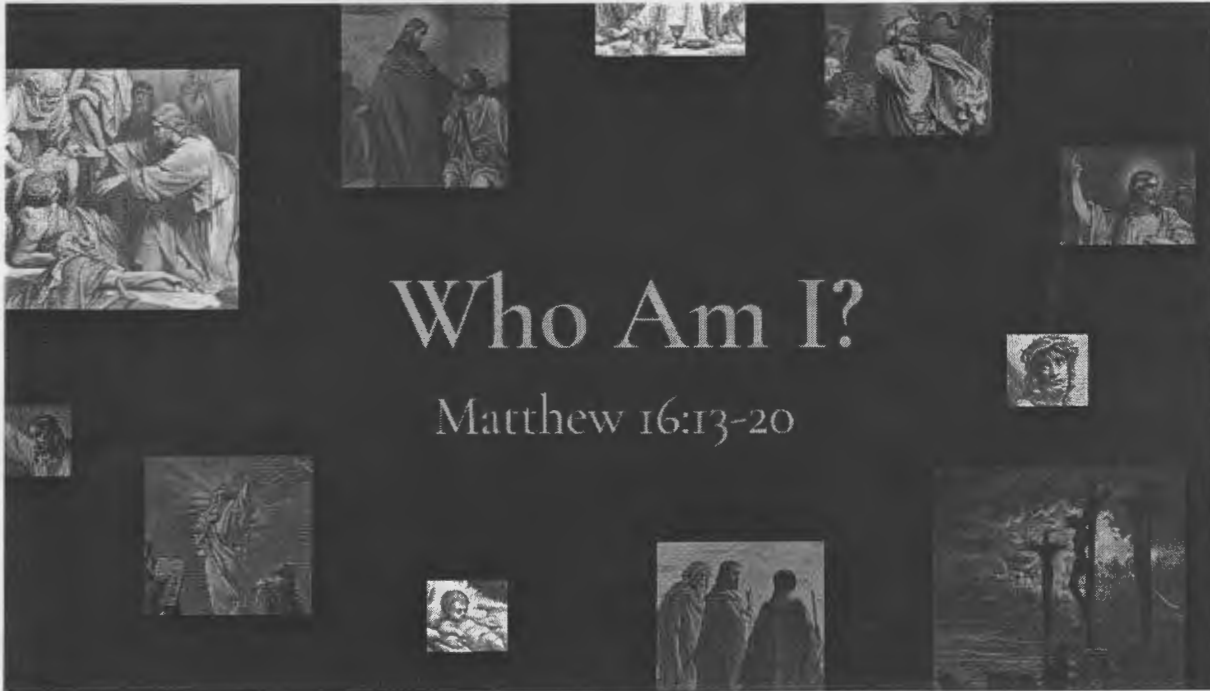
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He said to them,

"But who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter answered,

"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

~Matthew 16:15-16

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

August 27, 2023

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Who is Jesus, the one born long ago in human flesh?

Many: We yearn to know more of him, this mysterious Messiah of God.

One: Who is Jesus, the one who lived, suffered, and died as one of us, yet wondrously rose again?

Many: He is "God with us," Spirit alive, love alive in our midst!

All: Let us worship God for the amazing gift of Jesus, Son of Man, Son of God.

* HYMN

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

#598

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Gracious God, we thank you for the revelation of yourself in Jesus your Son. We celebrate the gift of Messiah in our worshiping this day, present to us as the Christ, within and among us, Lord of our lives, head of the church. Help us draw near to him who is ever with us, to know him more intimately, love him more deeply, and follow him more joyfully and faithfully each day. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 1:8-2:1-10

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

SERMON

Who Am I?

* HYMN

"Rock of Ages"

#384

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Let us go into the world to share the good news that Jesus the Messiah, the long awaited one has come as Son of Man and Son of God, and remains with us as the Risen Christ. We are not alone; God in Christ is with us! The blessing of God, the eternally present one; in Jesus, the Son, is upon us to empower our profession of truth and our service of love. Let us now leave this place to be the church in the world!

All: Amen.

* HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

#466

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

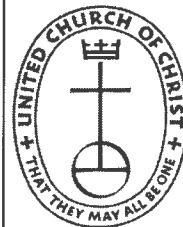
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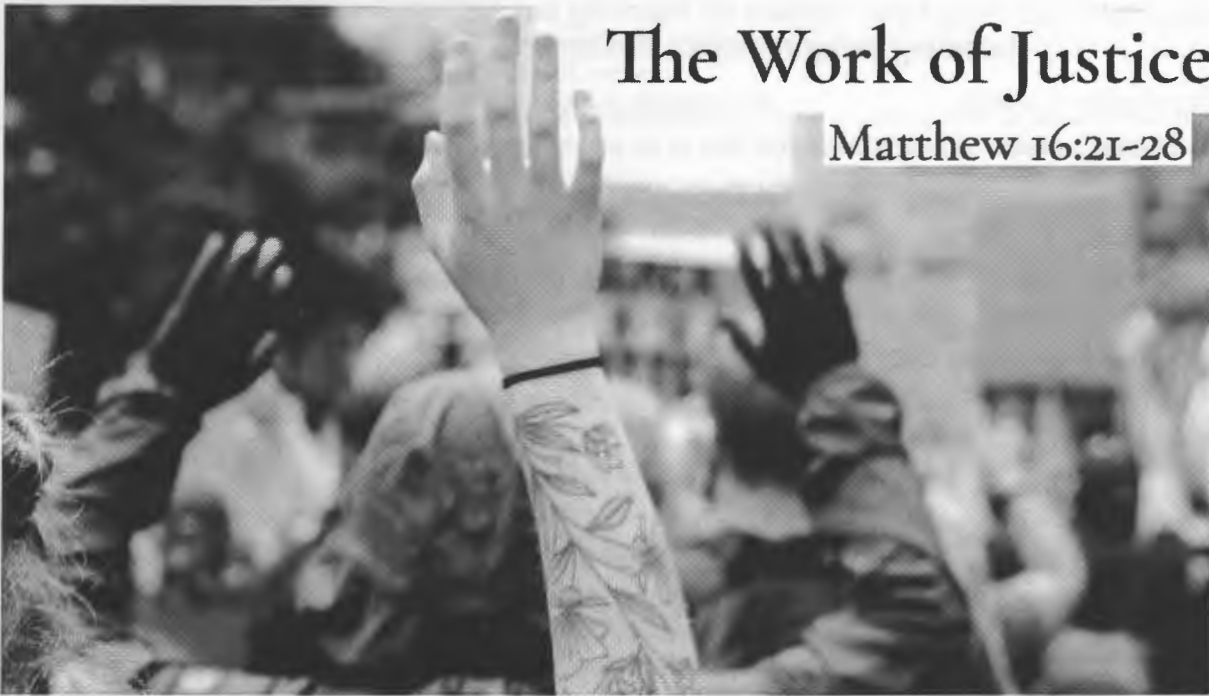
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The Work of Justice

Matthew 16:21-28



"For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

~Matthew 16:25-26

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

September 3, 2023

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Then grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

* HYMN

"The God of Abraham Praise"

#16

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Eternal God, companion of all who seek you, and seeker of all who turn away from you, draw near to us that we may draw near to you. Grant us the grace to love and to serve you that we may find in your will our true freedom. Give us, O Lord, an eye for justice, a tender heart, and the ability to view all of life as precious. Teach us, dear lord, to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus, and we say Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-15

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:21-28

SERMON

The Work of Justice

* HYMN

"As We Gather at Your Table"

#695

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Tranquility"

Schalkwijk

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Go forth with the authority Christ gives to his church. Cry out against wrong. Heal where there is hurt. Feed, clothe, and defend those who live on the margin. In all things, go out from this place to be for the world all that Jesus calls us to be and give God the glory and praise, now and forever.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"America, the Beautiful"

#727

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

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POSTLUDE

"The God of Abraham Praise"

arr. Innes

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"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

~Matthew 18:15, 20

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

September 10, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: "If anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such as one in a spirit of gentleness" (Gal 6:1).

