

Blessed Are You (The Beatitudes)

by Sarah Hart, arr. Rick Modlin (8:45 service)

Do you know how blessed you are when you are poor,
when your spirit has been tried, your hope out-poured?
Do you know how lovely will be your reward?
Yours is the kingdom.

Do you know how blessed you are when you must mourn,
when the tears are endless rivers in your soul?
You shall feel the hand of God that draws you close in consolation.

Refrain

Blessed are you, blessed are you in whatever trials and troubles you walk through.
The love of God will not abandon you. Blessed are You

Do you know how blessed you are when hunger comes.
When no earthly drink can slake the thirst within?
It is then you find the fullness of His love poured out upon you.

And when peace is like a rumor on the wind,
and when mercy fails to make her presence known.
Hope will give you all you need to be a light that heals the darkness. (Refrain)

O my child, there will be struggles still to come,
persecutions for the sake of love and truth.
Do not be afraid, for you are not alone.
Blessed are you. (Refrain)

You've Already Won by Bryan Fowler & Shane Barnard (11:00 service)

There's peace that outlasts darkness
Hope that's in the blood
There's future grace that's mine today
That Jesus Christ has won

So I can face tomorrow
For tomorrow's in Your hands
All I need You will provide
Just like You always have

Chorus

I'm fighting a battle
You've already won
No matter what comes my way
I will overcome
Don't know what You're doing
But I know what You've done
I'm fighting a battle
You've already won

There's mercy in the waiting
Manna for today
And when it's gone I know You're not
You are my hope and stay

When the sea is raging
Your Spirit is my help
He'll fix my eyes on Jesus Christ
I'll say that it is well
Oh I know that it is well!

(Chorus)

I'm fighting a battle
You've already won!

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday

FEBRUARY 23, 2025





Order of Worship for
FEBRUARY 23, 2025



Welcome! The United Church is a Presbyterian/American Baptist congregation. We hope you enjoy your visit and let us know if we can help you in any way.

PRELUDE: "Trio in C" by Johann Ludwig Krebs

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the day: Loving radically is possible through God's power in us

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who loves beyond measure

People: Who loved us even when we were far from Him

Leader: Come, let us follow Jesus, who showed us how to love

People: Who blessed those who cursed Him and prayed for His enemies

Leader: Come, let us open our hearts to God's transforming Spirit

All: That we might love as we have been loved, without limits and without conditions

***HYMN #558: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

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***OPENING PRAYER:** Holy God, your love knows no boundaries and reaches even to those who oppose you. Give us the courage to follow Jesus's example, loving our enemies and praying for those who mistreat us, trusting not in our own strength but in your transforming power. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray: Our Father, who art in heaven...

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (page 552) {A.B. page 627}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:45) "Blessed are You (The Beatitudes)", Sarah Hart, arr Rick Modlin
(words on back) Nancy Burt-Preece, Joy Van Riper, and David Kraft

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) "You've Already Won", by Bryan Fowler and Shane Barnard
(words on back) Youth Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Paul Johnson

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 (page 1140) {A.B. page 1272}

Sermon

"Unnatural Love: A Call to Love Our Enemies"
(Luke 6:27-36)

Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #593: "The Gift of Love"**

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PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: Improvisation on "Beecher"

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN #20: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Sortie" by J. Guy Ropartz

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

Our prayers and sympathy are with Christina Hartpence and Karen Crow, whose father, Robert Baer, passed away on February 14th. Please keep the Baer, Hartpence, and Crow families in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Karen Roaix, Jennie (friend of Nancy Bowllan), Sara Scharr, Rodney Newfrock (friend of Elaine Allen), Czarny Bigos, Maverick, and Deanna Stocker (family of Ardelle Bigos), Stephen Cole, Karen Mount, James Sheppard, Linda Gilbert, Jessica Canham (Sharyn's daughter), Mary Jane Laird, Denice Bailey Tautges, Tom Babcock (friend of Jenny Caron), Edwin Gregory (friend of Royal Purdy), Erik Keating (son of Al & Dawn Rossi), Louise Huck, Catherine Kurzdorfer (Adam Thorman's mother), Carolyn Verspoor, Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), 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), Jack Schermond

Cancer: Daniel Zimmerman (nephew of Wendy Bacon), Sarah Hough (daughter of Dianne Beaumont), Walter Enright (friend of Ardelle Bigos), Alex Clark (son of Rob and Natalie), Jon VanBlargan, Laura Fiorito (daughter of Charles and Patti Cagwin), David Gerstner (Nancy's husband), Ruth Krop (friend of MacKenzie Brown), Tane Robinson (friend of Ryan Marshall), Christina Tharp (daughter of John and Nancy), Douglas Cook (Jen Eveleigh's brother), Rod Gifford (cousin of Joyce Laursen), Martha Ashley, Beth Smythe, Keith Laursen (Joyce's brother-in-law), Sasha (friend of Megan French), Mark Schreier (Virginia Holroyd's friend), John Tornow (friend of Elaine Allen), Susan Hennessy (Jen Eveleigh's sister), Rich Crowley (Steve & Beth Smythe's friend), Tom & Monica Yurik (Bruce & Deb Gardner's friends), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe's niece), Roderick Simonds (father of Natalie Clark), Rob Stults (cousin of Wade & Christy Allen), Dawn Miller, David Pagoda (Eveleigh family friend), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Stephen Carges (Paula Traber's brother)

Recovering: Alice Smith-Mather (missionaries' daughter)

Comfort and Peace: Harriet Morgan (Megan French's grandma), Mary Zimmerman (Wendy Bacon's mother)

