

THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST
April 23, 2023

PRELUDE: *“Prelude in G Major, BWV 884” by J. S. Bach*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

INTROIT: “I Love You Lord”

FOCUS FOR TODAY: God’s plan isn’t always the plan we might choose, but His choice is always for the best.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: God is like a potter who shapes and forms our lives.

People: We have been called to be faithful to God's intention.

Leader: God seeks for us to be His vessels.

People: We have been given opportunities to witness to God’s love.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Creator who has given us life.

People: Let us send our praises to God who knows us and loves us. AMEN.

***HYMN: #634 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”** CCLI Song #1448, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** Lord, from the very beginning of your creation, you breathed your love into all that you made. You gave us the breath of life and called us to serve you. You placed your trust and love in us. Help us to turn again with joyful hearts to you, placing our trust in all that you have done for us. 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: James 1:23-25 (page 1196) {A.B. page 1354}

ANTHEM: (11:00) “Thy Will Be Done” (words on insert) **The United Church Choir**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 8:31-39 (page 1119) {A.B. page 1248}

Sermon
“Unlikely Choice”
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN: #82 “What God Ordains Is Always Right”**

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: *“Auf meinen lieben Gott” by Dietrich Buxtehude*

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN: #636 “If You Will Trust in God to Guide You”**

CCLI Song #564215, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

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

Our prayers and sympathy are with Steve Simpson, whose brother, Peter, passed away this week in Florida. Please keep the Simpson family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Louise Van Iseghem, whose mother, Phyllis Curtis, passed away on April 17th. Please keep the entire family in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: Kathie Meredith, Jenn Newton (friend of the Whitcombs), Denice (Bailey) Tautges (Hiram’s daughter), Jovannie Ramirez (Karen Roaix’s grandson), Steve Yacoub (friend of Ardelle Bigos), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp’s brother), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe’s niece), David Sanford, Clancy Cragle (Michelle’s grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), Patti Cagwin, David Crowe, Jack Schermond, Matthew Gullace

Cancer: Brent Gibbs (father of Kristy Aldrich), 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 DiCiccios)

Recovering: Kathy Mills, Mary Jane Laird, Cindy Davies, John Tornow (friend of Elaine Allen), Jan Gullace, 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

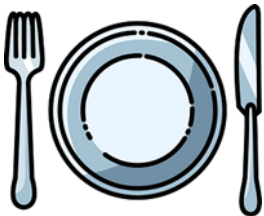
MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla and Mayra Giovantti – the BGs (Central/South America), Tim and Patti Long (Baja Mexico), Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan and Alethia White (Berlin)

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

Take the Marshalls a Meal!

If you would like to help provide a meal for the Marshall family while Deb recovers from her surgery, please follow the link below or scan the QR code. If you need help getting signed up, please call Carolyn in the church office (585-394-0503)

<https://takethemameal.com/LPQA8089>



In lieu of making a meal, small Wegmans gift cards would also be appreciated. These can help cover the costs of quick meals or prepped ingredients.

Thank you for any contribution you are able to provide and for blessing the entire family with your prayers.



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.



Notes and Doodles:

Highlights for This Week! (look inside for details)

- TODAY during the Sunday School hour, join us for our Youth Club Musical!
- We need a few more volunteers to help with Youth Club dinner and clean up this week, from 5-7pm. Please sign up on Deb's door if you're able to help.
- Youth Club parents, don't forget to RSVP about the end of year celebration and pizza dinner by tomorrow (Monday).
- UC Moms is meeting on April 24, from 9-11:30am. All moms are welcome. Childcare is provided for those who need it.
- NEXT Sunday, join us for our Intergenerational Sunday School Class as we live in faith together!

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.

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!

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

ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY (4/23) – Sunday School Concert – Come and support our children’s concert in the sanctuary!

Next Week – Intergenerational Sunday – Join us in the Downstairs Dining Hall for our 5th Sunday Intergenerational Breakfast!

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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Join us for the children’s concert TODAY in the sanctuary and the Intergenerational breakfast April 30 in the Downstairs Dining Hall!

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 finishing up the series on the question: Where Do I Belong?

WORKCAMP MEETING - April 23 (after Sunday service)

Workcampers are asked to attend this meeting. We will be sharing updates on our fundraising efforts, giving updates on our trip details, and making other important preparations.

SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS

Princess Pajama Party – May 5th (7:00 PM Start) – May 6th (8:00 AM End) – This event is for girls in grades 6-12. We hope you can join us at The United Church for a night of games, snacks, friendship and learning about God. Please sign up online through the Church Center App and contact Lauren Slomski or Julie Zajac with any questions.

