

**Sunday, October 4, 2020**  
**10:30 Online Worship/ Worship in the Grove**  
**Prophecies and Pottery: Journey with Jeremiah**

**Thank you for wearing a mask and practicing 6 feet of social distancing.**

**As you arrive, please visit the welcome tables to:**

- 1. Sign In – we will verify your name and phone number.**
- 2. Get a bulletin of the service or you can view it on your phone at :**



- 3. Share your offerings.**

**GUESTS,** Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/unionneffs](https://www.facebook.com/unionneffs) . If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

**NEW MEMBERS:** Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to the gathering on November 22. We meet during the 9:15 hour in the Memory Room (Room 200) on the second floor if we are in person, or we will meet virtually by zoom. This is a time to get to know each other and ask questions. You will be welcomed as members in worship on November 29th. Attendance is not required to join. For more information email Pastor Kris.  
[pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

***We believe in extravagant welcome. We believe in God's inclusive love. We start worship with a greeting that reflects that welcome and love.***

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**Ushers:** Phil Wehr, Donna Christman

**Sound:** Karl Klinger, Doug Albert

**TODAY: Pick up your communion elements. Each bag has a pre-sealed cup of juice and a wafer for 1 person. A gluten free option is available.  
You will not be served in your seats.**

## **Holy Communion**

**Directions for Communion: Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.**

**At Home: Since we are worshipping virtually we invite you to take communion virtually.**

**Please find a cracker, piece of bread or something to represent the body of Christ. And please find some juice, wine or water to represent the blood of Christ. When we get to that part of the service, the pastors will bless the elements and bless us as we share in this meal together.**

**Worship in the Grove: Stop at the welcome tables for your communion elements or bring your own. Each bag has a pre-sealed cup of juice and a wafer for 1 person.**

**A gluten free option is available.**

## **PRELUDE**

Reverie

Claude Debussy

## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**①** No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and faith's journey

**②** You are welcome here.

### **\*BLACK HYMNAL #460 God Will Take Care of You**

**1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take of you;**

**Beneath God's wings of love abide, God will take care of you.**

## **CHORUS**

**God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way; God will take care of you, God will take care of you.**

**2. Through days of toil when heart grows frail, God will take care of you;**

**When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you.**

## **CHORUS**

**God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way; God will take care of you, God will take care of you.**

**3. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you; Lean, weary one, upon God's breast, God will take care of you.**

## **CHORUS**

**God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way; God will take care of you, God will take care of you.**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Nearly every culture mentions clay in its creation myth. The biblical creation story pictures God scooping up a handful of clay, shaping a human creature, and breathing life into it.

**All: Is that because clay is so like us?**

One: Up from the bed of the river God scooped the clay; This Great God... Kneeled down in the dust Toiling over a lump of clay Till [God] shaped it... [and] into it blew the breath of life.

**All: Thus, spirit enters flesh, according to that story written down on tablets of clay some five thousand years ago.**

One: Formed in the womb of God, we — made of clay and spirit — are vessels of the vision and essence of God.

**All: Fill us, good Potter God, with your word and your ways, that we may be vessels of you.**

Adapted by Rev. Glenna T. Shepherd from *The Soulwork of Clay: a Hands-On Approach to Spirituality* by Marjory Zoet Bankson, pp.12-14 and *The Creation* by James Weldon Johnson.

## **A STORY**

An ancient Chinese story, as told in *Centering: In Pottery, Poetry, and the Person* by M.C. Richards:

A nobleman riding through town sees a humble peasant potter at work and stops to admire the pots. When the nobleman asks the potter how he is able to make vessels that possess such convincing beauty, the potter replies, "You are looking at the mere outward shape. What I am forming lies within."

## **PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Rev. Glenna T. Shepherd

I. Unformed

ONE: Skilled Potter God, I am your living clay.

**ALL: I am your soft, unformed, and being-shaped mass of earth.**

ONE: I am your in-process vessel, well-kneaded by your warm earth hands.

**ALL: I am clay...becoming.**

**MUSIC: Softening My Way Bobby Jo Valentine**

## **MONOLOGUES FROM THE POTTER'S HOUSE**

Rev. Glenna T. Shepherd

# MUSIC: Softening My Way Bobby Jo Valentine

Composed by Glenn Stephens

8x

8 I am a small lump of clay Here on this large

15 and love - ly earth, And yet be - fore I knew my name

22 You knew my form, you knew my worth. Long I re - sist -

28 ed my shape; Long I in - sist - ted on my own plans.

34 Now I am soft - en - ing my ways, I'm go - ing back to the pot -

40 - ter's hands.

Begin interlude

## CHILDREN'S TIME

In the Grove with Mrs. Maryann Puia

Online - Watch for Mrs. Puia on Facebook and our YouTube Channel during the week.

## SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to

pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**MESSAGE**

Containers: Called to Be a Mouthpiece

Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

**SONG: The Potter’s Hand Darlene Zschech**

*mp*  
2. You gent-ly call me in-to Your pres - ence Guid-ing me by Your Ho-ly Spir - it.  
Teach me, dear Lord, To live all of my life through Your eyes.

*mf*  
I'm cap-tured by Your ho - ly call - ing; Set me a-part, I know You're draw - ing me  
to Your-self. Lead me, Lord, I pray. *mf - f* Take me,  
mold me, use me, fill me. I give my life to the Pot - ter's hand.  
Hold me, guide me, lead me, walk be - side me. I  
give my life to the Pot - ter's hand.

## **OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

**Outside Worship Offering** – we will not be collecting your offerings during the service. Please plan to share them at the welcome table as you arrive or as you leave worship. Thank you for being the church with us!

**Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** **This is a great time to try e-giving!** Choose a weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office. [financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)

**DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card**

Go to <http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/> and click **GIVE ONLINE**.

**AMAZON SMILE** Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop at Amazon. <https://smile.amazon.com>.

## **COMMUNION**

**Directions for Communion: Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.**

**At Home:** Since we are worshipping virtually we invite you to take communion virtually.

**Please find a cracker, piece of bread or something to represent the body of Christ. And please find some juice, wine or water to represent the blood of Christ.**

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**L** Remembering that many of us are gathered remotely, at many tables, And are sharing bread and cup in a virtual communion, May we remember that this action at table is the ultimate symbol of unity. These tables are set and all of God's children are welcome. These tables are open and all of God's children receive grace, love, and hope. This welcome, this bounty, this experience of Christ's saving love are celebrated here at this table and all around the world.

Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday.

Let us pray this prayer from Bangladesh:

### COMMUNION PRAYER

O Savior Christ,  
in whose way of life lies the secret of all life,  
and the hopes of all the people,  
we pray for quiet courage to meet this hour.  
We did not choose to be born or to live in such an age.  
But let its problems challenge us,  
its discoveries exhilarate us,  
its injustices anger us,  
its possibilities inspire us,  
and its vigor renew us,  
for your Kingdom's sake.



This is the joy - ful feast of the peo - ple of God.



Men and wom - en, youth and chil - dren, come from the east and the



west, from the north and the south, and gath - er a - bout Christ's ta - ble.

① On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

## **Blessing**

① Bless this cup and this bread,  
That it may nourish us for the journey  
Together in hope.            Amen.

(Bangladesh. *A Procession of Prayers: Meditations and Prayers from around the World*, comp. John Carden, WCC, and Cassell, London, UK, 1998, p.179. Additional communion language added by Global Ministries.)

## **SHARING THE BREAD and CUP**

① The gifts of God for the people of God. Take and eat, take and drink.

## **MUSIC OFFERING**

In Christ Alone

Andrew Craig and Donald A. Koch

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

① Grain which once was scattered over the fields  
was brought together to feed us today.  
Grapes pulled from the vine  
squeezed to give us drink today.  
Now our time of worship and feasting draws to a close.  
Now we are dispersed like that grain,  
off to give the food of life to a hungry world.  
Now we who have shared the Banquet of Hope,  
go out as people connected to the vine,  
go out to bring the juice of life  
where the world has been drained dry.

As people who have been fed,  
go now to feed the world.  
As those who have been given hope,  
bring hope in place of despair.  
May God help us to do so.  
And always remember  
that we are never cut off from the Source.  
The Bread of Life, the True Vine is with us always.  
And so we always share in Hope's Banquet.  
Thanks be to the One who hosts the banquet! Amen.

~ written by Rev Gord, and posted on Worship Offerings.

<http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca>

ALL (Sung):

**Take me, Mold me**

**Use me, Fill me**

**I give my life to the Potter's hands**

**Hold me, Guide me**

**Lead me, Walk beside me**

**I give my life to the Potter's hand.**

## POSTLUDE

My Jesus, I Love Thee      Adoniram J. Gordon (Tune: Gordon)

Worship Theme - Prophecies and Pottery: Journey with  
Jeremiah c. Worship Design Studio

Altar Design: Claire Kern, Deb Topp and Pastor Kris

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$9,829
Calendar 2020 (Jan-Aug)	\$238,364
Calendar 2019 (Jan-Aug)	\$247,941
Change from Last Year	-3.9%
Budget (July-Aug)	\$56,360
Actual (July-Aug)	\$54,827
Giving vs. Budget	+2.7%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

2020 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food	
Last Week:	180lbs, \$20
Total YTD:	6,743 lbs, \$2,345

## **SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS SPONSORS:**

Yay for our virtual Faith Formation teachers, students, Mrs. Puia, and Pastors from Pastor Kris

*Your support is especially important now as we work to provide spiritual care and connection for members and the community through Facebook posts, ads, and online worship.*

*Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News.*

*Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.*