Many: True fellowship among God's people gives glory to God.

One: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God" (Col 3:16).

All: True fellowship among God's people gives glory to God.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"O, Sing to the Lord"
"How Great is Our God"

#15
see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God of love, we pray to be a community of believers united in love for you and one another, a fellowship whose life honors Christ whose name we bear, and is a worthy witness to the world. Having been established as church, we are charged with the responsibility to grow and mature, to be a people of integrity. Help us to be more real in our relationships, more willing to be with one another in openness, sincerity, and truth, to both rebuke and encourage, to reprove wrongdoing and counsel holiness. As we worship together now, may streams of justice and mercy converge among us with cleansing, healing, life-giving waters. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Where Two or Three Are Gathered"
The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-20

SERMON

Forgiveness and Restoration

* HYMN

"Just As I Am"

#354

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Andante"

Mendelssohn

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: As a people who are one in the unity of the Spirit, go out as members of Christ's restorative community to continue in God's way and work in the wider community of the world. The blessing of the sanctifying Spirit is upon us all.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"We All Are One in Mission"

#552

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Tuba Tune in D Major"

Lang

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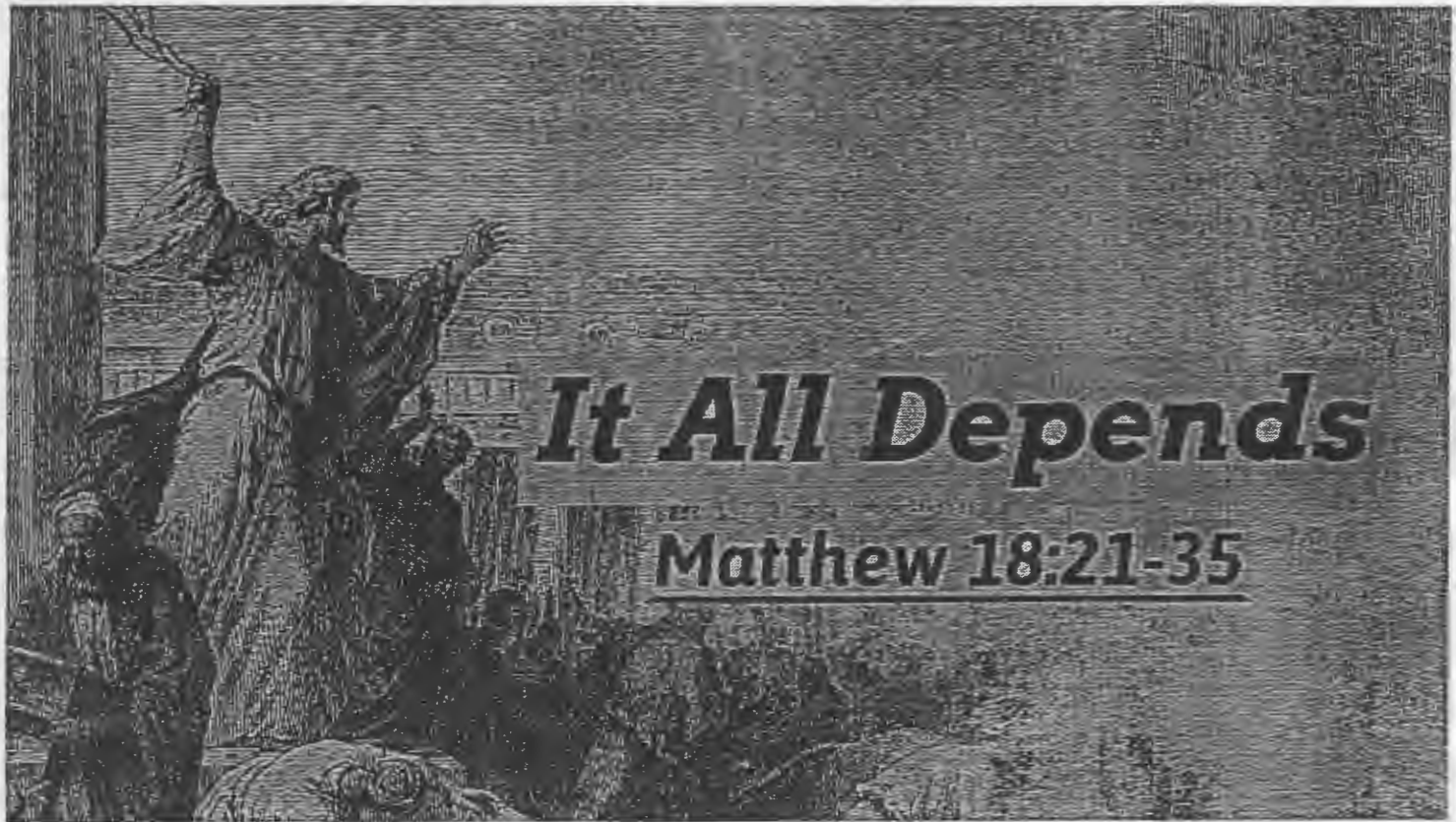
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Cell Phone: 336-675-5401 * E-Mail: vpittle1@gmail.com

Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net





"Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times? Jesus said to him, Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'"

~Matthew 18:21-22

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

September 17, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: We thank you, God, for the assurance that your purposes will be fulfilled in your creation.

Many: We thank you, God, that it is in your plan for us to participate in your saving work.

All: We thank you, God, that we can trust in your power made operative through our obedience.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Morning Has Broken"

see insert, #35

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Faithful God, we come together this day to worship you and to recall your saving acts in former days. We ask that our faith be strengthened as we are touched again by the stories of your mighty power at work on behalf of your people. Our recollection takes us from the Red Sea to the Jordan, from Egypt to Canaan, from the cradle of Christ to the cross and the empty tomb. And we see and wonder at your choosing to work your miracles, and we see and wonder at our choosing us to work your miracles, deliver your justice, and rekindle our gratitude for mercy given and for mercy extended to others. We give you thanks and praise for your gracious acts towards us. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus the Christ, and we say Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 14:19-

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

It All Depends

* HYMN

"At the Name of Jesus"

see insert, #321

 WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

* Doxology

#47

*We exalt thee,
We exalt thee,
We exalt thee, O Lord.*

* Prayer of Dedication

 GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: You are called, commissioned, and equipped to be those through whom God's purposes are accomplished in the world. Go to fulfill your high calling in the name of Christ. The blessing of the God of salvation history of the work fulfilled and yet still in progress, is upon us all. Be blessed to be forgiven as you forgive.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"I Then Shall Live"

see insert, #372

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE--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 indebtedness as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thou art the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

And thou A--men Amen Amen A--men
SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Music Ministry

Prayer Book

Prayer Book

Prayer Book of the Lord

* Prayer in English

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: You are called, commissioned, and equipped to be those through whom God's purposes are accomplished in the world. Go to fulfill your high calling in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

United Evangelical Church, UCC
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www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net
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What Do We Deserve?

