

**THE UNITED CHURCH**  
**PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST**  
**February 18, 2024**

**PRELUDE:** *Meditation on Amazing Grace*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETING**

**OUR PREPARATION**

**INTROIT: (11:00) “Lord Be Glorified” (Hymn #537)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Jesus brought healing love to all people.

**People: They talked and marveled about his miracles.**

Leader: But they really didn’t understand him.

**People: They wanted the healing, but not necessarily a change in their lives.**

Leader: Jesus brings us transforming compassion.

**All: Lord Jesus, keep our minds and our spirits open to your life-changing words. AMEN.**

**\*HYMN: #497 “The Wonderful Grace of Jesus”**

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**\*OPENING PRAYER: Lord of mercy and compassion, be with us this day as we hear of the healing love of Jesus. Remind us that we are also recipients of his compassion and we are called to bring the same hope and love to others. Prepare us for service in His Name. 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: 1 Peter 3:18-22 (page 1202) {A.B. page 1362}**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:45) “Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)” arr. Raney  
Nancy Burt-Preece and Joy Van Riper, acc. Kateri Andress**

**ANTHEM: (11:00) “Prayer for Mercy” (words on insert)     The United Church Choir**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 25:1-10 (page 545) {A.B. page 619}**

**Sermon**  
**“Power to Forgive”**  
**(Mark 2:1–12)**  
**Pastor Wade Allen**

**OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH**

**\*HYMN: #451 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”**

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**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY:** *Interlude in A-flat*

**\*DOXOLOGY: #809**

**\*HYMN: #507 “I Then Shall Live”**

CCLI Song #19643, ©Words: 1981 Hanna Street Music; Music: 1981 William J. Gaither, Inc., CCLI Lic. #11593017

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *“Capriccio” by John Ireland*

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

***Our prayers and sympathy are with the family of Kathy Mills, who passed away on February 11th. Please keep her family in your prayers during this difficult time. A memorial service is being planned for March 3 at 2 pm.***

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Health concerns:** 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:** 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), Brent Gibbs (father of Kristy Aldrich), 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) deployed to South Korea, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN), MAC Adam Thorman (USN) returned from deployment, E6 Cody Wells (USN) deployed to Japan, TSgt Timothy Peck (USAF) home from deployment

**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)

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

- March 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 – CA High School Musical (Footloose)**
- March 3 – Finger Lakes Community Band (at Fort Hill PAC)**
- March 16 – Church Family Bowling Night (at Roseland)**
- March 16 – Iron Sharpens Iron Men’s Conference (in Buffalo)**
- March 22 – Organ Concert**
- Aug 16-18 – United Church Retreat Weekend**
- Nov 2 – United Church Seminar**



**Highlights for This Week!**

- There is no Sunday school, Cause, or Youth Club this week due to Winter Break for schools. We will resume these ministries on February 25.
- **All are invited to Coffee and Connection today** in the Fellowship Room from 9:45-10:45. Join us for coffee, light snacks, and fellowship with our church family.
- **Adult Education Sunday School - February 25** - Our groups will be combining for the remainder of the program year to provide Christian education and engage in caring conversation on the topic of human sexuality and LBGTQ+ matters. Our corporate prayer group will continue to meet, and will include prayers for our larger group conversation.
- **IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN’S CONFERENCE** - March 16 in Buffalo - We invite all men to sign up (sign up sheet in the hallway) and attend this event! We bring a group every year, and this year’s events details can be found at the following link: <https://camphickoryhill.org/isi-buffalo/>
- **All church bowling night - Saturday, March 16**, from **5-8pm** in the VIP room at **Roseland Bowl**. Come enjoy pizza, fellowship, cake, and, of course, bowling with your church family! **Sign up** for this event is **required** as space is limited.
- As previously announced, Virginia Holroyd is retiring from the position of Director of Care (Visitation Director). If you are interested in being considered for this position, please send a **letter of interest and resume** by **March 1st** to **SRC@UCCDGA.org** or drop them off at the church office. Thank you.

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**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 worshipping together as a family!

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

**Thank you** for supporting Mike Walker and Lynn Bernard in the mission to La Pimienta, Nicaragua serving with American Baptist missionary Christy Lafferty. Your prayer support and \$5000 in contributions provide light in a rural clinic and additional hope to the community.

**February diaper collection for CareNet** ~ CareNet Canandaigua, a Christian organization, provides encouragement and counseling before and after a baby is born. Needed are diapers (especially size 4,5,6) and sensitive wipes. Place your contribution next to the food cart in the Welcome Center.



**SAVE THE DATE(S)!**

Stay tuned for more details about these events in the coming months...

- 1) **August 16-18** -The United Church Retreat weekend! This weekend will include separate events for youth, young adults, and adults. It will also incorporate time for children and families to enjoy. We are excited to facilitate our Sunday worship service at Onanda Park on Sunday, August 18!
- 2) **November 2** - The United Church Seminar! Our guest speaker will be Dr. Richard Middleton, Old Testament scholar and Northeastern Seminary professor.

**Prayer for Mercy** (anthem)

Kyrie, kyrie eleison  
O Lord, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Forgive us, Lord. Forgive our sins  
As we forgive those who’ve sinned against us.

You have taken away our sins, the sins of the world,  
Have mercy, Lord. Have mercy, Have mercy,  
O Savior, Redeemer, have mercy on us.

Kyrie, Christe eleison. Agnus Dei, Qui tollis peccata mundi  
Lamb of God who takest away the sins of the world.

Miserere nobis, Miserere nobis.  
Have mercy on us and grant us everlasting peace.

Dona nobis pacem. Dona nobis pacem.  
Grant us your everlasting peace.  
Amen.

**Notes & Doodles:**