



June 11, 2023

Journey: The Places We Will Go

Semi-Annual Meeting

10:30 Worship Only

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.

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 on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Lay Readers: Eric Minnich

Ushers: 8:00 Kerry Snyder, Tom Anderson

10:30 Carol James, Ruth Ruch, Janice Metzger,

Julie Johnson, Laura Kohler, Ralph Gioielli, Connie Gioielli

Sound: Karl Klinger

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

Prelude
In the Garden C. Austin Miles
Blake Hoppes

Welcome

Preparing for New Life

Leader: This week is the culmination of our journey through the "Emerge" series where we have focused on metamorphosis and resurrection through the metaphor of the butterfly. We celebrate the life of this beloved community by honoring our traditions and looking to the future with hope, faith, and joy.

Gathering Song of Invitation

"Come Out!"

First time: Choir

Second Time: All



1. Come out! Come out of your com-for-ta-ble spac-es.



Come, meet Je-sus in the dif-fi-cult plac-es.

Questions for Metamorphosis

Leader: Through growing pains and awkward phases, we wondered...

People: ...am I always going to feel this way?

Before we came to this community, we wondered...

...where could I find a spiritual home?

We all come from different backgrounds and hold different views, and we wonder...

...how can we faithfully hold space for so many differences of opinion?

We look to the future of our church and our world, and we wonder...

...where will God call us to go next?

Then the Spirit of the Divine reminds us,

“You are all a part of me.

You are wind for soaring

and you can emerge to renewed life.

Again and again.”

Amen.

Please stand in body or spirit.

Passing the Peace

Leader: I invite you to stand and pass the peace of Christ to one another by waving, smiling, and introducing yourself to each other.

Remember to send peace to those worshiping remotely.

***Opening Hymn: #4** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You
Black Hymnal, New Century Hymnal

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you.

God of glory, God of love;

**Hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.**

**Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the storms of doubt away;**

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

**2. All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.**

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
teach us what our praise should be.

**3. You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother,
all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other,
by that love our joy renew.**

Please be seated.

During Summer Worship:

***A reminder that to pick up your Children's Activity Bulletins at the door when you arrive.**

***Mornings with Ms. Tiffany**

Kids are invited to join Ms. Tiffany for stories, activities, crafts and fun every Sunday at 10:30 worship through August 20. Pastors invite children forward to leave with Ms. Tiffany for a time designed just for them!

Children will be in the basement (or the gazebo when we're in the grove) and will return before worship is over. If worship ends early, parents are welcome to meet their children downstairs.

During the School Year:

Education Hour and Faith Formation for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am on Sundays

Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5.

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The second staff has a fermata over the final note. The fourth staff includes a 'Last time, Fine' section with first and second endings.

Asus A $\text{\textcircled{S}}$ Dm B \flat 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 \flat C Dm
Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.

B \flat maj 7 Asus A Dm Am Am
Go make a diff - 'rence in the world. Last time, Fine 1. 2.3.

Scripture Reading

Acts 2: 1-4 and Acts 10: 34-36

Reader: Oh, the colors, the beauty, the unabashed and exuberant expression of all that we are together! This celebration is like none other — brought to its fullest embodiment as we emerge and dare new heights! In the emerging of the church in the book of Acts, a series of events in the life of Peter leads him to the understanding that God shows no partiality and all are welcome in this journey of new life in Christ. Upon this rock, the Spirit builds a church that offers hope to the hopeless, strength for the weary, and new life to those who think theirs is over. Upon these things, this church will continue this mission to a world that so

Refrain:

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and
ever, now and evermore.**

**2. Through the flood of starving people,
warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches?
Who will light the flame of care?**

Refrain

**3. As we stand a world divided
by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village ,
might envision wider dreams.**

Refrain

**4. We are man and we are woman,
all persuasions, old and young,
Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.**

Refrain

**5. Should the threats of dire predictions
cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.**

Refrain

Entering into Prayer

“Open Me”

**All sung, repeated and echoed after the leader:
Form me...**

hold me...
open me...
unfold me...
unfurl me...
untether me...
uncurl me...
uncrease me...
unwrap me...