Matthew 20:1-16



**"So the last will be first,
and the first will be last "**

~Matthew 20:16

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

September 24, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: "Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! For God says to Moses,
'I will have mercy, on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom
I have compassion.'"

Many: "So it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy"
(Rom 9:14-16). And all of us are in need of God's mercy; all of us depend on
God's compassion.

All: God is faithful and just, showing kindness and favor toward those in need. Let us
worship God with thanksgiving.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

see insert

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

#598

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Gracious God, we ask what we must do to be citizens of your realm, and your
answer shakes us. In our secular life we live by established social law, but in
Christ we are subject to, and called to live by your spiritual law, a law where
justice is determined not by labor or power, influence or worthiness, but by mercy
and compassion. In Jesus, you have shown us that it is not by what we or others
earn or deserve that forgiveness and favor are poured upon us, but by your grace
alone. We come in our need for your mercy this day and pray to be so cleansed
and filled with your Spirit that we are channels of your love and witnesses to your
divine mercy in our life the world.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 16:2-15

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING*"To Live Is Christ" The Worship Team***GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 20:1-16

SERMON

What Do We Deserve?

*** HYMN***"Give Thanks"*

#359

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Thanks Be to God"

Handel

*** Doxology**

#47

*We exalt thee,**We exalt thee,**We exalt thee, O Lord.**** Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** SENDING FORTH**

One: Let us go into the world trusting that whatever we offer of work or witness, time or talent is received, valued, blessed, and multiplied by God's grace. The blessing of the God of eternal mercy, the Christ of divine forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit of indiscriminate love is upon us.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"God of Years, Thy Love Hath Led Us"

see insert

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"O Praise the Lord"

Croft

United Evangelical Church, UCC

3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

Office: 410-276-0393, Wed-Fri 9 am-4 pm

www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net

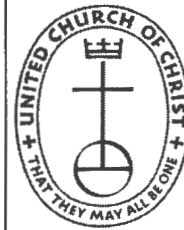
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A Tale of Difference

Matthew 21:23-32

*"For John came to you in the way of the righteous
and you did not believe him,
but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him;
and even after you saw it,
you did not change your minds and believe him."*

~ Matthew 21:32

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

October 1, 2023

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: With what shall we come before the Holy One, and bow ourselves before God on high?

Many: Shall we come before God with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

One: God has showed you, O people, what is good; and what does the Holy One require of you?

All: To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"He is Lord"

#305

"What a Beautiful Name"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Gracious God, gentle in your power and strong in your tenderness, you have brought us forth from the womb of your being and breathe into us the breath of life. We know that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from you. Feed our deep hungers with the living bread that you give us in Jesus Christ. May Jesus promise, "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them, be fulfilled in us. Make us a joyful company of your people so that with the faithful in every place and time we may praise and honor you, God Most High. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Goodness of God"
Worship Team with Pastor Vertie

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

SERMON

A Tale of Difference

* HYMN

"One Bread, One Body"

#689

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"I Come, O Savior to Thy Table"

Kretchmar

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: As one body in Christ Jesus, go out in the one Spirit to make a faithful witness for our Lord in word and action. Love as he loved, tell abroad the good news that he preached, care for the poor, and work for the justice he upheld. The blessing of the creator God who made us to be one, the living Christ who restores unity among us, and the Holy Spirit of unifying power is upon us and peace. Go out this day to be the church Jesus calls us to be.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

#748

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

“In Peace and Joy I Now Depart”

Frescobaldi

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Slumlord Landowners

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said to them,
"Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.

--Matthew 21:42-43

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

October 8, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Love is patient, love is kind; love does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
Agape love is unconditional. There is no judgement only acceptance into the family of God.

Many: It does not dishonor others. It is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. We love each other by practicing dignity and respect regardless of our culture, gender, age, or religious affiliation.

All: Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trust, always hopes, always preserves. Allow the truth of Jesus Christ to set us free. The freedom to move forward in faith to see the light of God in each other.
(1 Corinthians 13:4-7, NIV)

* TIME OF PRAISE

"How Great is Our God"

see insert

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

#72

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Almighty God, we thank you for waking us up this morning and starting us on our way with a reasonable portion of health and strength. For most of us being able to move our limbs, we say, "Thank you God." For most of us being able to see, hear, touch, smell, and taste is a blessing from God. We say, "Thank you God." And for blessings seen and unseen we are grateful. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV). Great is your faithfulness. Morning by morning new mercies I see." All I have needed you have provided. "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Now God grant us the peace of God on this day which surpasses all understanding, to guard our minds, bodies, and souls in Christ Jesus. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Philippians 3:4b-14 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"The Wondrous Cross" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:33-46 (NIV)

SERMON

Slumlord Landowners

* HYMN

"Grace Alone"

#436

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Tranquility"

Schalkwijk

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: As we leave this place but never God's presence let us remember who we are and whose we are. I am a child of God. And God is the head of my life. Jesus died on the cross for a sinner like me. So, I can have life and have life more abundantly by believing in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ which is called "SALVATION." Now go into the world sharing the "Good News," of Jesus Christ that all people are welcomed at HIS table and in our church, building relationships with your family and community in love.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

#544

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

Lemmens

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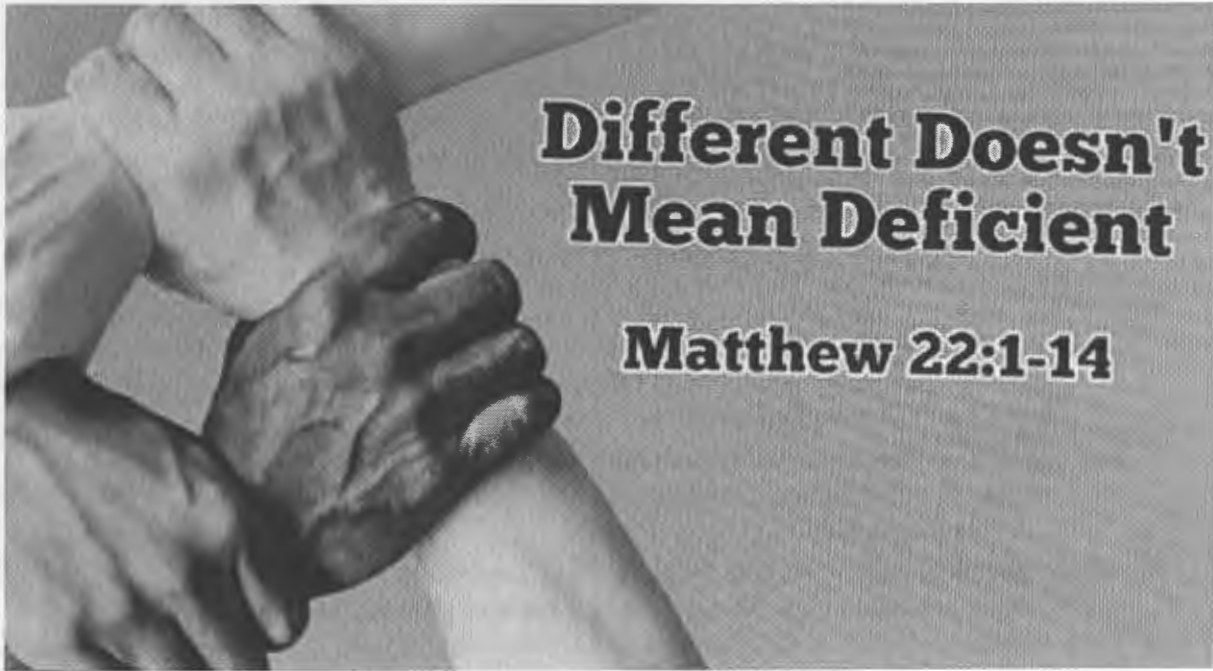
Kelli J. Crews, Media Ministry Developer

