

August 28, 2022 10:30am Summer Worship in the Grove

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community here at Union UCC. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs.

Please complete the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you or at the welcome tables and hand it in with your offering or give it to a pastor. This is a good way to let us know you're here.

One of our core values as a church is extravagant welcome and hospitality. We believe in God's inclusive love. No matter who you are or where you on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Lay Reader: Ron Pope

Ushers: Carrington Smith, Jim Lane, Jason Klinger, Susan Smith, Al

Stubbmann, Karen Misera, Claire Kern, Gene Thrash

Sound: Doug Albert, Karl Klinger

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Prelude Music

To God be the Glory Fanny Crosby, Robert Lowry, W. Howard Doane

Prayerful Reflection

Radical hospitality will require that we move toward a time when one might say: • I am seen. • I am heard. • I am not forgotten and left to drift through the system. • I am a person with worth and plans and purpose. • I am equal. My relationships with people who provide service are horizontal, not hierarchical. • I am part of the community. • I have a place to live where I feel safe.

Kerry H. Morrison https://www.accoglienza.us/can-radical-hospitalitychange-our-mental-health-system/

The term "radical hospitality can be defined as a practice of putting extraordinary effort and emphasis on making people feel welcome...and focuses on breaking down barriers that prevent people from participating in an effort, campaign, or community."

https://metrocouncil.org/Handbook/Files/ Community-Engagement/PEP-Toolbox-RadicalHospitality.aspx

Welcome

Sharing God's Peace

Leader: How have you known God's love this week? How have you been God's peace? Where have noticed God? Are there God stories that you can reflect on or share with your neighbors as we remind each other that – No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey:

ALL: You are welcome here.

(Please stand in body or spirit to greet each other and for our first song.)

*Hymn: : #87 Leaning on the EverLasting Arms Gold Hymnal (Hymns for the Family of God)

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms; What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Please be seated.

Call to Worship

(Today's worship words are adapted from Seasons of the Spirit for August 28, 2022.)

One: We who have risen to embrace this day, Two: we who are weary in body and spirit,

Both: all are welcome in this sacred place.

One: We who know the abundance of life,

Two: we who are left impoverished by harsh realities,

Both: all receive a sustaining measure of God's love.

One: We who are strong in mind and soul,

Two: we who are challenged by illnesses of many kinds, Both: all are whole in the Spirit of God.

One: We who have a voice and the strength to use it,

Two: we who whisper prayers in our hearts, Both: all are invited to worship the God we love.

One: Repeat after me - Come, for you have a place of honour in

the heart of God.

ALL: Come, for you have a place of honour in the heart of God.

Prayer

Leader: We give you thanks, Gracious God, that you invite us and all people into your presence, to feast at your table, to share together as equals, and to welcome one another. keep us ever mindful that it is by your grace that we are welcomed here. May we never do anything to suggest that others of your children are any less worthy of your grace. Amen.

The Opening of Our Hearts Leader sings first time. ALL second time. Listen for directions to sing this in a round.

Gathering Chant #742 Black Hymnal (New Century Hymnal)

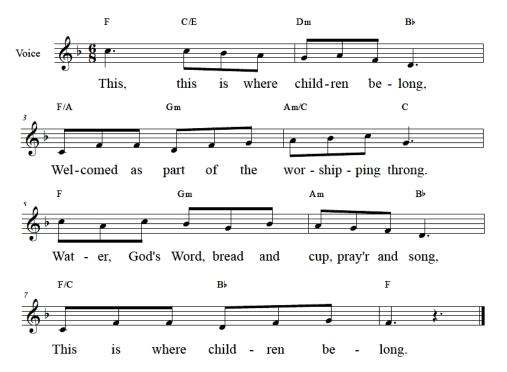


Mornings with Ms. Tiffany 10:30am Worship

Pastors invite children forward to leave with Ms. Tiffany for a time designed just for them! This time will include a variety of activities

that will change weekly. It will be including things such as reading stories, watching videos, crafts, movement, music, and lots of fun!

Children will be in the basement and will return before worship is over. If worship ends early, parents are welcome to meet their children downstairs.



Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7–14 (New Revised Standard Version)
On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host

comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Luke 14:1, 7–14 (The Message)

One time when Jesus went for a Sabbath meal with one of the top leaders of the Pharisees, all the guests had their eyes on him, watching his every move. Right before him there was a man hugely swollen in his joints. So Jesus asked the religion scholars and Pharisees present, "Is it permitted to heal on the Sabbath? Yes or no?"

He went on to tell a story to the guests around the table. Noticing how each had tried to elbow into the place of honor, he said, "When someone invites you to dinner, don't take the place of honor. Somebody more important than you might have been invited by the host. Then he'll come and call out in front of everybody, 'You're in the wrong place. The place of honor belongs to this man.' Embarrassed, you'll have to make your way to the very last table, the only place left.

"When you're invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, 'Friend, come up to the front.' That will give the dinner guests something to talk about! What I'm saying is, If you walk around all high and mighty, you're going to end up flat on your face. But if you're content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself."

