

THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST
April 7, 2024

PRELUDE: *“The Strife is O’er” by Carl Simone*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the day: Stop doubting and believe!

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: This is the good news which we proclaim to you.

People: Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!

Leader: Walk in the light of his love.

People: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One Who overcame death.

ALL: Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord. AMEN..

***HYMN: #251 “Thine Is the Glory”** CCLI Song #21837, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** God, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we sing ...(singing the Lord’s Prayer)

***HYMN #632: “THE LORD’S PRAYER”**

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 133 (page 615) {A.B. page 690}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) “Gaelic Alleluia” arr. Courtney (words on insert)
Wendy Stoddard, Joy VanRiper, Nancy Tharp, Nancy Burt-Preece, Georgia Sperano
Piano duet- June Pettit and Kateri Andress

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 1:1-2:2 (page 1207) {A.B. page 1370}

Sermon
“Thomas”
(John 20:19-31)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN: #586 “Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord”** CCLI Song #87077, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: *Variations on an Easter Hymn*

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

COMMUNION

***HYMN: #306 “Standing On the Promises”** CCLI Song #31803, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *Toccata on “O Filii et Filiae” by Lynnwood Farnam*

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

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: Hiram Bailey (surgery on Monday), Phyllis Gerhard (Karen Gardner’s mother), Maryanne Fox (friend of Ardelle Bigos), Nora Murphy (newborn friend of DiCicco family), Doug Cubbison (Connie Frye's brother), Edwin Gregory (friend of Royal Purdy), Tom Fortunato (Bill’s brother), Erik Keating (son of Al & Dawn Rossi), Kiana Rae Moore (MacKenzie Brown’s cousin), Louise Huck, Catherine Kurzdorfer (Adam Thorman’s mother), Carolyn Verspoor, Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), Garrett Nayer (nephew of Karen Gardner), Denise Loy (friend of Kory Massey), David Sanford, Jovannie Ramirez (Karen Roaix’s grandson), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp’s brother), Clancy Cragle (Michelle’s grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), David Crowe, Jack Schermond

Cancer: Dylan Smith (CA senior, friend of many), John Tornow (friend of Elaine Allen), Susan Hennessy (Jen Eveleigh’s sister), Rich Crowley (friend of Steve & Beth Smythe), Tom & Monica Yurik (friends of Bruce & Deb Gardner), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe’s niece), Sasha (friend of Megan French), Roderick Simonds (father of Natalie Clark), Rob Stults (cousin of Wade & Christy Allen), Dawn Miller, David Pagoda (friend of Eveleigh family), Jim Davis (Scott’s father), Jackie Crego (Stan & Evey Wright’s daughter), Stephen Carges (brother of Paula Traber)

Recovering: Bill Blance (Ed’s brother), Gabbi Seeber, Kerry Van Iseghem, Joan Danaher, Sara Scharr, Sara Henderson, Arlene Willett, Patti Cagwin, Shirley Kem, Mary Jane Laird

Comfort and Peace: Mary Zimmerman (Wendy Bacon’s mother)

MILITARY SERVICE: US Army LT1 Andrew Marlin (Tyler Bosecks husband) home from deployment, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN), MAC Adam Thorman (USN), E6 Cody Wells (USN) deployed to Japan, TSgt Timothy Peck (USAF)

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

Some more upcoming dates you might want to put on your calendar (watch the Monthly Memo or future Lamplighters for details!):

- April 27 – Testimony Saturday
- May 5 – Exploring Membership Class
- June 2 – Church Picnic
- June 9 – Grad Sunday
- June 29 – Red Wings Game
- Aug 16-18 – United Church Retreat Weekend
- Nov 2 – United Church Seminar

Highlights for This Week!