E-Mail: kelliecrews422@gmail.com

Abby Markowitz, Administrative Assistant

Please use the church phone and email above to contact Abby.





Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

October 15, 2023

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: God, we come to you in community to pray for comfort, peace, and hope for the Jewish, Israeli, American, and Palestinian families in the Middle East. God, we pray for the innocent families affected by this evil.

Many: Lord, have mercy on us. God send comfort to those families affected by these unexpected traumas. Let your love for those communities pour into those families across the world.

One: God, we pray you send peace to those who are grieving over the loss of loved ones and those who are waiting to hear any "Good News," about their loved ones.

Many: Lord, have mercy on us. God send peace that surpasses all understanding. Let your love for those communities pour into those families.

One: God as a community of faith, we pray, with the faith as tiny as a mustard seed that more people will be found alive in the rubble in Israel and families are released unharmed and reconnected with their loved ones.

Many: Lord, have mercy on us. God send hope to those families. Hold those families in the palms of your hands. Let your love for the communities pour into those families.

All: God, we offer up these prayers to you believing and trusting you heard them on this day. And together we say. AMEN!!

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Oh Give Thanks"

see insert

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God, you are Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end. You are the "Great I AM," you are our "Lillie in the Valley," you are our "Comforter," you are our "Provider," and you are our "Healer". We confess that we have not been the

people you have called us to be, but we are thankful Almighty God you are still blessing us. We come together this morning thanking you for waking us up this morning with a reasonable portion of health and strength. We are thankful you love us despite our hardheadedness. We invite the Holy Spirit to come into our Worship service and over the airwaves into the homes of our extended family to be with us today. We pray for all churches open in your name. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 32:1-14 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Philippians 4:1-9 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Banquet" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

SERMON

Different Doesn't Mean Deficient

* HYMN

"Come, Share the Lord"

#696

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Adagio"

Mozart

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: As we leave Worship service today, but never God's presence, let us not forget that being "Different doesn't mean Deficient." God has given us all gifts to share within the Body of Christ to help one another and not harm each other. Jesus invites all people to HIS table no matter color of your skin, age, gender, different religious backgrounds, or culture to build a loving community. And be a part of the "The Fruit of the Spirit." "Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control." Galatians 5:22-23 (NRSV). Let us continue to pray for peace in our world. And that evil will not have the last word. Only God gets the victory in love not war.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"We Come as Guests Invited"

#702

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in C"

Cappelen

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Mr. Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

E-Mail: robert.gundlach@comcast.net

Kelli J. Crews, Media Ministry Developer

E-Mail: kellcrews422@gmail.com

Abby Markowitz, Administrative Assistant

Please use the church phone and email above to contact Abby.





But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites. Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

--Matthew 22:18-22 (NRSV)

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

October 22, 2023

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: God we come this morning giving you the praise and honor that you deserve.

Many: We thank you as we inhale and exhale the (RUAH) meaning breath of God.

One: God we come in remembrance that the blood running through our arteries and veins comes from the blood of Jesus Christ.

Many: We come today inhaling (JOY, HOPE, and LOVE) and exhaling (FEAR, DOUBT, ANXIETY, and DEPRESSION).

One: God we will never forget what you have done for us. We certainly do not look like what we have been through.

All: We come to pray, sing, and lift our Holy hands because we have come to Worship You in spirit and in truth. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"I Love You, Lord"

#85

"Word of God Speak"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: God when you woke us up this morning, we were moving a little slow. For a moment we thought about staying home. But God you have been compassionate, loving, and forgiving to us. Therefore, we had to make it to the church to praise your Holy name one more time. We had to come one more time to be in community to pray for our church family, our families, friends, and the people in the world. We had to come one more time God to pray for peace in the world. There is so much violence in the world God please send us peace. And stop the wars in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, and in our communities. Hear our prayers on this day. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 33:12-23 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Show Me Your Ways" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:15-22 (NRSV)

SERMON

IRS

* HYMN

"Rock of Ages"

#384

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

Mozart

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: We will never forget to pray for each other, family, friends, and strangers. We pray for our communities, and the communities affected by violence and grieving families. We will carry "IRS" wherever we go. God it is all about you helping us make it each day to give your name the praise and honor that you deserve. ²⁴ Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, ²⁵ To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion, and power, both now and ever. Jude 24-25 (KJV).

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Jesus Shall Reign"

#341

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in C"

Purcell

United Evangelical Church, UCC

3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

Office: 410-276-0393, Wed-Fri 9 am-4 pm

www.unitedevangelical.org * E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net

An Open and Affirming congregation

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Please use the church phone and email above to contact Rev. Marietta.

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Abby Markowitz, Administrative Assistant

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October 29, 2023



Matthew 22:34-46

*"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your
heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."
This is the first and greatest commandment.*

—Matthew 22:36-38 (NIV)

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

October 29, 2023

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: What are the (4) forms of God's Word?

1. "The Living Word is Jesus Christ."
2. "The Written Word is the Holy Bible."
3. "The Spoken Word is the Gospel or the Preached Word."
4. "The Ethical Word is the Saved Person."

Many: Lord, teach us how to be your servants spreading the "Good News" of the "Living Word," the "Written Word," the Spoken Word," and the "Ethical Word."

One: Here we are Lord on this Sunday morning eager to be your servants to continue evangelizing the "Good News" of Jesus Christ.

Many: Lord, help us develop a closer relationship with you as we spend time in Worship reading your Holy Bible.

One: Lord, we are waiting to hear a word from you on this day. We need to feel your love and squeeze letting us know we are never alone. We need your help to give us the nourishments and strength to press forward to see what the end will be by hearing the preached Gospel.