Then he turned to the host. "The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends and family and rich neighbors, the kind of people who will return the favor. Invite some people who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of the tracks. You'll be—and experience—a blessing. They won't be able to

return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God's people."

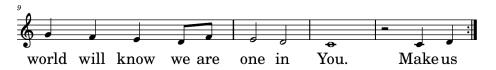
Our Response to God's Word in Song

Make Us One, Lord Carol Cymbala

ALL: Sung, 2 times







The Message

Pastor Kris P. Snyder

*Hymn

Come to the Banquet #8 Sing! Prayer and Praise (See Insert)

Prayers of the People

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,

For ever. Amen.



News about the Ministry and Mission of God's Church

Offering

When we worship in the sanctuary the offering will be collected by our ushers in your seats.

When we worship outside in the grove the offering is collected at the welcome tables when you arrive or leave worship.

Thank you for the many ways in which you support God's work and God's people.

OFFERING PRAYER

This is our place to learn and practice the way of Christ. Here we will cultivate mutual love; remember those whose place is here, yet they are not yet free to be in their place. Here we will honour relationships that nurture faithfulness and fullness. Through the gifts we bring and the lives we live we will hold loosely to our worldly wealth and share what we have to do the good we can. Go out to offer hospitality.

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

<u>OFFERING ENVELOPES.</u> If you can't attend worship, you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

ELECTRONIC GIVING. Choose to give a repetitive contribution on a regular basis (i.e weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly), or make single contributions whenever you desire in an amount of your choice. These contributions can be made from a credit/debit card or be deducted from a checking or savings account. Electronic contributions are initiated from Union UCC's website (UnionUCC.org). Click on 'giving', then on 'Ways to Give' and follow the prompts. Feel free to contact John Harting 610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-398-2654) to answer your questions or demonstrate the process.

MOBILE GIVING. If you would like to give on the go, Vanco, the company that processes our e-giving transactions, has a mobile app that allows you to do so. Open your app search screen, search under "Vanco Mobile Faith \Engagement" and follow the prompts.

<u>AMAZON SMILE.</u> Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop on Amazon https://mxites.nile.amazon.com

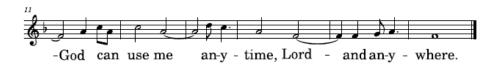
Exodus

Ernest Gold, Pat Boone

Offering Response #139 I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me—Sing! Prayer Praise







Benediction

Leader: Live always as an offering of praise. Remember always to do good in this world, and share what you have with others. So we become the blessing we receive, from God our Maker, Healer, and Guide.

*Hymn #173 You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore Black Hymnal (New Century Hymnal)

1. You have come down to the lakeshore seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy, But only asking for me to follow.

Refrain:

O Jesus, you have looked into my eyes; kindly smiling, you've called out my name. On the sand I have abandoned my small boat; now with you I will seek other seas.

2. You know full well my possessions.

Neither treasure nor weapons for conquest, Just these my fishnets and will for working.

Refrain

3 You need my hands, my exhaustion, working love for the rest of the weary A love that's willing to go on loving.

Refrain

4. You who have fished other waters; you, the longing of souls that are yearning: As loving Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain

Postlude Music More Love, More Power

Jude Del Hierro

Our Mission Statement of Our Church

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future

We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		
Last Week	\$5,508.00	
Calendar 2022 (Jan- July)	\$226,189.00	
Calendar 2021 (Jan July)	\$212,392.00	
Change from Last Year	+6.5%	
Budget 22-23 (July)	\$26,970.00	
Actual 22-23 (July)	\$31,712.00	
Giving vs. Budget	+17.6%	
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes		

Attendance Last Week	
10:30 am (includes children)	91

2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:		
Last	\$50	
Week:		
Total	4,303 lbs, \$570	
YTD:		

Presentations to the Glory of God

Spread the Good News:

In memory of John Steinmann

Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or \$8 for Children's Bulletin

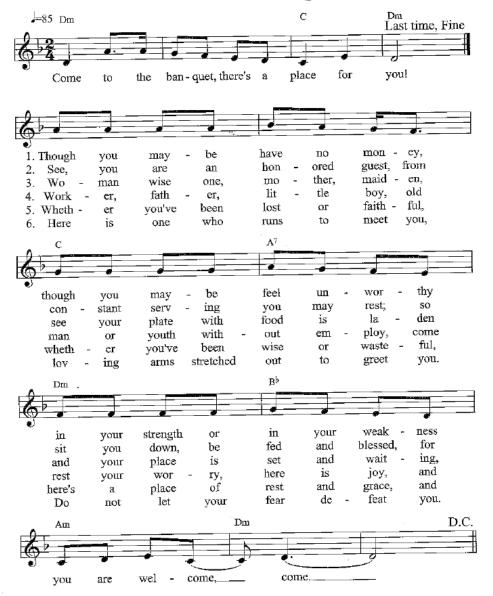
Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.

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Come to the Banquet



- 7. Willing hands have made this bread with yeast and salt and labor shared. Let all hungry ones be fed. It's time for feasting, come.
- 8. Abundant wine, enough for all! Our generous, loving host has called. The cup of blessing now is poured for sweet communion, come.