- **The United Church offers "camperships" to all kids who are involved in our church...**this may be through attending church service and/or Sunday school, attending Youth Club, attending Cause, and/or attending Youth events, such as game night and the Christmas mall trip. **A campership is NOT need based - it is for EVERY kid - and it pays for half the cost of one week at ANY Christian camp.** If a family needs more assistance, we do offer full scholarships to families in need, just ask Deb! Also, please note, Beaver Camp requires a discount code during registration to receive a campership this year. This code has been sent to parents. Can’t find it? Contact Deb.
- On Wednesday, **April 17, first grade** students are invited to attend **Youth Club.** Each year in April, we invite 1st graders to come join us for one night of Youth Club to see if they might enjoy coming in October when they are in 2nd grade. They can arrive at church after school with our walking group from Canandaigua PES or St. Mary’s, or parents can drive them here. They spend the afternoon/evening with us and then are **picked up at 6:30pm**, after enjoying a yummy, kid-friendly dinner! Please **RSVP to Deb by April 12** so that we can be sure to have enough food and other supplies. Thank you!

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!**

Children’s Time ~ There is no Children’s Time today. Worship Bags are available for children at the two front entrances. These bags contain various items to engage children throughout the worship service. Parents, please see the green sheet for instructions. Please return the bag and reusable contents when you’re done. The children can take their papers home with them. We hope you enjoy worshiping together as a family!

Nursery care is offered during both services. **8:45 am nursery** ~ a combined nursery meets in room 10. **11:00 am nurseries** ~ both the Infant/Toddler Nursery (Room 10) and the Preschool Nursery (Room 11) are available.

MISSIONS ~ Faith and Action Following Christ Arising from the Tomb

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

“He is Risen Hallelujah!” was repeated around the world Easter Sunday because the faithful Church is active. The disciples prayerfully went beyond the locked doors to view the world surrounding them. Action followed including feeding the hungry, welcoming the people different from the norm, providing relief to famine and war victims, supporting education of children, and proclaiming the Good News.

Christians in Canandaigua and around the globe continue to view the economic, political, and cultural conditions beyond their doors. Because of our faith we join together to worship. We are not afraid to welcome and listen to others. We provide food and clothes. We support Christians in Russia and in Ukraine, in Haiti and in the Dominican Republic, in Israel and in Gaza, in the multiple African, European, and Central/S American countries our missionaries labor. All are called to know, love, and follow Jesus Christ.

Thanks for the generous donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing collected in March. Emergency relief to people displaced by war, famine, hurricanes or tornadoes, and other disasters are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing. This month we have an opportunity to provide school kits for refugee camp children. See the display in our Welcoming Center.

Be Not Afraid. The promise and directive go forth knowing Jesus said “Peace be with you!” remains true. From John 20 Jesus Appears to His Disciples

“19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Church World Service School Kits

We have 3 weeks to collect supplies to fill 77 school kits for students. Please purchase only the listed items and leave them in the box in the Gathering Area. For each kit we need the following: one pair of blunt scissors(rounded tip only), three 70 count bound notebooks, one 12” ruler, one hand-held pencil sharpener, one large eraser, six new unsharpened pencils with erasers, one 24 pack of crayons.

There is a sample filled bag on display as well as some empty bags if you prefer to complete one or more. The youth in the Cause will be filling and packing bags and we hope to collect enough supplies to fill all 77 kits!



The Silent Auction date has changed! The Auction will be June 9 – June 16. See the table in the Welcome Center for details.

Support for our Ukrainian, Haitian refugees

In our community and across the United States, Ukrainian and Haitian refugee families, fleeing war and violence in their homelands, have settled here legally for a period of 2 years under Humanitarian Parole.

The clock is ticking. For many, those 2 years are almost up. If you would be willing to sign a letter to our elected representatives, asking for an extension for those on Humanitarian Parole, please see Cathy Bush or Wendy Stoddard after the service. We will have these petitions available to sign for a couple weeks yet.

As Mark Bowers from World Relief recently stated, “What voices will shape our nation’s leaders, if those of us who love the way of Jesus remain silent?”

Gaelic Alleluia- arr. Courtney

Joy dawned again on Easter day,
The sun shone out with fair array,
When to their longing eyes restored,
The apostles saw their risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Jesus King of gentleness,
Do Thou Thyself our hearts possess
That we may give Thee all our days,
The willing tribute of our praise.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Lord of all, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide.
From every weapon death can wield
Thine own redeemed forever shield.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!