All: Lord, help us continue to be the saved people to share our personal testimonies on how you transformed our lives and brought us closer to you in love. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Bless His Holy Name"

#4

"Ancient Words"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Lord, as we worship Jesus Christ, and practice our faith by daily reading the Holy Bible continue to teach us how to practice spreading the preached message with family, friends, and strangers in our communities and in the wider church. Continue to mold us and make us better people by your transforming powers so we can continue being your servants and saved people

to increase the kingdom of God. Lord, continue to teach us to pray and take care of ourselves, our church families, friends, and strangers. Lord let us pray nonstop for peace in our world. Lord, let us continue to welcome angels in our daily midst. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"A Mighty Fortress" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:34-46 (NIV)

SERMON

Hearts, Souls, and Minds

* HYMN

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

#273

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"More Like You"

Brown

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Lord, help us guard our hearts, souls, and minds living in this challenging world. Lord help us understand without you we cannot breathe or have our being. Lord, provide us with discernment. We are crying out for increased love and peace in our world. *Isaiah 40:31* reads "31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint". Help us mount up on the wings of eagles and not grow weary. Lord, keep us in the comfort of your care when we leave this place but never to be forgotten. We remember not to pray like we have no hope but pray that you will bring forth the hope we need to live safe in all our communities. Carry us in the palms of your hands to and from each day until we come back to this place to give your name the praise that you deserve. "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:22-26).

All: Amen

* HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

#507

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Ein Feste Burg"

Hustad

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A black and white artistic illustration of a hand holding a glowing orb against a starry night sky. The hand is positioned in the lower left, and the orb is in the center, emitting a bright light that illuminates the surrounding space. The background is a dark, starry sky with a faint, glowing nebula or galaxy structure. The overall mood is one of creation and divine light.

Creation of the World

John 1:1-5

*In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.*

*He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing
came into being.*

--John 1:1-3 (NRSV)

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all.
Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

November 5, 2023

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GREETING

One: Lord, God we come to give you the praise and honor. Jehovah Jireh- The Lord is our Provider. Jehovah Shalom – The Lord is our Peace. Jehovah Rapha – The Lord is our Healer. Immanuel – God is with us.

Many: We confess we did not spend much time in prayer and devotion last week and we are asking for your forgiveness.

One: We come today thanking you Lord for loving us as we share AGAPE love with others. We invite the Holy Spirit in our Worship Service to move from heart to heart, soul to soul, and mind to mind.

All: Lord, we are privileged to be invited to share at your table. Because of your endless love for us, you died so we will have life and have life more abundantly. We are grateful. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"This Little Light of Mine"

see insert

"Just as I Am"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Lord, we come today saying thank you. Thank you for last night sleep and this early morning rising. We thank you for our family, friends, and neighbors. We thank you for granting us new mercies and new grace on today. Lord we do not pray selfish we are asking that you bless the churches open in your name. We are praying for people who are sick and shut in. We are praying for people grieving over the loss of loved ones. We are asking Lord for blessing and bringing peace to our communities. We come praying that you will stop the wars across the land. We offer up this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Joshua 3:7-17

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"And the Glory" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:1-5

SERMON

The Logos

* HYMN

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#699

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"I Come, O Savior to Thy Table"

Kretczmar

* Doxology

#47

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee,

We exalt thee, O Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* SENDING FORTH

One: Lord, remember us. Lord in the beginning you were and still are the "Living Logos." You are the creator of the universe and people. We will never forget how you saved us from danger seen and unseen. And how you keep moving in our lives, creating new families in marriage, and bringing new babies into our families. We will continue to pray for peace, prayer for our neighbors, family,

and friends. We will continue to be your people to spread the "Good News," and "Agape Love" of Jesus Christ the true and risen Savior.

"Therefore, my beloved brothers/sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the lord, knowing that in the lord your labor is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

All: We will never forget

- "The Living Word is Jesus Christ."
- "The Written Word is the Holy Bible."
- "The Spoken Word is the Gospel or the Preached Word."
- "The Ethical Word is the Saved Person." Amen.

* HYMN

"From the Dawning of Creation"

see insert

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"In Peace and Joy I Now Depart"

Frescobaldi

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John 1:35-42



“Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).”

--John 1:40-42 (NIV)

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

November 12, 2023

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"I'm in Love with Jesus"

Percy Gray

GREETING PRAYER

One: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We come in community to praise your Holy Name. You are our Provider, Protector, Healer and Sustainer. You are the Great I Am.

Many: God, we ask that you bless the strangers we see daily on television, in our communities and the world carrying unspeakable grief, heavy trials, and tribulations. Send your comforting power to reassure those families you promise to never leave them or forsake them. You are standing with them.

One: God, continue to show us how to offer help to people in need struggling with alcohol, drugs, food insecurities, homelessness and mental health challenges.

All: God, we need the strength and courage of the minor prophet Amos. *"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."* Amos 5:24 (NRSV). Lord, continue to hear our prayers and stop all wars and bring peace to our land. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Step by Step"

#494

"I'm in Love with Jesus"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

Lord, we come this morning worshipping you in spirit and in truth. Lord, you are the Lilly in the Valley. Lord you are the Comforter of our souls. Forgive us for any sins known and unknown we may have committed last week. Thank you for granting us love, new grace, and new mercy on this day. Holy Spirit you are welcomed in this place. Have your way to transform lives in the pews and on the website. We offer up this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"More Love, More Power" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:35-42

SERMON

"Fisher of Men, Women, Boys and Girls"

* HYMN

"Lamb of God"

#281

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Andante"

Vivaldi

* Doxology

#44

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* BENEDICTION—SENDING FORTH

One: Why? "On the street I saw a small girl cold and shivering in a thin dress, with little hope of a decent meal. I became angry and said to God: 'Why did you permit this? Why don't you do something about it?' For a while, God said nothing. That night he replied, quite suddenly: 'I certainly did something about it. I made you.'" (Author Unknown, Submitted by Sister Mary Rose McGeady, Covenant House).

Jesus is calling us daily as he called his disciples 2000 years ago. Can you hear Jesus calling you? This week I encourage you to consciously spend time quieting your soul and listen to Jesus directing you to share your faith, love, finances, and hope for the future ahead with others.

ALL: Amen

* HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"

#345

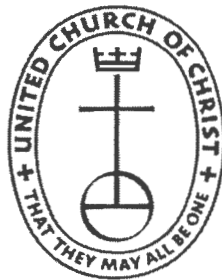
CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Allegretto"

Bach



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"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

—John 4:11-14 (NSRV)

November 19, 2023

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

November 19, 2023

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Healing"

Smallwood

GREETING PRAYER

One: Sovereign God we come before you to lift our hands in Worship. We worship you in spirit and in truth.

All: Lord, we bless your Holy Name. Forgive us for not being all you called us to be.

One: Thank you, Sovereign God, for the new "Grace" and new "Mercy" you are bestowing upon us this day.

All: Holy Spirit you are welcome in this service. We come to praise, pray, and hear a Word from you. We come to be "transformed by the renewing of our minds."
We offer up this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Fill My Cup"

see insert

"Healing"

see insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Sovereign God please be with the families that have lost loved ones all over the land. Be with the doctors, nurses, and staff that are using every skill you have given them to keep men and women alive during these wars, especially the children and the infants in the Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine. God our hearts are sadden and filled with helplessness praying without ceasing on the casualties of war. Help us to think of ways our church can help your people in dire need.
Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING--OLD TESTAMENT

Judges 4:1-7 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Soon and Very Soon" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 4:7-15 (NRSV) Updated Edition

SERMON

"A Visit to the Well"

* HYMN

"Come Away from Rush and Hurry"

#655

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Andante"

Vivaldi

* Doxology

#44

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

* BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH

One: Loving Jesus we will sit daily at the well, waiting to have an encounter and conversation with you. We pray that you know our voices and will answer us. We pray that we will be transformed into new people freeing us from any heavy-laden burdens we are carrying. We welcome the freedom that only you can give.

