

**THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST
March 19, 2023**

PRELUDER: "What Wondrous Love is This" by Thomas Chesterton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

FOCUS FOR TODAY: Story of the man born blind. Jesus brings spiritual sight to a blind dark world.

INTROIT: "Open Our Eyes"

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Once you lived in darkness.

People: Now the light of God has shone upon us.

Leader: Find what is pleasing to God and follow God's ways.

People: The acts of darkness are left behind as we journey to God's light.

Leader: Thanks be to God who gives us the light.

All: Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your light of salvation. AMEN.

***HYMN: "God Is For Us" (on center of insert)**

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***OPENING PRAYER: Source of Light, God of great mercy and love, we come to you this day seeking restoration of our sight. Clear away our blindness, and give us a new vision of all that we can accomplish in your name. Give us strength and confidence to truly witness to your abiding love and faithfulness. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray... Our Father... (using debts and debtors...) Amen.**

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23 (page 544) {A.B. page 618}

ANTHEM: (11:00) "His Grace, a Medley: What a Friend We Have in Jesus, He Touched Me and Amazing Grace"
The United Church Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Deb Marshall

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 5:8-14 (page 1159) {A.B. page 1299}

**Sermon
"Man Born Blind"
Pastor Wade Allen**

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN: #463 "Heal Me, Hands of Jesus"**

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PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern" by Johann Christoph Bach

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN: #499 "Lord, I Was Blind"**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Nettleton: Scherzo - Trio" by David Schelat

Our prayers and sympathy are with Kathi Nacca for the loss of her mother, Helen Holden, on March 13th. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: Cindy Davies, Joe Laursen (Tim's nephew), Karl (Rob Stackhouse's relative), Mary Jane Laird, Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe's niece), Karen Roaix, David Sanford, Kathy Mills, Clancy Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), Patti Cagwin, David Crowe, Jack Schermond, Matthew Gullace

Cancer: Sasha (friend of Megan French), Justin Ecklund (friend of James and Sarah Henderson), Roderick Simonds (father of Natalie Clark), Rob Stults (cousin of Wade and Christy Allen), Laurie Rudy, Mike Davis (friend of Guy Green), Tom Wager (friend of Mark Slomski), Dawn Miller, Mary J. Havens (Mary Lou's step-daughter), David Pagoda (friend of Eveleigh family), Keith Laursen (Tim's brother), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Jackie Crego (Stan and Evey Wright's daughter), Stephen Carges (brother of Paula Traber), Jon Santmyer (friend of Malecs), Darryl Kramer (friend of DiCiccos)

Recovering: Randy Secrest (Helen's son), Jan Gullace, Sue Paul (friend of Zajacs), Jay Peck (son of Jim & Ann)

MILITARY SERVICE: Steven Munk (MacKenzie Brown's cousin) deployed to Somalia, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN) stationed in Everett, Washington, MAC Adam Thorman (USN) deployed overseas, E6 Cody Wells (USN) returned from deployment, Technical Sergeant Timothy Peck (USAF) home from deployment

MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla and Mayra Giovanti – the BGs (Central/South America), Tim and Patti Long (Baja Mexico), Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan and Alethia White (Berlin)

* indicates an invitation to stand for those who are able and comfortable doing so.

Highlights for This Week! (look inside for details)

- Join us for an EROI Organ Concert, today at 3pm
- Join us for UC Moms Bible Study, Monday, March 20 at 9:30am in the Fellowship Room. All moms are welcome; childcare provided to those who need it.
- Give the gift of life at our blood drive at 1pm on Friday, March 24.
- Please register for Bowling Night on March 31, 6-8pm, by this Friday.
- Meals Needed - Cause night (Sundays) and Young Adult lunches (Saturdays). Sign up in the hallway!
- The orders for Easter lilies are due next Sunday.
- The Relay for Life plants can be picked up this Wednesday or Thursday!

The Stewards Assistance Fund: This Fund assists those in our congregation who are facing temporary financial challenges. If you are struggling, please call the Office at (585) 394-0503 to speak with Virginia Holroyd, or email her at virginia.holroyd@uccdga.org



We welcome your help to serve as **Greeters for the Sunday Services**. Greeters welcome people as they enter the church building and they hand out Bulletins at the Sanctuary entrances. Greeters also pass the Offering Plates during the Offertory. Reminders are emailed with instructions and location assignments.

