

You were created for a purpose, formed into
something spectacular—not just created, but recreated
again and again.

Ready to be stretched? It's time to be re-shaped!

Worship Theme September 25–October 23



WWW.WORSHIPDESIGNSTUDIO.COM/RESHAPED

September 25, 2022
8:00am and 10:30am Worship
Week 1
“We Were Made for This”

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 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 are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Lay Reader: 8:00 Ron Pope, 10:30 Suzanne Schneider

Ushers: 8:00 Cliff James, Carol James

10:30 Carrington Smith, Jim Lane, Jason Klinger, Susan Smith, Al Stubbmann, Karen Misera, Claire Kern, Gene Thrash

Sound: Doug Albert

***Please stand in body or spirit.**

Prelude Music
Come, Christians Join to Sing Tune: Madrid
Blake Hoppes

Welcome

Leader: Today we begin a new series that we hope will allow you to harken back to the days when a tub of Play-Doh could spark your imagination and all things felt possible! As we age, somehow the Play-Doh of our Lives gets cracked and dry and less malleable. We become suspicious of change as we start to believe that “the way things are” is the safest choice. But often “what is” starts to crumble and if we look closely at what the Creator set in motion, we find that change is actually the most constant part of life. Change is inevitable and actually necessary for animating our spirits as we find *renewed purpose* throughout life.

Enter the Play Zone

Leader: You were created for a purpose, formed into something spectacular—not just created, but re-created again and again.
Ready to be stretched? It’s time to be re-shaped!

Theme Song
“Change is Good”

Choir/Soloist: (Feel free to join in anytime! And maybe even dance a little.)

Change is good you go first
my brain is suspicious of change
anything out of the ordin - ary
can cause my brain to com - plain
But I was created
for a pur - pose
formed into something spec - ta - cu - lar
not just created, but recreated a - gain

and again and again and again
o-kay so

Change is good I'll go first
we were made for this
God's gonna work from inside out cause
in - ner change is where it starts
Everything changes if we are will - ing
to let old expectations fall a - way
if you feel some stirrage
take a step t'wards cour - age
and be re - shaped a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
Eve-ry-bod-y now!

EVERYBODY NOW:

**Change is good I'll go first
we were made for this
God's gonna work from inside out cause
in - ner change is where it starts
Everything changes if we are will - ing
to let old expectations fall a - way
if you feel some stirrage
take a step t'wards cour - age
and be re - shaped a - gain
and be re - shaped a - gain
and be re - shaped a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
and a - gain**

Leader: Today's scripture reminds us that God's creative activity is described as an *ongoing and active* force for good. Rather than fashioning us of something that could not change, the biblical metaphor is that we are fashioned of clay, a malleable substance that can be reshaped again and again. When life requires change of us, let us embrace our ability to roll with it, for we were made for this!

Opening Prayer

Let us pray together – repeat after me line by line so that our friends at home can join us:

**Creator God,
you sit at the Potter's Wheel
and continue to fashion beautiful things.
Open us to your ongoing re-shaping of our lives
and help us believe that we are capable of change.
Calm our fears, and animate our spirits
for this time of discovery.
Amen.**

Please stand in body or spirit.

***Hymn #2 How Great Thou Art
Gold Hymnal (Hymns for the Family of God)**

**O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

**Then sings my should, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

**When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.**

**Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

Peace

Leader: One of our core values as God's church here in Neffs is extravagant welcome.

So repeat after me - No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

ALL: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

Leader: you are welcome here.

ALL: you are welcome here.

Leader: And when we're together we like to remind each other that God loves you,
and there's nothing you can do about it.

Leader: For those of you who are here, I invite you to pass the peace with those around you saying,

"God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it."

We send our prayers and blessings to those watching and listening at home or during the week.

God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it.

Please be seated.

8:00 Worship

Music Offering Have Thine Own Way, Lord
Adelaide A. Pollard & Steven Scott

Heritage Choir

10:30 Worship

Music Offering Jesus Loves Me
The Crossroad Kids

Kids Choir

10:30 Worship - Story for All Ages

Education Hour for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am
**Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-
grade 5.**

Ms. Tiffany would like to invite children to join her and her volunteers for Sunday School at 9:15 and Children's Church during 10:30am service.

Ms. Tiffany also offers **Tales with Ms. Tiffany on Zoom every Sunday at 7pm**. It includes a story and some fun creative movement before bedtime.

TODAY: Pastors invite children forward to leave with Ms. Tiffany for a time designed just for them!
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.

Song: Go, Make a Diff'rence Angrisano, Tomaszek #199
Sing! Prayer and Praise

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff -
--- 'rence. Go make a diff - 'rence. in the world.---
Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.
Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.---
Last time, time!!

