



WORSHIP  
DESIGN STUDIO  
BY

# LOOKIN' FOR...

# LOVE

## IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

[worshipdesignstudio.com/love](http://worshipdesignstudio.com/love)

**April 7, 2023**

**7pm**

**Good Friday**

**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 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.

**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.**

**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 Readers: Dan Topp, Maria Beltz, Ron Pope, Carol Pope, Rosalie Snyder, Donna Christman, Janice Metzger

Greeters: Consistory

Sound: Doug Albert

The Christian scriptures offer many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing can REALLY be found. And it is not in the “usual” places. Isn’t it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don’t we often look for wholeness and happiness in places that offer only temporary “good feelings” and satisfaction? This Lent we have been reassessing where we are searching for meaning and purpose. Holy Week and Easter remind us once again where to find love in the right place with the powerful and life changing stories of Jesus’ true love for us.

**We will be sharing Holy Communion today.**

Everyone is welcome to this meal of God’s love and grace.

**If you are at home**, we invite you to find something to eat and drink that represents Communion to you.

**Here:** We invite you to come forward to the railing to receive communion. The ushers will direct you when to come forward. The pastors will let you know when to leave the railing. Please place your empty cup in the trays as you return to your seat.

If you want to be served in your seats, let the ushers know and the pastors will come to you.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray.

Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups.

Please choose either.

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

**Prelude**

Via Dolorosa

Billy Sprague and Niles Borop  
Blake Hoppes

## **Welcome**

### **Threshold Moment**

**Today's Soloist: Olivia Rice**

#### **Solo:**

Hearts open, minds awake,  
change us now for heaven's sake.  
Leave us not alone in hatred's wake.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how, show us how to love.

*Leader:* We can only imagine what a night like this was like for the disciples. They had been following Jesus all around as he taught, healed, and loved people. They had shared many meals together and times of worship and prayer. They were filled by his leadership and exhausted by his ministry. They were learning who he was, sometimes understanding and sometimes missing the point. Tonight would be like no other night. Tonight they would lose their friend, the one who loved them like no other.

#### **Solo:**

Eyes open, shocked awake,  
much to learn from our mistakes.  
Draw us closer in our heartache.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how, show us how to love.

### **Confession and Assurance**

*Leader:* How do we approach this day and this night, O God? We just had a parade on Sunday welcoming Jesus in-

to Jerusalem singing Hosannas. That was wonderful! Last night we sat with Jesus and the disciples as they shared a last meal together. First he washed their feet and reminded them, and us, that if we love him then we must also love each other and serve each other. Then he told them about how the bread and wine represent his deep love for them and for us and that whenever we share in this holy meal, we remember his love and we share that love. How we wish we had been there. And yet, we admit that even though we know that this story ends with Easter, we need to pause and remember tonight, too. The night where just for moment all feels lost. Just for a moment it feels like hate wins and death wins. Thank God we know the real story, the real love story. Be with us as we hear tonight's story. We pray, Amen.


**\*Hymn** #226 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded  
New Century Hymnal (Black Hymnal)

- 1. O sacred Head, now wounded with grief and shame  
weighted down, Now scornfully surrounded with thorns,  
your only crown, How pale you are with anguish, with  
sore abuse and scorn! How does your visage languish  
which once was bright as morn!**
- 2. What you, dear Savior, suffered was all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression, but yours the deadly  
pain. Lo, here I fall, my Savior, for I deserve your place;  
Look on me with your favor, O grant to me your grace.**
- 3. What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest  
friend; For this your dying sorrow, our pity without end?  
May I be yours forever; and though my days be few, O  
Savior, let me never outlive my love for you!**

### **Prayers of the People**

Leader: : Let us pray, singing "God have mercy" in Greek,  
"Kyrie Eleison:"

**Solo first time.**



Musical notation for the solo first time. The melody is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics 'Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i -'. The second line, starting with a measure rest marked '5', contains the lyrics 'son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son.' The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and eighth notes.