The Greeter ministry is a wonderful way to show that we are a hospitable church and that we welcome all who want to worship the Lord with our congregation. **The March and April sign up sheets are on the Office door.** If you have any questions, please ask any Steward or call the Office. Thanks so much for serving in this way on any Sunday that you're available.

The Sanctuary will be open for prayer on Good Friday (April 7th) from 9am-1 pm



The **Easter Lily** order form was included in the March Lamplighter and extra forms are in the Welcome Center. **ORDERS are DUE by: Sun., March 26th COST: \$12/plant.**



Make checks payable to: The United Church Board of Stewards, and write "Lily" in the memo section. Please put your form and payment in the Offering Plate or in the Office.

You may order your plant in memory of loved ones or in honor of special people in your lives. The lilies will adorn our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday and you may take your plant(s) home right after the Easter Services. *Thanks so much for your orders!*

Children's Time ~ There is Children's Time today. After the children's sermon, children in **Kindergarten through 2nd grade** are invited upstairs to Room 26 for an age-appropriate lesson. Parents, please pick up your children promptly after the service. Thank you!



Community Organ Concert at the United Church TODAY at 3 pm

The United Church and Parsons Pipe Organ Builders will co-host a Pipe Organ Concert for the benefit of the Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative. Four exceptionally talented Masters and Doctoral organ students from the Eastman School of Music will perform: Jacob Montgomery, Oliver Lear, **Kateri Andress**, and Aaron Tan.

Admission is free and open to the community. A free-will offering will support the students' travel fund, which enables them to perform and study with organists from around the world.

ARE YOU VISITING US TODAY? If so, WELCOME to the United Church, we are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us. We invite you to check out our Welcome Table found in our Welcome Center, and to pick up a blue bag for yourself/your family to take home and to learn a little bit more about us. Please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the collection plate or mail in. **We are so happy that you joined us today and look forward to seeing you again soon!**

Nursery care is available during both Sunday services and the Sunday school hour. Families with little ones (babies through preschoolers) are welcome to use the nursery as desired. Room 10 is used during the 8:45am service and Room 11 is used during Sunday school and the 11am service. If your child is not potty trained, please **take a pager** in case your child needs a diaper change. Thank you! Any questions? Please see Jason and Melissa Long or Deb Marshall.

ADULT EDUCATION

BOOK OF PSALMS

From **9:45-10:45am**, in the **Downstairs Dining Hall** – Join us for a new series on the Book of Psalms! This is an 8-week series that will walk us through major themes of these Scriptures!



PARENTING CLASS

From **9:45-10:45am**, in the **Fellowship Room** - This week, we will be discussing anxiety in kids and/or parents.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

WEEKLY CONNECT

Saturdays, from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, at the church, join us for food, fellowship, and Bible Study! We are currently studying the book of Job.



YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

From **9:45-10:45am**, in the **Bell Tower Room** – Join us for food, fellowship, and study! We are beginning a series on biblically-based leadership.

YOUTH MINISTRY

THE CAUSE

Sundays, from 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM, at **the church**, High School students are welcome to join other youth for worship, faith discussions, food, and fun! This week, we will be reflecting on the question: **Who Am I?**

CONCERT ~ Is your student interested in joining our group to see **For King & Country** on **April 20**? If so, sign up outside the youth office!

M&M FUNDRAISER – Thank you!

We have raised almost **\$900.00** in support of our students for their 2023 WorkCamp trip! Thank you for your generosity! We hope the M&M's were a delicious treat, and we pray for all of the volunteers and those being served in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

WORKCAMP SHAREHOLDER FUNDRAISER

During the month of March, our workcampers are conducting the **annual shareholder fundraising initiative**. Be on the lookout for students who may ask you to support them during their trip to Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

YOUTH CLUB

Our Wednesday afterschool ministry

For children in grades 2 – 8

After school – 6:30 October through April

Bible Study~Worship~Recreation~Family Time

Thank you to parents who are signed up to help out with snack and kitchen clean-up! We couldn't do it without your help!

Parent Duties:

Kitchen Clean Up – Wednesdays, 6pm til done

March 22 – Beyrle, James, Buono

March 29 – Parsons, Vasello, _____

Snack for 50 hungry children – at the church by 2pm Wednesdays

March 22 – Hess

March 29 – Munson

Family Time Themes:

March 22 – Anchor Night

March 29 – Easter Night



Baking for Youth Club! ~ Calling all bakers! We serve dessert to our Youth Club kids and volunteers each week. Sometimes we like to enjoy homemade desserts. If you see something you'd be able to bake, please let Deb Marshall know. Desserts need to be delivered to church by Wednesday at 4:00pm. Often more than one baker helps to make the quantity needed.