Words & Music: Steve Angrisano
and Tom Tomaszek © 1997,
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Contemporary Reading

The human condition regarding change has been expressed by poets through the ages. Today we turn to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow as he ponders what it is for all humans to be made of clay, and indeed, of the same clay by the Potters Hand. Here is “The Song of the Potter.”

Turn, turn, my wheel! Turn round and round,
Without a pause, without a sound:
So spins the flying world away!
This clay, well mixed with marl and sand,

Follows the motion of my hand;
For some must follow, and some command,
Though all are made of clay!

Turn, turn, my wheel! All things must change
To something new, to something strange;
Nothing that is can pause or stay;
The moon will wax, the moon will wane,
The mist and cloud will turn to rain,
The rain to mist and cloud again,
To-morrow be to-day.

Turn, turn, my wheel! All life is brief;
What now is bud will soon be leaf,
What now is leaf will soon decay;
The wind blows east, the wind blows west;
The blue eggs in the robin's nest
Will soon have wings and beak and breast,
And flutter and fly away.

Turn, turn, my wheel! This earthen jar
A touch can make, a touch can mar;
And shall it to the Potter say,
What makest thou? Thou hast no hand?
As men who think to understand
A world by their Creator planned,
Who wiser is than they.

Turn, turn, my wheel! 'Tis nature's plan
The child should grow into the man,
The man grow wrinkled, old, and gray;
In youth the heart exults and sings,
The pulses leap, the feet have wings;
In age the cricket chirps, and brings
The harvest home of day.

Turn, turn, my wheel! The human race,
Of every tongue, of every place,
Caucasian, Coptic, or Malay,
All that inhabit this great earth,
Whatever be their rank or worth,

Are kindred and allied by birth,
And made of the same clay.

Turn, turn, my wheel! What is begun
At daybreak must at dark be done,
To-morrow will be another day;
To-morrow the hot furnace flame
Will search the heart and try the frame,
And stamp with honor or with shame
These vessels made of clay.

Stop, stop, my wheel! Too soon, too soon
The noon will be the afternoon,
Too soon to-day be yesterday;
Behind us in our path we cast
The broken potsherds of the past,
And all are ground to dust at last,
And trodden into clay.

Ancient Reading

Jeremiah 18: 1-6 (The Message)

God told Jeremiah, "Up on your feet! Go to the potter's house. When you get there, I'll tell you what I have to say."

So I went to the potter's house, and sure enough, the potter was there, working away at the wheel. Whenever the pot the potter was working on turned out badly, as sometimes happens when you are working with clay, the potter would simply start over and use the same clay to make another pot.

Then God's Message came to me: "Can't I do just as this potter does, people of Israel?" God's Decree! "Watch this potter. In the same way that this potter works the clay, I work on you, people of Israel..."

**The Message We Were Made For This
Pastor Kris**



GUMBY - *"If you've got a heart then Gumby's a part of you."*

Play-Doh Contemplation

Leader: Each week we will have a time of contemplation as an opportunity to shape Play-Doh as we think about change in our own lives. Today I invite you to use the Play-Doh to make a shape that represents a past dream or purpose. Take a moment to do that now... Then slowly begin to change that shape as you contemplate what new purpose God may be calling you to now. Even if you think you have no idea of what lies ahead, or even if it is just a feeling rather than a fully-formed image, simply allow the re-shaping of the clay to be your prayer of opening to possibilities.

Prayers of the People

Song: Ready for a Change Mark A. Miller

CHOIR OR SOLO: *Take this broken spirit,
create in me a clean heart,*

*heal this wounded healer and point me to the good road.
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
only you can make me change, Lord, I'm ready for a change.*

*Wipe away these tears, Lord, and end my night of weeping,
wash away the old ways, replace my pain with your joy!
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
only you can make me change, Lord, I'm ready for a change.*

For all who are experiencing change as a result
of civic policies and laws,
may they be supported in their search for
good outcomes and resolutions.

From our community and beyond, we name these persons...
For all who are experiencing change in their

sense of identity or work,
may they know their sacred worth no matter the chaos of
unsettled circumstances.
From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are experiencing change in their sense of home,
may they be welcomed into safe and vibrant
communities of belovedness.
From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are experiencing change in their health,
may they feel the healing power of love and care.
From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are facing change in their lives,
may they, may we, find the strength and courage
to move forward.
For our community and beyond, we name these things...

In this silence we offer to you the deepest yearning
of our hearts...

Silence

Holy and Living God,
when we have hesitated to reach out,
when we have stayed rigid,
not opening to adjusting our own lives
to allow more freedom for others,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.

When we have refused to make room for the changes of time,
and judged others unkindly for their differing ways
of thinking and being,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.