**Prayers for the World**

*Pastor/Leader:* Loving Creator, we come to you asking for eyes and hearts wide open as we look for love. May we be your love in the world. God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this world to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

**Prayers for Our Community**

Loving Sovereign, we come to you asking your love to be poured out into our community and church. Show us how to love in ways that heal and comfort. We pray this day for those on our prayer list and those on our minds and in our hearts. God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this community to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

**Prayers for Our Relationships**

Loving Parent, we come to you asking for hope and renewal in our relationships. Show us how to love in ways that

strengthen our bonds while also letting go when bonds are no longer healthy or safe. We pause in silence as we each lift up in our hearts the relationships that need your love... God have mercy. In this singing we lift up each other to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

**Prayers for Our Selves**

Lover of Our Souls, we come to you asking for your love to guide us through tonight. Show us again and again how to let your love and grace heal us in deep and important ways. God have mercy. In this singing we open ourselves to your love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

**NURTURING LOVE:**

**NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD’S CHURCH  
OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

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

**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. 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.

**VENMO** Union UCC now has Venmo! You can now make donations, pay for events, and support the church through this platform. Please be sure to include in the "What it's for" line what your Venmo is supporting. You can either search for @unionuccneffs

**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.

### **Easter Mission Offering**

This year the **Easter Mission Offerings** will be divided between the **Habitat for Humanity and the Jubilee Breakfast Ministry.**

Please support these two mission organizations by using the Easter Mission Offering envelope in your envelope packet, or make a note on your check or blank envelope for Easter Mission. Give online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/campaign/C-12H6T>

The mission of Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley is to provide hardworking families with simple,

decent, affordable housing. Since 1989, Habitat has built 131 homes for families in the Lehigh Valley.

The Jubilee Breakfast Ministry at Zion's Reformed Church in Allentown serves about 65 breakfasts to those who need a meal each Thursday, Friday, and Saturday during the coldest months of the year, November through April.

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**Musical Offering**  
**In the Hour of Trial**  
**Mitchell Roth, Trumpet**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**\*Offering Response**

**ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below.**  
**Praise God, above, the heavenly host.**  
**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

Please be seated.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**We will be sharing Holy Communion today.**  
Everyone is welcome to this meal of God's love and grace.  
**If you are at home,** we invite you to find something to eat and drink that represents Communion to you.

**Here:** We invite you to come forward to the railing to



receive communion. The ushers will direct you when to come forward. The pastors will let you know when to leave the railing. Please place your empty cup in the trays as you return to your seat.

If you want to be served in your seats, let the ushers know and the pastors will come to you.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray.  
Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups.  
Please choose either.

*Leader:* If love seems to allude, come searching at this table.  
For here you will find a host that does not disappoint!  
The feast is laid for all who come "looking for love"  
and vow to spread that love around with others.

All too often, we have looked for love in all the wrong places.  
In this silence, we open ourselves to a change in our paths, to seeing with new eyes, to setting aside empty promises, to following in new ways.

*Silence*

*Leader:* May Love be with you!

*People:* **And also with you!**

*Leader:* Lift up your hearts!

*People:* **We lift them up to the Lord!**

*Leader:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

*Leader:* What love you have given us in your Son Jesus Christ!  
Your Spirit poured out through him,  
as he brought good news, proclaimed freedom, healed, and fed.  
His life of love shows us the way.

His life of love delivers us from false hopes.  
His life, death, and resurrection offered ultimate and  
enduring love.

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."

And so, in remembrance of this love in Jesus Christ,  
we offer our love completely  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!**

*Leader:* God of love,  
pour out your love and spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the love of Christ,  
so that we may be for the world the love of Christ!

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory  
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,  
now and forever.

*All: Amen.*

## **SHARING THE MEAL**

We invite you to come forward to the railing to receive communion. The ushers will direct you when to come forward. The pastors will let you know when to leave the railing. Please place your empty cup in the trays as you return to your seat.

If you want to be served in your seats, let the ushers know and the pastors will come to you.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray.

Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups.

Please choose either.

**MUSIC OFFERING** Behold the Wood Dan Schutte  
**Malcolm and Margie Mackenzie, Guitar**

## **A TENEBRAE** **("Shadow" or "Darkness")**

*John 18:12–19:42*

*Leader:* Last night in our Maundy Thursday service, we gathered with Jesus in the Upper Room. There is only one other place in the Gospels where the Greek word used to describe the Upper Room was also repeated—the place, the room where Jesus was born. Two places where the dark birthed something new... the dark womb and the dark tomb. Tonight we continue the story that began last night in a tradition of "tenebrae" or "darkness," descend-

ing with Jesus into the depths of our own stories of grief, disappointment, and betrayal.