Prayers of the People

Praying with Jesus

**ALL: Guiding Mystery, in whom is heaven,
may your name be lifted in the chambers of our hearts.**

**May the joy of transformation come,
may your plans for us be unfurled here on earth
as it is in the flight of heaven's glory.**

For the strength we need, feed us.

For the forgiveness we desire, and need to give, invite us.

**Save us from the temptation
of all that would keep us from you,
and deliver us from those things that seek to harm.**

**Unwrap your perfect kinship
of love, power, and glory forever.**

Amen.

Holy One, we give thanks for your gifts of resurrection, transformation, and forgiveness. Help us to trust that you are with us always, today and every day, as we journey forward into new experiences and ways of co-creating your kin-dom. Allow us to get curious about the ways in which we can bring your love and light to this world. We are your messengers, your creations, and we lift up all the people and places that are calling out for your renewal.

We pray this day for....

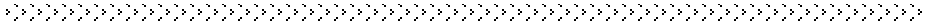
Praying with Jesus (again...still)
ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.

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.

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH

OFFERING



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.

One Great Hour of Sharing One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is one of four special offerings of the United Church of Christ. This annual special offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM). In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's spirit energizes us to help.

You can make a difference. Your gifts to OGHS provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

Collections for OGHS will take place in June, to make a donation, please use the special envelope . This may be mailed to the church office, or dropped into the collection plate. Donations may also be made online.

Musical Offering

Open Our Eyes Robert Cull
Blake Hoppes

Please stand in body or spirit.

Offering Response

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise

4
God, all crea - tures high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

7
lu - ia! Praise God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre -

10
a - tor, Word, and Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

13
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Please be seated.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, Pa
Eric Minnich, Consistory President presiding

For those of you at home:

Please log in or call in to our zoom meeting. There is a waiting room, please be patient until someone lets you into the meeting.

Please mute yourself once you are in the meeting.
We may ask you your name in order to identify everyone present and be sure that we have a quorum. The agenda and other documents were emailed to you or will be available to see on your screen.

Thank you for being a part of the work that we do as
God's church.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89415703773?>

pwd=RmVJS2JRSC9BUng4aXZCVDRxRVdSQTO9

Meeting ID: 894 1570 3773

Passcode: 704175

One tap mobile +13052241968,,81918906059#,,,,*785369#

US +13092053325,,81918906059#,,,,*785369# US

Benediction

Leader: Now go into your lives,
filled with joy and a sense of adventure
to live more fully into this beloved community
with the Holy Spirit wind beneath your wings.
And may the assurance of the God who created you,
the Christ who is raising you,
and the Spirit that will unleash you,
be with you now and always.

Blessed be.

Amen

***Hymn #155** Spirit of the Living God
Gold Hymnal (Hymns for the Family of God)

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on (us).
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on (us).
Melt (us), mold (us), fill (us), use (us).
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on (us).

Repeat 2 more times.

Postlude Music

Sweet By and By Joseph P. Webster
Blake Hoppes

Summer Coffee Hour will continue on Sundays after 10:30 worship. Stop by in Memorial Hall for some cool lemonade, juice, water, and a snack and visit with friends and pastors.

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
Last Week			In person
Calendar Year 2023 (Jan-April)	\$138,705.00	8:00 am	46
Calendar Year 2022 (Jan-April)	\$127,458.00	10:30 am	85
Change from Last Year	8.8%	Education Hour	
Budget FY 2022 (<i>July 2022-April. 23</i>)	\$365,541.00	2022 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (<i>July 2022- 23</i>)	\$350,548.00	Last Week:	\$, lbs
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-1.7%	Total YTD:	2,472lbs, \$535
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		Phoebe Home	\$785.00

Presentations to the Glory of God

**In memory of Carlton Wehr who celebrated his
21st birthday while fighting in Normandy on D-Day
75 years ago. From Phil & Julie**

*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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