²⁴ The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:

²⁵ The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

²⁶ The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

(Numbers 6:24-26, KJV).

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

#93

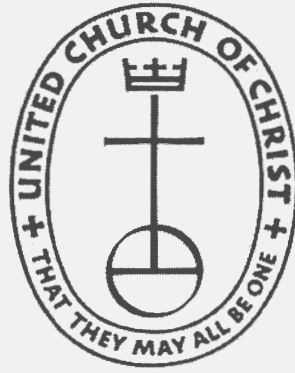
CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Karg-Elert



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The symbol of the United Church of Christ (above) comprises a crown, cross and orb enclosed within a double oval bearing the name of the church and the prayer of Jesus, "That they may all be one" (John 17:21). It is based on an ancient Christian symbol called the "Cross of Victory" or the "Cross Triumphant." The crown symbolizes the sovereignty of Christ. The cross recalls the suffering of Christ—his arms outstretched on the wood of the cross – for the salvation of humanity. The orb, divided into three parts, reminds us of Jesus' command to be his "witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). The verse from Scripture reflects our historic commitment to the restoration of unity among the separated churches of Jesus Christ. (UCC.org)

I Judge No One



John 8:12-20



Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge no one."

--John 8:12-15 (NSRV)

November 26, 2023

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

November 26, 2023

Reign of Christ Sunday

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Beams of Heaven"

Woods

GREETING PRAYER

One: Almighty God how excellent is your name in all the earth. We come to continue our covenant (relationship) with you. And to Worship together in community in spirit and in truth.

All: We come to lift your name on high. We pray the angels in heaven will hear our praises.

One: O God you are the only one that can bring peace to this earth. We feel your presence and love here in the sanctuary.

All: We come praying for peace in the land, in our families, in our communities, on our jobs, and in our churches.

One: Teach us Lord to hold onto our faith as tiny as a mustard seed. Trusting and believing we stand on your promises; you will never leave us nor forsake us. You will always be with us.

All: Holy Spirit you are welcome in our sanctuary to have your way in the music, praise, prayers, and preached Word. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Crown Him, King of Kings"

#340

"Beams of Heaven"

See insert

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: We thank you God for being able to feed 25 families for Thanksgiving Day. We thank all families and friends that were able to give monetarily, donated non-perishable goods, and their time in packing the Thanksgiving baskets. Thank you, God, for the members who delivered the food to the Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School # 237 for the families. Jesus' ministry involves people who care for others and the willingness to get involved. Jesus' ministry encourages us all to actively work in God's kingdom. The Bible reads; *"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few...'" (Matthew 9:35-38 NRSV)*. Jesus we are grateful you chose United Evangelical Church, UCC to make a difference in the lives of families in our community. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (NSRV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Blessing and Honor" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 8:12-20 (NRSV)

SERMON

"I Judge No One"

* HYMN

"Arise, Your Light is Come!"

#231

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

TOTENFEST LITANY PRAYER

see insert

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"On Eagle's Wings"

Smith

* Doxology

#44

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

* BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH

One: God continue to teach us how to stop judging others. Encourage us to invite our friends and family to church. Give us the energy we will need to move our church forward into the light of God in the New Year of 2024 and beyond. We will continue to pray for each other because we need each other to survive and thrive.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"For All the Saints"

#529

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare on Sine Nomine"

White



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Hope

*I wait
for the
Lord...
and in his
word do
I hope.*

PSALM 130:5



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent-Hope

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Oh, Give Thanks"

McAllister

PRAYER OF HOPE

This Season of Advent is a time of reflection. We reflect on the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. We reflect over this year how we stayed in covenant with God praying to God to give us hope when our hope was failing. God gave us peace when all hell was breaking out in our lives and around us. God gave us joy when we thought we would never smile or laugh again. God granted us love when we were feeling lonely. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of God's son, Jesus Christ on earth. Whose primary mission was, and is, to redeem our souls.

One: We begin the first Sunday of Advent with the theme of HOPE.

All: We seize hold of HOPE to walk with us as we go into the world to be a gift to others. To build new relationships with our neighbors. We pray that we are walking into the newness of God with others. And we are standing for social justice for all God's people.

One: We embrace HOPE to empower and encourage each other to never give up; a spiritual change is coming that will shift our atmosphere.

All: The HOPE candle is lit today as we celebrate together a Christ child is coming into our lives and into the world. Amen.

GREETING PRAYER

One: Lord, how excellent is your name in all the earth. You are The Lillie in the Valley, The Great I Am, The Comforter, and The Healer. If we had 10,000 tongues, we could not thank you enough for what you have done in our lives and the lives of family, friends, and neighbors. We come to Worship you in Spirit and in Truth.

All: Today, we are standing on "HOPE," that a new life and light is coming. Our future, our neighbor's future, and our community's future will experience a holy healthy change. And we hope Lord, we will feel more peace, joy and love in our hearts.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"O, Give Thanks"

see insert

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#154

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrew 11:1). Lord, we thank you for our ancestors greater than 4000 years ago that trusted and

believed a Savior was going to be born to redeem our souls. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David are just to name a few. We thank you for the parents of Jesus Mary and Joseph who made the journey to save their baby. We also thank the three Magi; "Caspar King of India, Melchoir King of Persia, and Baltasar King of Arabia" who also traveled for days following the Star of Bethlehem to Worship the holy baby born by bringing gifts displaying reverence of love and honor. And because of their love for God, we too are part of the story. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 64:1-9 (NSRV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-26,32-37 (NRSV)

SERMON

"No One Knows the Hour"

* HYMN

"Change my Heart, O God"

#373

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Pastorale"

Spong

* Doxology

#44

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex.

We will take communion together seated in our pews.

All will be directed when to partake of the elements.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

* BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH

One: Though hope can sometimes dissipate our dreams due to earthly wars, racial and religious hatred, an increase in mental health challenges with men, women, boys, and girls and daily traumas to families in communities due to gun violence. There is a mystery (The Logos), that pushes beyond all evil powers to redeem your soul.

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

#153

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Savior of the Nations Come"

Bush



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Peace

*Peace I leave
with you....*

*Let not your
heart be
troubled,
neither let
it be afraid.*

JOHN 14:27



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent-Peace

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

Doane

This Season of Advent is a time of reflection. We reflect on the themes of **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love**. We begin the second Sunday of Advent with the theme of **PEACE**. We start by re-lighting the first candle, the candle of **HOPE**.

One: We begin the second Sunday of Advent with the theme of **PEACE**. God, we ask that you grant us the peace that surpasses all understanding. God sometimes we doubt that we can have any **PEACE** in our lives because of what we are experiencing in our families, communities, women's groups, LGBTQ+ groups, religious groups, humans being misused and abused, and threatening government shut down where millions of military and civil service workers would not get a paycheck. But God, we stand on your promises believing you will never leave us nor forsake us. Lord, you will bring us **PEACE**. We are grateful for the Will of God that will move us into the future.