Young Lions Event – May 5th (6:00 PM – 9:30 PM) – Boys in grades 9-12 are invited to join us at The United Church for dessert making and fun/games at Roseland Bowl! Students will be asked to be picked up at Roseland bowl at 9:30 PM. Please sign up online through the Church Center App.

FAMILY

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY – April 30

During the Sunday School hour, at 9:45 AM, in the Downstairs Dining Hall, all age groups are invited to participate in our Intergenerational Sunday School Class! Similar to previous intergenerational classes, we will be coming together to enjoy breakfast, games, Bible study, and prayer. During our time together, we will be studying John 21:1-15.

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

April 26 – Non-YC Volunteers needed

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

April 26 – Cheney

Family Time Themes:

April 26 – Carnival Night!

Volunteers are needed to work at Youth Club Dinner, Wednesday, April 26 (4:30-7:00pm)

April 26th is our last day of Youth Club!!!! We like to have all Youth Club children, parents and workers join us for pizza dinner and a closing program followed by sundaes.

Because we want our regular kitchen crew to join us for dinner and not be working in the kitchen, we need people to help who do not work at Youth Club and are not parents of YC students. If you fit this category and are able to help set up, serve dinner, prepare lemonade, clean up, etc, please let Deb Marshall know or sign up on Deb’s office door. Thanks!

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 tomorrow – Monday, April 24, 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.

It's that time of year again ~ we have received **Summer Camp** brochures! Please take time to pray about and consider sending your child to Christian camp this summer. This experience can have a positive impact on your child's faith development! *Our church family believes that the Christian camp experience is so important that for any child from our church, we will pay half the tuition for one week at Christian camp ~ called a "campership."* Applications for camperships are being received now until the first Sunday of June. **We encourage you to register for camp soon – camps tend to fill up quickly and take advantage of early bird discounts!!** Please look for the camp display in the gathering area. Any questions, please contact Deb Marshall.

Here are our campers so far...

Beaver Camp

- Amelia Cunningham, July 16-21 (Bears)
- Elise Cunningham, July 2-7 (Gymnastics)
- Summer Cunningham, August 6-11 (Teen Camp)*
- Adele Marshall, July 2-7 (Beavers)
- Lily Munson, July 2-7 (Bears)
- Paige Munson, July 2-7 (Beavers)
- Sophie Munson, July 2-7 (Beavers)



LeTourneau Christian Center

- Joy Cheney, June 26-30 (Treasure Hunters)* and July 10-14 (Adventure Quest overnight camp)
- Jesse Cheney, June 26-30 (LEGO Builders) and Aug 14-17 (Wacky Water)*
- Billy Clark, July 17-21 (Wood & Metal Working) and July 31-Aug 4 (Culinary Delights)*
- Eva Clark, July 17-21 (Wood & Metal Working) and July 31-Aug 4 (Culinary Delights)*
- Adele Marshall, July 17-21 (Arts-n-Crafts)*, July 31-Aug 4 (Culinary Delights)*, Aug 14-17 (Baking Champions)*
- Carter Slomski, July 17-21 (Wood & Metal Working)



Register now for VBS! 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....we ask that kids who register are able to attend all 5 days of VBS. We have VERY FEW spots left

so register soon! Questions? Contact Deb Marshall at deb.marshall@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 April and May 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.

MISSIONS

Family Promise's guests are experiencing a greater need for assistance with grocery and gas gift cards. This is due to SNAP (formerly food stamps) benefits being reduced as well as the increased cost of groceries. The current guest families consist of 6 single moms, 1 single dad and 24 children and more of the graduate families will also be experiencing food insecurity. The need for gift card assistance will be greater than ever.

Our church has been asked to collect grocery and gas gift cards to help their guests during the second half of April. Walmart, Tops, and Aldi are the most appreciated grocery cards, in \$25, \$50, or \$100 denominations. Kwik Fill, Exxon/Mobil, and Speedway gas cards are also very helpful and at Speedway they can be labeled "Fuel Purchases Only." If you can help these struggling families, please leave the gift cards in the church office or place them in a marked envelope in the collection plate by Sunday, April 30. Thank you for your support of these families 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.



TOMORROW - Monday, April 24, 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 families driving through. This free food distribution is especially helpful due to the reduction of SNAP benefits that began in March and the rising prices of groceries. Can you help?

NEW LOCATION: Highway Dept Barn, 5440 Rt 5 & 20, Cdga. **Questions or to volunteer,** please see Cathy Bush or Don Rensberger.

Sunday happenings...