For March 29th – 6 dozen Easter cut out cookies (cross shaped cookie cutters available to borrow)



VBS registration is open! Blast off with us at Stellar VBS this summer!! Join us on a cosmic adventure where kids will learn how to shine Jesus' light everywhere they go! Register by using the QR code below or the link sent to parents via email.

Our VBS will be held **July 10-14, 9am-12noon**; kids ages 4-years-old through those entering 6th grade can attend....kids entering 7th grade and up can be volunteer helpers. We are **2/3 full** so register soon! Questions? Contact Deb Marshall at deb_marshall@uccdga.org



UC Moms! ~ UC Moms is a group of mothers with kids of all ages that meet together to pray, fellowship, study God's word, and encourage and support one another. Our next meeting will be in the fellowship room on Monday, March 20, from 9:30-11. **Childcare is provided;** however, this group is for ALL moms. Our group includes moms of college kids, moms of babies, and moms of "in-between" kids! We look forward to seeing you! You may join us as your schedule allows. Feel free to bring a friend! Questions? Please see Deb Marshall.



Join us for church family Bowling Night!!

Friday, March 31, 6-8pm at Roseland Bowl in Canandaigua. Fun for ALL ages, no experience required! We invite you to join us for a fun-filled evening of bowling, pizza, soda, cake, and fellowship!!

\$10pp covers bowling, shoes, and refreshments. Discounts and scholarships available.

Contact Deb for more information. Sign up online or by calling the church office by March 24th.



Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast invites you!

Men of all ages are invited to join us at 7:00 am Wednesday morning in the Fellowship Room for a hot breakfast, prayer and Bible study.



Our church will host an **American Red Cross blood drive on Friday, March 24 from 1:00 to 6:00 pm.** Please consider donating, realizing how a short amount of your time can be so helpful to the lives of others. Appointments can be made online.

Sunday happenings...

TODAY –

Sunday, March 19, 2023 –

Service at 8:45am

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45am

Communicants Class at 9:45 am

Service at 11:00am

EROI Organ concert at 3pm

The Cause, 5-7:30pm

Sunday, March 26, 2023 –

Service at 8:45am

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45am

Service at 11:00am

School Teacher Appreciation Reception in Fellowship Room

The Cause, 5-7:30pm



The American Cancer Society **Relay for Life flower orders** will be at church on
Wed., Mar. 22nd from 10:30 AM - 3:00PM.

They will also be available on **Thursday**. If you aren't able to pick up your order during these days/hours, please let me know & we'll make arrangements.

Thank you for all of your orders!

Sandi DiCicco ("United Against Cancer" team captain 585-298-1181)



The Tues evening **Prayer Shawl Knitting group** will meet on Tues evening, March 21st in the Fellowship room at 7:00. Please join us if you knit or want to learn. For info contact Rachel Rensberger at 585-394-8958 or Jeannie Blance.



MISSIONS

"We Love because He first loved us" I John 4:9

Some facts about St. Patrick

- He wasn't actually Irish
- Maewyn Succat was his actual name
- He was taken to Ireland as a slave
- Following a dream he escaped slavery
- He studied Christianity at a French monastery
- Patrick was the name chosen when he became a priest
- In a dream he was called to return to Ireland, the place of his servitude
- He was a missionary to Ireland
- He probably did not drive all snakes out of Ireland
- He wasn't technically a saint
- St. Patrick actually wore blue
- He popularized the shamrock as an Irish symbol
- March 17, 461 was the date he died



Because He first LOVED US we share freely in the pattern of Maewyn.

**Our four missionaries laboring in Europe, Africa, Mexico, and Central/SAmerica are encouraging church leaders.
Learn and pray with them.**



TOMORROW, March 20, is our next **Drive Though Food Pantry** at the Highway Dept Barn in Canandaigua.

The pantry is open to all, 11am – 1pm or until food is gone.

Volunteers are needed starting at 9:30 am to set up, unload the truck and package the food for the families driving through.

We expect tomorrow to be *especially busy* since last month's Food Distribution was canceled due to mechanical issues with the FoodLink truck coming from Rochester AND due to the reduction of SNAP benefits that began this month.

NEW LOCATION: Highway Dept Barn, 5440 Rt 5 & 20, Cdga.