One: As the **PEACE** candle is lit today, we welcome **PEACE** knowing God's passion of love birthed Jesus bringing comfort and hope to our hearts."

All: "May we become people of infectious **PEACE**. Come Lord Jesus!" Amen. (Prayer from Glow 2023 UCC Advent Devotion).

GREETING PRAYER

One: Hear we are Lord of all creation. We come to worship you in spirit and in truth. We come to lift holy hands and praise your name. We come to confess our sins. And discern what you need from us in your ministry.

All: We are grateful to you God that you have given us another day of life. We will move your ministry forward into the future.

One: Lord, we expect you will bring creative gifts to UEC ministry bringing the addition to our current family of men, women, boys, and girls. We thank you for all prior pastors, and members that are still working and have worked in love to dedicate this church as the beacon of light on the corner.

All: We promise God to bring more friends and family to get more involved in your ministry to celebrate the 150 years we have been in existence because of your love, grace, and mercy. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

see insert

"Lo, how a Rose E'er Blooming"

#190

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Teach us Lord, as we stand on PEACE sharing your AGAPE love with our neighbors.
Teach us Lord, as we stand on PEACE forgiving our neighbors. Teach us Lord, as we
stand on PEACE sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ that Jesus was born to redeem
not just some people, but all people. Teach us Lord as we share the PEACE of God with
others. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NSRV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

2 Peter 3:8-15a (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Prepare Ye the Way" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

SERMON

"Preparing the Way"

* HYMN

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

#156

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.*

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"I Surrender All"

Weeden

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.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP—WALK THE AISLE GIVING THE PASTOR YOUR HAND, BUT YOUR BODY, MIND AND SOUL TO JESUS CHRIST.

*** BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH**

One: Jesus's birth prepares the way for us to be part of the family of God. God was intentional about leaving no one behind. God sent his only begotten son to live on earth as human and divine. God's love will reign forever.

All: Amen.

*** HYMN**

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

#498

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"A Trumpet Chorale"

Bach



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Joy

*Now the
God
of hope
fill you
with all
joy and
peace in
believing.*

ROMANS 15:13



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent-Joy

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"

Whitefield

One: This Season of Advent is a time of reflection. We reflect on the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. **We begin the third Sunday of Advent with the theme of JOY.** We start by re-lighting the first two candles of **HOPE** and **PEACE**. We are filled with **JOY** believing we have a relationship with God. **JOY** when we woke up in the morning feeling grateful, we are still in the land of the living.

Pastor reads: From the book of Luke, chapter 1, verses 46b-55.

Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God our Savior! Holy mercy is for those who honor God from generation to generation! God has shown strength and has scattered the proud in the thought of their hearts. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly: God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. God has helped their servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and Sarah and to their descendants forever!"

One: As the **JOY** candle is lit today, we welcome **JOY** consciously aware of God's passion of love; birthed Jesus bringing **HOPE** and **PEACE** into our hearts.

All: **"May we become people of contagious Joy. Come, Lord Jesus!" (Prayer from Glow 2023 UCC Advent Devotion).**

GREETING PRAYER

One: We greet you in community at United Evangelical Church, UCC in person and online in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is the day the Lord has made we shall rejoice and be glad in it. Thank you, Almighty God, for granting us another opportunity to Worship you in spirit and in truth. Thank you for granting us **JOY** that only you can supply. Granting us **JOY** no one can withdraw from us. Granting us **JOY** when we are feeling lonely. Granting us **JOY** when we are anxious. Granting us **JOY** when our bodies are in physical pain. You meet us at our point of need and cover us with Jesus **JOY**. In Jesus name we pray.

All: Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"This Little Light of Mine"
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

see Insert
#185

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

All: Suddenly the Star of Bethlehem appeared in the sky. Suddenly baby Jesus entered our stories. "Nothing is permanent but change" (Greek philosopher Heraclitus). We wait with anticipation inhaling **HOPE** and **PEACE**. Exhaling doubts and fears. Inhaling **JOY**. Exhaling thoughts that evil is winning. God gets the victory. We must "...wait upon the Lord and renew our strength. We shall mount up with wings as eagles, we will run and not be weary, and we shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31). In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (NSRV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (NRSV)

One: The Word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"The Spirit of the Lord" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:6-8 (NRSV)

SERMON

"Inside Your Temple"

*** HYMN**

"Oh, How Joyfully"

#208

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

"Center of My Joy"

Smallwood/Gaither

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP—WALK THE AISLE GIVING THE PASTOR YOUR HAND, BUT YOUR BODY, MIND AND SOUL TO JESUS CHRIST.

* BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH

One: Baby Jesus send your **JOY** of light to pierce through our minds, bodies, and spirit. Be with us this Advent Season and comfort our broken hearts, comfort our feelings of abandonment, and comfort us while grieving over the loss of loved ones. Remind us you came into our world to redeem us and give us **HOPE** and **PEACE** in our lives, our families, and our communities. Please restore us with your **JOY** "INSIDE OUR TEMPLES."

All: Amen.

* HYMN

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

#498

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Now Come the Savior of the Nations"

Bach



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Love

*Herein is
love, not
that we
loved
God,
but that he
loved us,
and sent
his Son.*

I JOHN 4:10



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent-Love

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"The Birthday of a King"

Neidlinger

Pastor: The Season of Advent is the time of celebration. We celebrate on the themes of **Hope (Hebrew -Ha Tikvah)**, **Peace (Hebrew -Shalom)**, **Joy (Hebrew -Simchah)**, and **Love (Hebrew -Hesed)**. We begin the fourth Sunday of Advent with the theme of **LOVE**. We start by re-lighting the first three candles of **HOPE, PEACE, AND JOY**. We are filled with **LOVE** because God cares for us. When we woke up this morning because of the angels of Grace and Mercy greeting us with a new day.

Congregation: Book of Matthew 1:18-25:

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Pastor: As the **LOVE** candle is lit today, we welcome **LOVE**. **LOVE** due to God sharing his only begotten son, Jesus the Christ.

Congregation: "May we become people of liberating Love. Come, Lord Jesus." Amen. (Prayer from Glow 2023 UCC Advent Devotion).

GREETING PRAYER

Congregation: Jesus, we celebrate your birthday in our sanctuary. We invite your Holy Spirit to move like lightning through 4000 years to join us in worship in spirit and in truth. We are a part of your family. We have been added to your story. And we are grateful for this day. We have anticipated your birth during this Advent Season as we prayed for hope, peace, and joy. Thank you for loving us. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Carol of the Bells"

see insert

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

(#191)

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

Congregation: God we worship. God, we praise. God, we rejoice. Thank you for sending our loving Savior to earth. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

FIRST READING—OLD TESTAMENT

Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (NSRV)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 16:25-27 (NRSV)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Immanuel" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

SERMON

"You Call Him Jesus"

* HYMN

"O, Little Town of Bethlehem"

#180

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Pastor: **LUKE 6:38 (NIV)** Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. The Lord loves a "cheerful giver."

Musical Reflection

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Lowery/Green

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.

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor: We welcome you to walk the aisle, giving your hand to the Pastor, but your mind, body, and soul to Jesus Christ.

*** BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH**

Pastor: Merry Christmas Jesus. Merry Christmas to each of you and your families. May the **LOVE** of Jesus Christ be celebrated The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord makes his face shine on you and be gracious to you: the Lord turn his face toward you and grant you **HOPE, PEACE, JOY** and **LOVE**.

Congregation: Amen.

*** HYMN**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#188

CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah Chorus" (from Handel's Messiah)

Handel



United Evangelical Church, UCC

3200 Dillon Street, Baltimore, MD 21224
Office: 410-276-0393, Wed-Fri 9 am-4 pm
www.unitedevangelical.org *
E-Mail: uecucc@comcast.net

An Open and Affirming congregation

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis,
Intentional Interim Pastor

Please use the phone and email above
to contact Rev. Marietta.

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Christ

*For unto
you is
born this
day in the
city of
David a
Saviour,
which is
Christ the
Lord.*

LUKE 2:11



United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve

7:30 pm

* indicates to stand as able

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Christmas Selections for Cello and Piano, Katie Chambers, Cello

Pastor: This Season of Advent is a time of reflecting, renewing, and rejoicing as we think about the goodness of our Lord. We have been celebrating the themes of **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love** leading to baby Jesus' birth. We begin the fourth Sunday of Advent with the theme of **LOVE** from the Christ child. We start by re-lighting the first four candles of **HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE**. We sing songs of praise because our Savior has been born.

Pastor: As the central Christ candle is lit, we say together.

Congregation: Chris is born! Glory to God in the highest." Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#182

*** GREETING**

Pastor: God, we thank you for allowing us to see another Christmas Evening, as we welcome in the Christ child. Let us invite the Holy Spirit into our sanctuary as we praise your Holy name in community.

Congregation: Amen.

*** GATHERING PRAYER**

Congregation: God we worship. God, we praise. God, we rejoice. Thank you for sending our Savior to earth. We confess we do not deserve your love, but we are grateful that you always love and care for us despite our sins against you. Thank you for your forgiving spirit. Praising you will continually be in our mouths all the days of our lives. Amen.

*** DECLARATION OF GRACE**

Pastor: Hear these glad tidings of great joy: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all! Forgiveness and newness of life has come to us in Jesus the Christ.

*** RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

Gloria

Gloria in Excelsis Deo
Gloria in Excelsis Deo

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:7-17

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Manger Birth

*** HYMN**

"Away in a Manger"

#203



This image was found on: <http://www.thatartistwoman.org/2008/12/how-to-make-nativity-silhouette-art.html>

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

CHRISTMAS EVE 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Musical Reflection

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” Katie Chambers - Cello

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

ORDER FOR SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Single serve communion elements are available in the narthex. We will take communion together seated in our pews. All will be directed when to partake of the elements.



Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Everlasting God, for whom we wait, we give you thanks that you have fed us with the bread of eternal life and the cup of forgiveness. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to share your love where it is needed and to stand before the Son of man, when he comes again. In Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

This image was found on: <http://www.redbubble.com/people/neteo>

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

*** CELEBRATION OF THE LIGHT**

**A prayer in the darkness.
The coming of the Light into the world.**

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright;
Round yon virgin mother and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild;
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy Holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor: We thank you God for such a Holy Night for the beautiful music played by the cello player, Katie Chambers. We thank you God for our Music Director Robert Gundlach and our Worship Team. We thank you God for all families represented in person and online. Merry Christmas to everyone. I pray you will be safe, enjoy fellowship, food, fun, and with your family and friends. Always remember Jesus is the reason for the season. You are never alone.

Congregation: Amen.

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Antioch

Joy to the World

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room.
And heaven and nature sing;
And heaven and nature sing;
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth! The Savior Reigns;
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains;
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy;
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.*

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Johnson



This image was found on: <https://pixels.com/featured/advent-candles-sonya-pearson.html>



AN IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine

warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields

and until we meet again,

may God hold you

in the palm of Their hand.



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And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:33-35

United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ

OUR MISSION

We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God.

December 31, 2023

First Sunday after Christmas

10:00 am

* Indicates to stand as able--please feel free to sit at any time if need be.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

"I'm in Love with Jesus"

Gray

GREETING PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty Creator we come before you to worship you in spirit and in truth. God you are Omniscience, (All knowing) Omnipresent, (Everywhere), and Omnipotent (All powerful). We ask for your forgiveness because we have sinned against you. We humbly thank you for forgiving us. And allowing us to be in the community of believers/non-believers to give your name the praise and honor you deserve. We invite the Holy Spirit to come into the sanctuary to heal the broken hearted, comfort the lonely, and transform our minds, bodies, and spirits. **We pray using the ACTS acronyms. (A) Adoration, (C) Confession, (T) Thanksgiving, and (S) Supplication.** In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

* TIME OF PRAISE

"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

(#218)

"O, Holy Night"

(#187)

WE COME BEFORE A FORGIVING GOD

* GATHERING PRAYER

All: Consecrate us now Lord to your service. God, Invite us to pray without ceasing in community to increase our church family for the building of your kingdom. God, Inform our church with transparency as we plan for victorious events in 2024. God, Investigate our hearts and rid us of skepticisms preventing us from not being open to new visions. God, Illustrate for us visions to follow your spiritual paths. God, Inspire us to trust and discern what you need from us. And put the work in to keep our church active, alive, and a beacon of light on the corner in this community. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE CALL OF GOD

FIRST READING--OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:10-11, 62:1-3 (NSRV)

Lector: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—NEW TESTAMENT

Galatians 4:4-7 (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Something Which is Known" The Worship Team

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:22-32 (NRSV)

SERMON

"Consecrate Me Now"

* HYMN

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

#189

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please see insert for adding names)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE —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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

#744

Amen, Amen, A—men. Amen, Amen, A—men.

SUPPORT FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Call for the Offering

Pastor: **LUKE 6:38 (NIV)** Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. The Lord loves a "cheerful giver."

Musical Reflection

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Lowery/Green

* Doxology

#34

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN PEACE TO SERVE THE LORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor: We welcome you to walk the aisle, giving your hand to the Pastor, but your mind, body, and soul to Jesus Christ.

* BENEDICTION-SENDING FORTH

Pastor: Consecrate us Lord for your service. Lord, lead us and guide us along the way. We have much to do in building your kingdom right here on earth. Lord, give us the willingness to follow our church leaders. Lord, give us a reasonable portion of health and strength as we do your Will. In Jesus name we pray.

All: We will let the world know to **"Go Tell It on the Mountain that Jesus Christ is Born."**
Happy New Year to All!!! Amen.

* HYMN

"I'm in Love with Jesus"

see insert

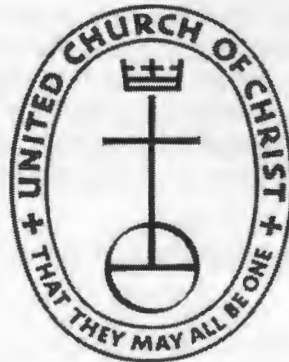
CLOSING OF WORSHIP †

†(Please be seated while the candles are extinguished, pausing for a moment of silent communion with God.)

POSTLUDE

"The Old Year Has Passed Away"

Bach



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