

# October 15, 2023

## 8am & 10:30 am Worship

Healing Service (Pray With A Pastor)  
Jazz Ensemble

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

Lay Readers: 8:00 Doug Albert , 10:30 Tami Wassum

Ushers: 8:00 Debbie Romig, Connie Gioielli

10:30 Donna Christman, Brian Horwith, Deb Wenner, Maryann Puia, Gloria Toner, Carol Stout, Marianne Kitzmiller

Greeters: Jen Haley, Suzanne Schneider, Tracey & Rob Bilger

Sound: Pat Sorg

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

### **Prelude Music**

When the Saints Go Marching In

**Jazz Ensemble: Mike Baer – guitar, Blake Hoppes-piano,  
Matt Gerry – Trumpet, Garet Hill - Saxophone**

### **Welcome**

**Welcome to worship!**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
You are welcome here.**

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

### **Passing the Peace**

May God's love for you deepen every day.

**\*Hymn #417** Just As I Am

Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**3. Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**4. Just as I am, Thy love unknown Hath  
broken every barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yes, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

## Call to Worship

Leader: We come to you, God, in this time of worship.

**People: In our day of trouble, we seek the living God.**

Leader: Let's reflect on God's amazing grace.

**People: In our days of sorrow, we seek the living God.**

Leader: Let's remember God's wondrous deeds of mercy.

**People: In our days of heartache, we seek the living God.**

Leader: Here all together, we celebrate the gift of this community of God's people. Renew our strength in the blessings of God's empowering Spirit.

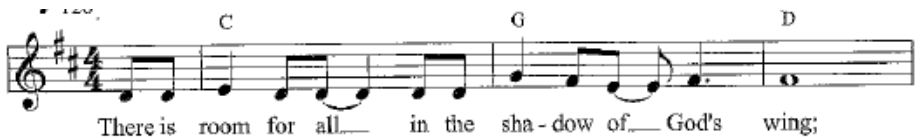
## Prayer

Leader: Patient and persistent God, we are grateful that even when we get sidetracked, you are with us. Be in our hearts and spirits today as we listen and learn from your word and your spirit. Psalm 23: 6 says, "Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life. I'm back home in the house of GOD for the rest of my life." Amen.

### #76 There Is Room For All

Sing! Prayer and Praise

**ALL Sing 2 times**



Em<sup>7</sup> Asus

- fuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

A C

There is room for all,

G D

there is room for all!

**Please be seated.**

### 10:30 Worship Children's Time

**Children's Church** – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5. Kids start in worship with their family and are invited forward for a children's time, They then leave with Ms. Tiffany and return before worship is over.

**Song:**

## THERE ARE PROMISES

There are promises  
 For you and me  
 In the B-I-B-L-E  
 All God's promises  
 We can See  
 In the B-I-B-L-E  
 I'm gonna stand up tall  
 And spin around  
 Jump up high  
 And shout out loud "woo hoo"  
 There are promises  
 For you and me  
 In the B-I-B-L-E



**Also kids are invited to the Education Hour and Faith Formation for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am on Sundays, ages 3 to grade 7.**

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.

**Repeat Song**

**Music Offering** Every Time I Feel the Spirit  
**Jazz Ensemble**

**Preparing to Hear God's Word**

#28 Open Our Hearts  
Sing! Prayer and Praise  
**ALL Sing 2 times**

♩ = 50

C<sup>7</sup> F Gm F/A B<sup>b</sup> C Dm  
O - pen our hearts, o - pen our minds.

C/E F Gm F/A B<sup>b</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>  
O - pen our lives to you, O lov - ing

C Gm<sup>7</sup> C C<sup>7</sup> F Gm<sup>7</sup> F  
God. O - pen our hearts.

**Scripture**  
**Matthew 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call

those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

**The Message**      Invited  
Pastor Kris

**Please find the prayer slip in your bulletin and write your prayers there and place them in the offering plate. The ushers will bring them forward to the pastors to pray over during our closing healing prayer.**

**These are private prayers, that won't be printed in the bulletin unless you request them to be.**

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

# NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH

## OFFERING

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**Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC**  
**Because of YOU our church changes lives....**

Here are some of the ways you can share your financial generosity at Union.

- **ELECTRONIC GIVING** <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> or use the QR code with your cell phone. Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)



Vanco

- **FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app**

Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.

- **Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.



Venmo

- **Cash or checks (to "Union UCC")** Place in the offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person.

Contact John Harting (610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-972-8719) or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.

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### Music Offering:

What a Friend We Have in Jesus    Scriven, Converse

**Jazz Ensemble**

Please stand in body or spirit.

### \* Offering Response

#120 Dream God's Dream Sing! Prayer and Praise

**ALL Sing:**

*J.=69*

D C G D C G D Em<sup>7</sup>

Dream God's dream! Ho-ly

D/F<sup>#</sup> G Bm<sup>7</sup>

Spir - it help us dream of a world where there is

F<sup>#</sup>m<sup>7</sup> G Em<sup>7</sup> A A/G

jus - tice and where ev - 'ry one is free to

D/F<sup>#</sup> G Bm<sup>7</sup> A

build and grow and love, and to sim - ply have e -

G D/F<sup>#</sup> Em<sup>7</sup> Asus A<sup>7</sup> D

nough. The world will change, when we dream God's dream.

Last time to Coda

**Please be seated**

### PRAYERS and PRAYERS WITH A PASTOR

After the prayers and during the last hymn and the postlude you are invited to come to the railing if you would like to have a pastor pray with you or to receive a blessing.

Pastors will offer a blessing of anointing oil on your hand or



forehead.

**Prayer**

#107 Amazing Grace

Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**All Sing**

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.**

**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.**

#107 Amazing Grace

Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**All Sing**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come.**

**'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And Grace will lead me home.**

**Blessings**

Leader: God to enfold us,

God to surround us.

God in our sleeping,

God in our waking.

God in our watching,

God in our hoping.

God on our lips,  
God in our lives.  
(*Carmina Gadelica* – adapted)

**Hymn #351 I Was There To Hear Your Borne Cry**  
Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

- 1. I was there to hear your borne cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.**
- 2. When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong. Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.**
- 3. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.**
- 4. I was there to hear your borne cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.**

**Postlude Music**  
I Surrender All  
**Jazz Ensemble**

## **Holy Grounds Coffee Hour on Sundays**

Enjoy some coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate, and snacks on Sundays in Memorial Hall after both worship services.

Upcoming hosts include:

**10/15-** Christian Ed

**10/22-** Welcoming Committee

**10/29-** Church and Ministry

**11/5-** Mission Committee

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$6,383.00
Calendar Year 2023 (Jan-Sept)	\$223,865.00
Calendar Year 2022 (Jan-Sept)	\$226,189.00
Change from Last Year	-1.0%
Budget FY 2023-24 (Sept)	\$33,220.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (Sept)	\$27,821.00
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-16.3%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week	
	In person
8:00 am	<b>32</b>
10:30 am	<b>107</b>
Education Hour	<b>3</b>

2023 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	\$, 375lbs
Total YTD:	4,727lbs, \$1135

## Presentations to the Glory of God

**In memory of Gordon Rothrock from Lucille Kuhns,  
Lana Reitz, and Leoma Kern and family**

*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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