Questions or to volunteer, please see Cathy Bush or Don Rensberger.



Diapers needed for CareNet During the month of March, we will be collecting diapers, sizes 4, 5, and 6 for Care Net. You may leave your diaper donations in the collection bin in the Welcome Center. Thank you for supporting babies and moms (and dads) in need!

Your food cart donations are distributed by the CCIA and Salvation Army Food pantries each week.

Continue bringing nonperishable food items. (**CCIA has specifically requested: diced tomatoes, pork & beans, canned fruit, canned meat meals (like stew or beefaroni) and pasta.**) Thank you for your generous contributions.



During the month of March you will find lists of items needed to fill **School Kits for Church World Service**, along with a box to leave your donated items, in the Gathering Area. It is important to remember that only those items listed can be used. Each kit needs:

Blunt scissors (rounded tip only)

- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose leaf)
- One 30-centimeter, 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new unsharpened pencils with erasers
- One box of 24 crayons

Cash donations are welcome to support the \$2.00 per kit shipping/handling fee and to purchase items



We've received a generous donation of dozens of the totebags to put the supplies in, so we don't need any more bags. Thank you for helping children who want to learn.

"We Love because He first loved us"

Called to Care, Canandaigua is resuming its monthly general meetings on Monday, March 20th from 4-6pm at St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua. We are now an established group of individuals from churches and organizations who have come together and welcomed two Ukrainian families and a young Haitian couple for resettlement in our community. This month's meeting will include "Helping Without Hurting" an information session presented by Eric Lintala, Community Engagement Manager at World Relief of Western NY. Please join us to learn more about our volunteer organization with its mission to welcome and resettle Ukrainian and other refugees...or to get involved. You may speak with Cathy Bush or Linda Werts for more information.

~~~~~**ALSO**~~~~~

**Summer Housing Need:** Called to Care Canandaigua (Refugee Resettlement) is looking for a furnished rental for mid-May through August for a family of 3 - Ukrainian young mom, dad and 2 year old. They are renting from a snowbird, thus the need for a place to live elsewhere this summer. This is not one of the Called to Care Canandaigua families, but they are a family we care about and are related to one of the families.

Not an easy solution, so we are bringing this before you for your prayers and for your ideas and connections. Please contact Linda Werts or Cathy Bush if you can help.



A member has brought in a large number of **hearing aid batteries**, free for anyone that can use them. They are Kodak size 10, 13, and 312 (all are past the expiration date but likely have some good life left.) Help yourself in the Welcome Center.

## Easter Lily Order Form 2023



**PLEASE PRINT**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ Lilies at **\$12.00** each.

They are given in memory or honor (**circle one**) of:

1. Honor / Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Honor / Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Honor / Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Honor / Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Place this in the offering plate WITH your check made payable to  
“THE UNITED CHURCH BOARD OF STEWARDS”. List in the memo section: “EASTER LILY”. You may also mail it  
or bring to the church office.

**ORDERS MUST BE IN NO LATER THAN Sun. March 26.**

Please pick up your lily after church on Easter Sunday. Thank you!

For adults that still love puzzles ... (Solution from last week was STEPHEN)

Can you solve the puzzle this week? It is pretty tricky! Read all of the instructions!

1. Join horizontally, vertically, and diagonally adjacent pairs of numbers that appear next to each other in the circle.

Work out the missing numbers using the fact that only the letters shown below can be hidden in the puzzle, and each is three numbers wide and tall.

2. Arrange the revealed letters to spell a name from the Bible.

Each letter can be the right way up, upside down, or on its side.

All possible letter shapes are shown below. Some are the same when rotated!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

For more visit [www.begridded.com](http://www.begridded.com)

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 8 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 1 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 7 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 8 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 3 |
| - | 7 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| - | 7 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| - | 7 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| 4 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| 9 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| 2 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 0 |
| 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 9 |

## God Is For Us (first hymn)

### Verse 1

We won't fear the battle  
We won't fear the night  
We will walk the Valley with You by our side  
You will go before us  
You will lead the way  
We have found a refuge only You can save

### Chorus

Sing with joy now our God is for us  
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress  
Raise your voice now no love is greater  
Who can stand against us if our God is for us

### Verse 2

Even when I stumble  
Even when I fall  
Even when I turn back still Your love is sure  
You will not abandon  
You will not forsake  
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace

### Bridge

Neither height nor depth can separate us  
Hell and death will not defeat us  
He who gave His Son to free us  
Holds me in His love

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