



## **Word and World: Poetry**

### **Word:**

Song of Songs 2: 8-17

Luke 12:49-53

### **World:**

**August 10, 2025**

**10:30am**

**Jazz Ensemble**

**Church Family Picnic**

**GUESTS**, Welcome to our faith community. 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). Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you.

### **Vision Statement**

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

### **Mission Statement**

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.

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

***Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.***

Lay Reader: Lucille Kuhns

Ushers: Janice Metzger, Julie Johnson, Karen Nuschke, Ralph Gioielli, Connie Gioielli, Carol James

Greeters: Doug and Angie Kuntz, Jennifer Haley

Sound: Pat Sorg, Mike Baer

## **Prelude Music**

Jesus Is The Rock (And He Rolls My Blues Away)

**Jazz Ensemble-: Blake Hoppes - piano, Mike Baer - guitar,  
Malcolm MacKenzie - bass, Andy Hill - trumpet,  
Garet Hill - alto sax, Mitchell Roth - trumpet**

## **Welcome to Union UCC! Welcome & Announcements**

### **Call to Worship:**

All the words that shape us  
and all the questions we ask.

And all the stories we tell  
and all the bruises we feel.

And all the desires we know  
and all the joys we share.

And all the pain we feel  
that make us who we are.  
Is the long poem of our lives.  
Here we gather with the poet  
who wrote the first line  
in each of us.

### **Prayer of Adoration And Confession**

God of wondrous Word,  
creative energy,  
breath of life  
organizing chaos,  
bringing new from old,  
we rejoice in your presence.

In this place,  
so familiar to us,  
smells and sounds,  
sights and stories,  
we come to engage,

to lift our hearts in praise,  
our souls in joy,

knowing that you invite us  
into this space  
of belonging and connection.

With renewed vigor  
and humble zeal,  
we come to commit ourselves  
to this time of worship,  
opening our beings  
to the glory of your presence  
at work in our lives,  
day by day,  
hour by hour,  
reknitting our souls  
as your beloved children,  
broken by experience,  
but reformed by grace.

Hear us,  
gracious God,  
as we acknowledge  
that we are far from perfect,  
making mistakes daily,  
choosing selfishly,  
succumbing to fear,  
listening scantily.

Forgive us, God.  
Renew us,  
heal us,  
that we may know ourselves  
as children of grace,  
and the world know us  
as creatures of love  
through our deeds  
and words.

Amen.

### **SONG**

**ALL: I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
The Son of God discloses.**

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.**

#588 Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

### **Passing Joy**

The Joy of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

I invite you to share the JOY of Christ with those around you

**Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other and for the first song.**

**Hymn #466** What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**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!  
Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged-**

Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Please be seated.

**Children Are Invited forward to go with Our Adult Leaders**  
**Adults: You are the “where?” response!**

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart to stay

I've got the peace that passes understanding  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart  
I've got the peace that passes understanding  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart to stay

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer  
Way down in the depths of my heart (where?)

Down in the depths of my heart (where?)  
Down in the depths of my heart  
I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer  
Way down in the depths of my heart (where?)  
Down in the depths of my heart to stay



**Resuming September 14: 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 and return before worship is over. They will return to worship before it's over and if not, please pick up your children in Room 100. If you want your child to stay in worship with you, please let them know.

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

**Music Offering:** Every Time I Feel the Spirit  
Traditional Spiritual

**Jazz Ensemble-:** Blake Hoppes - piano, Mike Baer - guitar  
Malcolm MacKenzie - bass, Andy Hill - trumpet,  
Garet Hill - alto sax, Mitchell Roth - trumpet

### Reflection

Little foxes,  
cute, cuddling, attractive.  
Little foxes,  
lovable, adorable, beautiful.

The Song of Songs,  
erotic love, pure, holiness.  
The Song of Songs,  
expressions of God's love,  
eternal union of love,  
divine incarnational love.  
"Catch for us the foxes,  
the little foxes".  
Beware the little foxes,  
cunning,  
destructive,  
living among the weeds.  
sly,  
catastrophic,  
creeping into loving relationship.  
Warfare with little foxes,  
worldliness,  
self-centeredness,  
jealousness,  
resentfulness,  
thoughtlessness,  
unforgiveness.  
Catch the little foxes  
pay attention to the little overlooked issues,  
which can destroy loving relationships.  
Catch them before they grow  
and cause significance problems.

