



**September 4, 2022  
10:30am Summer Worship  
Labor Day Sunday**

***GUESTS,** Welcome to our faith community here at Union UCC. 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](http://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: Lucille Kuhns

Ushers: Aften Hamm, Scott Nagle, Tami Herzog Wassum, Suzanne Lorah,  
Pat Warmkessel, Don Penrod, Jennifer Haley, Suzanne Schneider

Sound: Patrick Sorg

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

### **Prelude Music**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Tune: Nicaea John B. Dykes

### **Prayerful Reflection**

God, I could not have imagined  
that this road could be  
so long, so hard, so daunting.

Here I am, worn out—body and soul.

Blessed are we, the weary  
who must set aside what we are carrying,  
and begin to feel only the weight of our own being.

It is enough for now.

Let our shoulders sink from around our ears,  
our breath grow longer and deeper,  
taking a minute to notice the way our diaphragm rises  
and falls

without us telling it to.

Blessed are we who cannot go on... not like this,  
but stand and look and ask:

Is there a better path?

Blessed are we, at the point of utter stillness,  
that becomes an empty space for that voice to echo and  
build and resound

until it becomes a place to rest and receive and be made  
whole.

And how blessed are we who are astonished  
to find that God's strength begins at the very point  
when ours runs out.

--Kate Bowler, "A Blessing for When The Road is Long"  
(<https://katebowler.com/blessings/>)

### **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: : # 393 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds—New Century Hymnal (Black)**

**1. Blessed be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
The sharing of a common life  
is like to that above**

**2. Before our God we come and  
pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.**

**3. We share each other’s woes,  
each other’s burdens bear,  
And often for each other  
flows a sympathizing tear.**

**4. When we are called to part  
in gives us inward pain,  
But we shall still be joined in heart,  
and hope to meet again.**

Please be seated.

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: Loving God,  
you call us to turn away from our own selfish interests,  
to take up our cross, and to follow you.

To find our lives,  
may we live them in service of your mission.

As we come before you this morning,  
give us open hearts and open hands.

Make us eager to hear your voice  
and seek your guidance.

Open our minds to your ever-present spirit  
that is always moving within and around us

Open our spirits to your nudging  
and open our lives to your love.

**Prayer**

**ALL: Creator Spirit,**

**you know and love everything about us.**

**You are aware of the waves of feelings  
and the sparks of thought throughout our days.**

**You are mindful of our movements and actions –  
our work and our play,  
our leisure and our sleeping.**

**We are held by you through the palm of creation.**

**May we be attentive to your holding now  
and bask in your affirmation**

**We will praise you for truly we are wonderfully made.**

**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)

1.



Gath - ered here in the mys - tery of this hour

3

2.



gath - ered here in one strong bod - y,

5

3.



gath - ered here in the strug - gle and the power,

7

4.



Spir - it draw near.

## 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 Room 7 (basement) and will return before worship is over. If worship ends early, parents are welcome to meet their children downstairs.

Chords: F, C/E, Dm, Bb, F/A, Gm, Am/C, C, F, Gm, Am, Bb, F/C, Bb, F

Voice

This, this is where child-ren be - long,

Wel- comed as part of the wor - ship - ping throng.

Wat - er, God's Word, bread and cup, pray'r and song,

This is where child - ren be - long.

### Scripture The Gospel Of Luke 14:25-33

25 Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them,

26 "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.

27 Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be

my disciple.

28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him,

30 saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish."

31 Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?

32 If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.

33 So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

### **Our Response to God's Word in Song**

Make Us One, Lord Carol Cymbala

**ALL: Sung, 2 times**



Make us one, Lord, make us one; Ho-ly



Spir - it; make us one. Let Your love flow so the



world will know we are one in You. Make us

## **The Message**

What Does Discipleship Cost

Pastor Kayli Freeman

### **Hymn #493 O Jesus, I Have Promise—New Century Hymnal (Black)**

**1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
Remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend:  
I shall no fear life's struggles if you are by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**

**2. O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will!  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!  
O speak, and make me listen O guardian of my soul!**

**3. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
That where you are in glory your servant shall be, too;  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!**

### **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.**



1. There's a spir - it of love in this place, there's a  
 (2. There's the) pres - ence of peace in this room, there's the



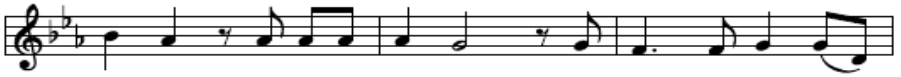
spir - it of love in this place. You can't  
 pres - ence of peace in this room. In God's



see it, but it's there just as pre-cious as the air. There's a  
 ten-der-ness is found peace that pass - es hu-man bounds. There's the



spir - it of love in this place. O al - le -  
 pres - ence of peace in this room.



lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia! We bless your ho - ly



name. O al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia! There's a



spir - it of love in this place. 2. There's the place.

## 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**

Leader: Wonder-working God, use all of who we are, and all of what we have, to uproot what is unjust, and plant what is loving. Through our gifts, speak your gospel to people we may never meet. May all come to hear your call to prophetic living. Amen.

### **Musical Offering**

Day By Day

Oscar Ahnfeldt

**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>

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



I'm gon-na live so - God can use me - an-y-  
time, Lord, and an-y - where. I'm gon-na live so -  
-God can use me an-y - time, Lord - and an-y - where.

### Benediction

Leader: All that we are is gathered into the heart of Christ –  
nothing and no one is excluded.

Through this unconditional love  
the brilliance of Christ's community shines out.

**ALL: We are loved.**

**We are welcomed.**

**We will be Christ together  
extending welcoming love to the world. Amen.**

### \*Hymn Hymn #506 What A Friend We Have in Jesus— New Century Hymnal (Black)

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
oh what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;

**take it to our God in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to our God in prayer!**

**3. Are we weak and heavy laden,  
burdened with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuse,  
take it to our God in prayer!  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to our God in prayer!  
Jesus' arms will take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.**

### **Postlude Music**

Hymne

Vangelis

## **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**

<b>Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)</b>	
Last Week	\$3,714.00
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%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

<b>Attendance Last Week</b>	
10:30 am (includes children)	<b>105</b>

<b>2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b>	
Last Week:	\$100.00, 75lbs
Total YTD:	4,378 lbs, \$670

<b>Neighbors in Need</b>	
To date:	<b>\$540.00</b>

## **Presentations to the Glory of God**

***Spread the Good News :***

***Giving God thanks and praise for Union UCC  
- Pastor Kris***

*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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