When we have forgotten that we are your creation,
fashioned and made for changing the world for the better,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.
We pray this in the name of Jesus, who came to change our
hearts for good...

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.**

Sung Response

***ALL: Give my life a new start, and plant in me a fresh
seed that grows and blossoms into the fruit of blessing.***

***Wipe away these tears, Lord, and end my night of weeping,
wash away the old ways, replace my pain with your joy!
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
Lord, I'm ready for a change, only you can make me change,
only you can make me change, Lord, I'm ready for a change.***



401(g) Discipleship Portfolio

In a 401(k) one invests resources for the future and retirement.

In a 401(g) (g=God) we are investing in our spiritual lives hoping for short and long term returns (blessings!), on earth as in heaven.

How diverse and balanced is your 401(g) discipleship portfolio?

g = God – worship, prayer, meditation, study, relationship. ALL the g's!

g = good – do good/serve, create goodness, notice goodness.

g = grace – receive and share God's grace.

g = gratitude – express gratitude to God and others.

g = generosity – give and love with your whole heart and life.

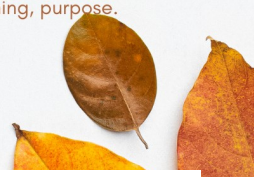
g = gold – money, resources, treasures, material goods.

g = goals – hopes and dreams, God's dream and mission.

g = gifts—talents, friendship, compassion, kindness, service.

g = grit and grind – perseverance, courage, strength, growth, meaning, purpose.

**From Pastor Kris and the Financial Leadership Team
Don Penrod, Marianne Kitzmiller, John Harting, Larry Todd,
Aften Hamm, Phil Wehr**



Offering the Possibilities and Praise

News about the Ministry and Mission of God's Church Offering

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God,
We offer these gifts and the gift of our abilities
for adaptation in an ever-changing world.
May we use our lives to follow your lead
into the changes you have in store for us.
Bless all of this to your glory
and to the work of making the world a better place for all.
Amen.

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

OFFERING ENVELOPES. 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.

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

Musical Offering

O Magnify the Lord Michael O'Shields

Blake Hoppes

*Offering Response

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE POTTER'S HAND



Take Me

Musical notation for the lyrics of 'The Potter's Hand'. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: '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.' The melody is simple and easy to sing, with a final cadence at the end.

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.

*Benediction

Leader: From the Gospel According to Gumby,
“Blessed are the flexible for they shall bend but not break.”
Remember you were made to survive and thrive—especially
during times of change.

Go into the world knowing
that the Potter God is still shaping and reshaping you as
you were made to do;
that the Teacher Jesus is inviting you to a change of heart,
making it all so very possible;

and that the Adventurous Spirit is luring you to
more play and curiosity in your precious life.

Go in peace,
Stay in courage,
Amen!

***Hymn** Go, Make a Difference Angrisano, Tomaszek
#199 Sing! Prayer and Praise

♩ = 56
Dm

Asus A Dm B^b C

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff -

Dm F Asus A

— 'rence. Go make a diff - 'rence in the world. —

Dm B^b C Dm

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.

B^bma⁷ Asus A Dm Am Am

Last time, Fine 1. 2.3.

Go make a diff - 'rence in the world. — 1. We are the
2. We are the

Dm B^b C Dm

salt of the earth, called to let the peo - ple see the
hands of Christ reach-ing out to those in need, the

F Asus A Am Dm

love of God for you and me. We are the light of the world,
face of God for all to see. We are the spir - it of hope;

— not to be hid-den but be seen. Go make a diff-
— we are the voice of peace. Go make a diff-

A⁷ Dm Am Dm

D.S. 4.

- 'rence in the world. 3. So let your love shine on,
- 'rence in the world.

B^b C Dm F

— let it shine for all to see. Go make a diff - 'rence in the

Asus A Am Dm B^b C

world. And the spir - it of Christ will be with us as we

Dm B^bmaj⁷ Asus A⁷ Dm

D.S.

go. Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.

Postlude Music Change is Good Chuck Bell
Blake Hoppes

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$4,984.00
Calendar 2022 (Jan-Aug.)	\$253,657.00
Calendar 2021 (Jan.-Aug.)	\$244,800.00
Change from Last Year	3.6%
Budget FY 2022 (July-Aug.)	\$69,100.00
Actual FY (July-Aug.)	\$56,884.00
Giving vs. Budget	+17.7%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week		
	In person	Online
8:00 am	31	147
10:30 am	85	124
Education Hour	30	

2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	45lbs
Total YTD:	4,348 lbs, \$570

Presentations to the Glory of God

***Spread the Good News :
In honor of Harvest Home from Phil and Julie Wehr***

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.

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.

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