**Scripture Reading**  
**Song of Songs 2:8-17**

The voice of my beloved!  
Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle

or a young stag.

Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.  
My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;  
for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.

O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,  
in the covert of the cliff,  
let me see your face,  
let me hear your voice,  
for your voice is sweet  
and your face is lovely.

Catch us the foxes,  
the little foxes,  
that ruin the vineyards—

for our vineyards are in blossom.”

My beloved is mine and I am his;  
he pastures his flock among the lilies.

Until the day breathes  
and the shadows flee,



turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle  
or a young stag on the cleft mountains.

**Luke 12:49-53**

"I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

**All Sing:**

**ALL Sing: I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save**

**I, who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?**

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart**

Here I Am, Lord Schutte

## **The Message: Poetry**

Pastor Kayli

### **PRAYER**

#### **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.**

#### **All Sing:**

**In times of brokenness, in every wilderness**

**God has seen us through**

**Times when our strength was gone**

**Somehow we carried on**

**God has seen us through**

**Look behind and see throughout history**

**God has never let us down**

**Lean ahead and trust God is guiding us**

**God is with us here right now**

**God will see me through**

**God will see you through**

**God will see us through somehow**

**Step by step we'll be given all we need**

**God will see us through this now**

**God Will See Us Through, Sirchio**

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

## OFFERING

**Be an ambassador for Union UCC and tell your friends and neighbors about our church!**

**Thank you for your prayers, participation, and financial support which helps us be a church that is relevant, engaged, and growing!**

• **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.)

• **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.

• **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.

Please reach out to 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.



Electronic



Vanco Mo-



Venmo

**Offertory:** When the Saints

**Jazz Ensemble-:** Blake Hoppes - piano, Mike Baer - guitar,  
Malcolm MacKenzie - bass, Andy Hill - trumpet,  
Garet Hill - alto sax, Mitchell Roth - trumpet

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

**ALL Sing:**

**Dream God's dream  
Holy Spirit, help us dream...  
Of a world where there is justice,  
and where everyone is free  
To build and grow and love  
And to simply have enough  
The world will change when we dream God's dream**

Dream God's Dream Sirchio

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All that we are, all that we do,  
all that we ever have we offer now to you.  
We lay before you these gifts, dear Lord,  
of what we have, and seeking no reward,  
save that we are yours, and that will do,  
and our praise is shared with you.  
All that we dream, all that we pray,  
all that I'll ever make I give to you today.

## **Sending**

Arise and as you go  
may you be sure of  
God's righteous love,  
Christ's merciful love,  
the Spirit's guiding love,  
this day and all your life.

**Hymn:** I Will Bless the Lord at all Times

**I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good**

**He's good, so good, real good  
And every day of my life  
I'll bless the Lord, for He's good**

(Repeat from the top)

## **Postlude Music**

**Jazz Ensemble-: Blake Hoppes - piano, Mike Baer - guitar  
Malcolm MacKenzie - bass, Andy Hill - trumpet,  
Garet Hill - alto sax, Mitchell Roth - trumpet**

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$9,802.00
Calendar Year 2025 (Jan.-June)	\$188,550.00
Calendar Year 2024 (Jan.- June)	\$ 206,127.00
Change from Last Year	-8.5%
Budget FY 2024-25 (July- June)	\$ 418,500.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to- Date (July-June)	\$413,238.00
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-1.3%
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes	

Attendance Last Week	
8 AM	-
10:30 AM	110
Online Views	
Sunday School	
God First	
Faith on Tap	
Breathe	
2025 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	\$, 25 lbs
Total	3,230lbs

Neighbors in Need to date: \$75.00

## Presentations to the Glory of God

**Good News Sponsor**— for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

**Children's Bulletin Sponsor**— for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children. *Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or 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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