

THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN — AMERICAN BAPTIST
March 17, 2024

PRELUDE: *“Trio Sonata No. 2 in C Minor, BWV 526” by J. S. Bach*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

SPECIAL MUSIC: Bagpipes

Andrew Duncan

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: We are challenged to trust in Jesus’ Power to Provide.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: God has called us to this place of peace.

People: We come, eager for rest and hope.

Leader: The Lord is always with us, offering refreshment for our souls.

People: Let us partake of this wondrous gift.

Leader: It is the gift of the Lord’s love for us. Come and rest.

People: Praise God for the absolute compassion of God’s love. AMEN.

***HYMN: #514 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine**

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***OPENING PRAYER:** In your compassionate love, O God, you nourish us with the words of life and bread of blessing. Grant that Jesus may calm our fears and move our hearts to praise your goodness by sharing our bread with others. 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 Eye is on the Sparrow”

The United Church Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 3:14-21 (page 1158) {A.B. page 1298}

Sermon

“Power to Provide”

(Mark 6:30–52)

Pastor Mark Slomski

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN: #448 “Jesus, I Come”**

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PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: *Meditation on St. Patrick’s Breastplate*

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN: #442 “O Come to Me the Master Said”**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *“Postlude on an old Irish church melody” by C. V. Stanford*

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

Our prayers and sympathy are with June Pettit, whose sister-in-law, Sherry Thorpe, passed away on March 8. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: 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)

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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 17 – Kateri's Organ Recital dress rehearsal (open to all)
- March 22 – Organ Concert
- April 7 – Virginia's Retirement Celebration
- 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!**

- **Today is the last day to place an order for Easter Lilies!** Use the yellow form in your bulletin.
- **Today is Camp Day.** Representatives are here from **Beaver Camp** and **LeTourneau** to talk to kids and parents about the many opportunities they offer for **Christian summer camp**. And don't forget, we offer **"camperships"**! A campership pays for *half the cost of one week* of summer Christian camp. We offer a campership to every child who regularly attends Sunday school, Youth Club, or The Cause.
- **There are 2 organ concerts this week!**
  - This afternoon, at 2 pm, Kateri Andress
  - Friday evening at 7 pm, EROI Community Concert
- **Check this out!** Beaver Camp is hosting an **Eclipse Event** on April 7-9, 2024. Our own **Paul Johnson** is the devotional speaker for this event! More info and registration here:  
<https://beavercamp.org/camps-and-retreats/eclipse-event-at-beaver-camp>
- **Testimony Saturday (SAVE THE DATE) - April 27 @ 10:00 am** - Come and enjoy food, worship the Lord, and hear the testimony of our very own Julie Stave!
- **Registration is open for Scuba VBS: "Diving into Friendship with God."** VBS will be held **July 8-12**, from **9 am-12 noon**. We will have an optional kick-off on Sunday, July 7 at 6:30pm. Children, ages **4 years old** through those who **completed 5th grade**, are welcome to **participate!** We would love to have your children (and their friends!!) join us for this faith-filled week! Use the QR code on the Monthly memo or this link to register:  
<https://uccdga.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2176309>

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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!**
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**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!

MISSIONS

Faith and Action



Next Sunday the United Church is receiving the 2024 One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. Use an envelope in the pew rack or write “One Great Hour of Sharing” on the memo line of your check (alternate is electronic web site giving) to share in this special offering. *Thanks for each contribution already received.*

**One Great Hour of Sharing** began seventy-five years ago in response to the devastation of World War II. In 2024 we share in response to the devastation of floods, fire, earthquake, and war.

“There are thousands of children in foreign lands today who have no memory of their parents, no knowledge of the meaning of the words "home" and "family," and who have forgotten what it feels like to have enough to eat. There are hopeless thousands who wander among the shattered towns seeking a place to rest, seeking security and a chance to begin their lives anew. There are many who pray to God only in secret, fearing persecution if they profess their beliefs openly. It is hard for us to comprehend grief and distress such as this because we in America are so much more fortunate. Our country has been blessed with material riches. Our homes are secure. We can go to our churches and worship God as we desire. We know that we enjoy these great blessings not because of any special merit on our part, but because of the bounty of God. It is to His Providence that we owe the richness of our country and our heritage of freedom. Since these good things come to us from Him, we know that we must use them for the good of others in accordance with His will.”

On Saturday evening, March 26, 1949, a national broadcast titled “One Great Hour” featured a remarkable assembly of national leaders and celebrities. Our 33rd U.S. President, Harry S. Truman’s, radio address during the broadcast concluded by asking Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches.

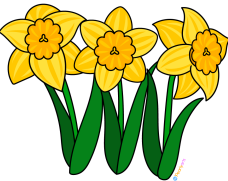
Let us give as we can. Every little bit helps.

**TODAY** is the deadline for turning in **Easter Lily order forms!** You can find the form in your bulletin, the March Lamplighter, or there are stacks in the Welcome Center.



**Nursery care** is offered during both services and during the Sunday school hour for those too young to attend Sunday school so that parents may attend adult classes or help in children’s classes. **8:45 am nursery** ~ a combined nursery meets in room 10. **9:45 am Sunday school nursery** ~ meets in room 11, the preschool nursery. **11:00 am nurseries** ~ both the Infant/Toddler Nursery (Room 10) and the Preschool Nursery (Room 11) are available.

If you ordered daffodils/flowers from the Cancer Society, they will be available for pick up on **Saturday, Mar. 23rd 10 AM - 2 PM** in the Welcome Center. Anyone that can't make it then, we'll have yours on Sunday (Palm Sunday) or leave a message for Sandi DiCicco (585) 298-1181 & we'll make arrangements with you! **THANK YOU!**



**If you’d like to bring food items** to the Celebration Breakfast for Virginia Holroyd’s retirement, please sign up at the office door. Questions? Ask Mary Beth Fortunato.



**After years of dedicated service to the United Church, Virginia Holroyd is retiring. We are excited to show our gratitude, so please join us for her celebration!**

*Retirement Celebration for Virginia Holroyd*  
*Date: Sunday, April 7th*  
*Time: 9:45-10:45, please come from the beginning!*  
*Place: Dining Room*