TODAY –

Sunday, April 23, 2023

Service at 8:45am

Youth Club Musical, “The Big Fish”, at 9:45 am in the sanctuary

Service at 11:00am

Workcamper meeting, noon

The Cause (Youth Group for 9-12 grade), 5-7:30 pm

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Service at 8:45am

Intergenerational Sunday School

Service at 11:00am

The Cause (Youth Group for 9-12th grade), 5-7:30pm

If you would like to sign up to bring some **breakfast food items** for next week’s Intergenerational Sunday School class, or to **volunteer to help set up and/or clean up**...see the sign up sheet on the main office door!



LeTourneau Christian Center Work Day

When: May 20th, 9-4 (or however much time you have)

Where: LeTourneau Christian Center
4950 East Lake Road

Rushville, NY

What: A day of volunteering (**all ages welcome**) to help prepare their center for the busy Summer filled with groups, camps, and campers!

Why: LeTourneau provides a wonderful environment for young and old to learn about God’s love. Many children and adults from our church attend events every year at LeTourneau.



Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway by the restrooms. The day will include a **free lunch**. The various areas you can choose to help out include: cleaning, carpentry, painting, landscaping, and clearing trees.

We're taking a step towards a world free of MS.

Brown's Brigade has been uniting to end MS forever since 2006, and we invite you to volunteer, donate, or join our team! Our MS journey actually took flight in 2004 when I was diagnosed with optic neuritis and we quickly entered into the world of MRIs, doctor visits, medication investigation, and preparing for the unknowns that so many people living with MS experience. I have never, ever been alone in this MS journey life has me navigating. My husband has never waived and he is truly my rock. My children are right there with me every step of the way. Family and friends, church family, work colleagues, etc. come out in droves for our annual MS WALK WEEKEND... some join our team and walk, others donate or volunteer, and others send special words of encouragement. I have NEVER felt alone. We've set an ambitious goal because, with your support, we can get there. The money we raise will help drive groundbreaking research, provide life-changing programs, and guarantee a supportive community for those who need it most. Ultimately your donations will create a world free of MS... free of the unknowns it brings to so many. Feel free to call (585)739-8621 if you need more information or join us on May 21st for MS WALK 2023 at Sonnenberg Gardens (10:00 am kickoff). Please give donations directly to MacKenzie Brown or checks can be made out to NMSS and sent to: MacKenzie Brown at 3140 Lake to Lake Rd., Stanley, NY 14561 or you can use the QR code here. Thank you all so much for 19 years of support and counting!

God Bless, MacKenzie, Mat, Shea, and Casey Brown



Thy Will Be Done

Sometimes the load is heavy, and sometimes the road is long.
And sometimes, Lord, this heart of mine is not so very strong.
But Thy will be done, Lord, Thy will be done.

Father, I do not ask You to take this cup from me,
I only ask Your guidance o’er paths I cannot see.
And Thy will be done, Lord. Thy will be done.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is,
As it is in heaven.

Now, Lord, I feel You near me, I feel Your guiding power.
And know You’re standing by me through every passing hour.
And Thy will be done, Lord, Thy will be done. Thy will be done.

By Joyce Eilers, c. 1975 The Heritage Music Press

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

Begriddled fans ... we have run through all of the puzzles created. 🤖

Let’s try something new!

Try the crossword on the flip side.....



Bible Crossword X

Across

1

Donkey (3)

2

Jesus' Father (3)

4

One of the twelve (9)

8

Didn't believe in resurrection (9)

12

One of David's warriors (5)

13

First word of the Lord's Prayer (3)

14

New Testament name for Noah (3)

15

Wish harm upon (5)

16

Hole in the ground (3)

17

Adversary (5)

18

Savour (5)

19

First woman (3)

20

Mother of John the Baptist (9)

21

Family of priests (9)

22

Third son of Jacob (4)

23

Hates (8)

26

Assurances (8)

30

Endured pain (8)

31

Return from the dead (4)

32

Intercessor (8)

35

Decorating (8)

39

Old Testament book of the Bible (4)

40

The prince of Rosh, Mesech and Tubal (3)

42

A wise insect (3)

44

Dwelling place of kings (6)

45

Make bigger (8)

Down

1

One of God's messengers (5,2,3,4)

3

1940s archaeological find (4,3,7)

4

Tread down (7)

5

Father of Jonah (7)

6

Very salty water bordering Israel (4,3)

7

Defensive structures (11)

8

Refuges (11)

9

Dirty (7)

10

Devout (7)

11

Pieces of money (7)

24

Used to listen (3)

25

Used to see (3)

26

Positions (5)

27

Made available (7)

28

Snake (7)

29

Destroyed along with Gomorrah (5)

33

Finish (3)

34

Possess (3)

35

King of the Amalekites (4)

36

Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)

37

Almost sacrificed by Abraham (5)

38

Present (4)

41

Unfasten (4)

43

Fish traps (4)

1

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7

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http://biblepuzzles.org.uk