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

MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovantti - the BGs (Central/South America), Christy Lafferty (Nicaragua), Shelvis & Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan & Alethia White (Berlin)

Highlights for This Week

- **The Cause** - returns this evening! Band members and volunteers can arrive at 4:30
- We need **7 dozen frosted cupcakes** (any flavor) for **Youth Club dessert** delivered to church by **4pm on Wednesday, February 26**. Please no peanuts/tree nuts or nut products such as peanut oil or almond extract. If you can bake a dozen or two, please let Deb Marshall know. Thank you!
- **Do you love little ones?** Great - we have a place for you to serve! **We are in need of more nursery volunteers.** You can serve once every 3 months, once a month, or more often if you would like. If you are interested in volunteering in the nursery, **please see Louise VanIseghem or Deb Marshall.** All volunteers will need to complete a simple background check.
- We are forming a **Women's Prayer Group.** Come and join us! We will meet in the Fellowship Room at 10:00 Friday mornings for about an hour. We will be praying for our church, our families, and our community. If you would like more information, please contact Julie Stave.
- We are forming a "**Go Getter Team!**" This team of people will go get items from stores as needs arise. This may include anything from picking up a tray of food at Wegmans to purchasing a specific supply for kids ministry. If you would like to **lead this team or be a part of this team**, please contact Christy, Mark, or Deb.
- We are continuing to collect **donations to fill birthday bags** for local food pantries. Items most needed are **cake mix, canned frosting, birthday napkins**. We also need some birthday candles and colorful balloons. Please put donations in the container in Deb's office by next Sunday, March 2.
- **Game Night** - Saturday March 8, 6:30 PM - All are invited!

Nursery Care

Nursery care is offered during both services and the Sunday school hour. Room 10 (the infant nursery) is used during the early service, Room 11 (the toddler/preschool nursery) is used during the Sunday school hour, and both rooms are open during the late service.

Children's Time

Children's Time meets after the Children's Sermon upstairs in room 26. **Children aged Kindergarten through 5th grade** are invited to participate. Parents, please pick up your children **promptly** after the service.

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!

Youth Club

Our after school ministry for 2nd-8th graders

Wednesdays, after school - 6:30pm

Our night includes: Recreation, Worship, Bible study, and Family Time (dinner)

Parent volunteers for Feb 19

Snack: Vasello

Kitchen clean-up: Seeber, Beyrle, James, Hildebrandt

Any questions? Please see Deb Marshall



Bowling Night!

Saturday, March 22, 5:30-7:30pm

Roseland Bowl, 4357 Recreation Drive, Canandaigua
\$10 per person (\$40 maximum per family)

Pizza, drinks, & dessert provided

Register and pay on Planning Center, or contact Mary Beth Fortunato at mbweber@hotmail.com or 585-451-1758.
The registration deadline is March 16.



Parent/Child Library

The Parent/Child Library is full of books for all ages on **love** which is the emphasis for the month of February! You may **borrow a book/books** off either the display shelf or the regular book shelf. All families are welcome to use the Parent/Child library *at any time*. Please **sign the book(s) out** and return within 4 weeks. Any questions? See Deb Marshall



Save the Dates / Events for Your Calendar

(watch future Lamplighters for details!):

March 16 - Organ Concert

March 30 - Ministry Involvement Day

June 1 - Church picnic at Baker Park

July 14-18 - VBS, *registration starts March 1!*

August 16 (9:00am - 9:00pm) - Youth Summer Retreat - Grades 6-12

August 16 (9:30am - 11:30am) - Adult Summer Retreat

August 17 - The United Church Summer Service at Onanda Park!

August 18-22 - Summer Mission Experiences (6-12 grade students)

August 23 - Red Wings Game



Missions

Faith and Action

*"Clean water transforms their future.
Living Water transforms all."*

Mexico Mission Trip

March 8-17th, 2025, our church Living Waters for the World (LWW) team ([Linda Werts](#), [Ray McMillen](#), and [Ken Allen](#)) and others will travel to the rural community of Cedralito in the southeast corner of the Mexican state of Quintana Roo on the Yucatán Peninsula. Cedralito is one of our LWW partners. Their plant has been operating for 13 years supplying the community and surrounding area with safe, clean water. The Water plant needs updating to continue to supply life-giving water to the people.

A GoFundMe account has been established to assist with the costs. If you are led to give to this mission, go to GoFundMe.com, search for keyword: [Cedralito](#). To give directly- make Check out to The United Church with "Mexico mission trip" on memo line.

Thank You and God Bless You!

Hurricane Relief Mission Trip

Seventeen people, ages 9 and up, are going on the [inter-generational mission trip to North Carolina](#) for hurricane relief! The trip is [April 13 - 18](#). Please keep the people of North Carolina and the planning/preparation of this trip in your prayers. In March we may have ways for others in the congregation to help out trip.

Ministry Involvement Day

Save the Date! **March 30, 2025 at 9:45am** - Please join us for a ministry involvement day during the Sunday school hour. Join us for breakfast and to learn more about the growing ministries of our church and find opportunities to use your gifts. High school students and adults are invited. **Please bring a dish to pass.**



Thank Yous

Bless your hearts for being so nice! So many of my church family sent get well cards to me. It was a good encouragement, and so appreciated. I was blessed. [Jane Laird](#)

We want to thank all of you for the overwhelming attendance at Hiram's 90th birthday party. Hiram was amazed. Thank you for all the cards! We are so thankful for the outpouring of love. We hope to see you all again. [Hiram and Linda Bailey](#)

Thank you so much for all your love and support for Edward Olson, all his life, but especially in these last few years. (*many, many examples cited - see card in office*)
We love and appreciate you all! [Wayne and Yvonne Darville](#)