### **Carol Pope**

*So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Judean authorities seized Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas; for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had given counsel to the religious authorities that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.*

*Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. As this disciple was known to the high priest, he entered the court of the high priest along with Jesus, while Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman who guarded the gate said to Peter, "Are not you also one of this man's disciples?" He said, "I am not." Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves; Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.*

*The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jewish people come together; I have said nothing secretly. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me, what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.*

## **Janice Metzger**

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said to him, "Are not you also one of his disciples?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the servants of the high priest, a kinsman of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Peter again denied it; and at once the cock crowed.

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered him, "If this man were not an evildoer, we would not have handed him over." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The religious authorities said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." This was to fulfill the word which Jesus had spoken to show by what death he was to die.

## **Maria Beltz**

Pilate entered the headquarters again and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the religious authorities; but my kingship is not from the world." Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

## **Donna Christman**

After Pilate had said this, he went to the religious authorities again, and told them, "I find no crime in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover; will you have me release for you the King of the Jews?" They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and arrayed him in a purple robe; they came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again, and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you, that you may know that I find no crime in him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The religious authorities answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin."

## **Ron Pope**

Upon this Pilate sought to release him, but the religious authorities cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend; every one who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out

and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gab'-ba-tha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the religious authorities, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." They handed him over to them to be crucified.

## **Music Offering**

**Adult Choir: The Lamb      Coleman**

## **Rosalie Snyder**

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Gol'-go-tha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Judeans read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. The Jewish chief priests then said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

## **Dan Topp**

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and made four parts, one for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was without seam, woven from top to bottom; so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the scripture, "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

*So the soldiers did this. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.*

*After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the scripture), "I thirst." A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

**Solo: Were You There When They Crucified My Lord  
Olivia Rice**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

**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.**

**You are invited to leave in silence.**

**May your Easter Vigil be a place of reflection and  
renewal that leads you to resurrection and love.**

**Easter Sunday Worship  
6:30am Sunrise Worship in the Cemetery**



**8am and 10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary  
Mimosas and the Easter Bunny!**  
**Join us after 8am and 10:30am worship on the front  
lawn and steps of the church  
for a celebratory mimosa, orange juice, and snack.  
The Easter Bunny will be joining us.**

Worship Theme ©[www.worshipdesignstudio.com](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com)

**Thank you** to our team of angels who help to decorate the church for worship.

Claire Kern, Deb Topp, Dan Topp, Kathy Bonsell, and Pastor Kris

**Thank you** to all who helped to make our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter so meaningful. Thank you to those who served as choir members, musicians, ushers, and worship participants. Thank you to our staff, Consistory, and leaders for giving your time and talents so generously.

**Thank you** to our Flower Sponsors.

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

| Offering<br>(e-giving, envelopes, and plate)                                |              | Attendance Last Week                                        |               |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Last Week                                                                   | \$11,272.00  |                                                             | In person     | Online |
| Calendar Year 2023<br>(Jan-Feb)                                             | \$67,335.00  | 8:00 am                                                     | <b>58</b>     |        |
| Calendar Year 2022<br>(Jan-Feb)                                             | \$53,368.00  | 10:30 am                                                    | <b>172</b>    |        |
| Change from Last Year                                                       | 26.2%        | Education Hour                                              | <b>12</b>     |        |
| Budget FY 2022 ( <i>July 2022-Feb. 23</i> )                                 | \$286,790.00 | <b>2022 Donations to the<br/>Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b> |               |        |
| Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date ( <i>July 2022-Feb 23</i> )                      | \$279,113.00 | Last Week:                                                  | lbs , 75.00   |        |
| Difference in Giving vs. Budget                                             | -2.7%        | Total YTD:                                                  | 1830bs, \$225 |        |
| <i>Additional financial information available in<br/>Consistory Minutes</i> |              | Easter Mission                                              | \$1,616.78    |        |

## Presentations to the Glory of God

### In the memory of Walt Disney

*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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