



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 (Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, April 19, 2020 – Online
 Holy Humour Sunday



exuberant. Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you." Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

SHARING AND PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

MUSIC "Smile" Chaplin

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART

OFFERTORY "Money Makes the World Go "Round"

We are all in this *together*. Sometimes, it's all we can do to breathe, let alone manage to find the humor in a situation. But you know what? Jesus came, that we might have *abundant life*. Abundance! Goodness and joy and hope—and the promise of newer and better tomorrows. Kingdom work goes on. *Life* goes on—together. We are committed to finding new, innovative ways to celebrate Christ Jesus, who defeated death. Make every breath count. Laugh, and love, and live to the fullest. We are committed to continuing Christ's work in the world, and need your help. Thank you for giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able. Follow the prompts to sign up for online giving at: <https://www.myoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

or mail your offering to **Strongsville UCC 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136**

You may also save a stamp and drop your envelope in the church mailbox at any time.

DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

SECOND READING **John 20:24-31** *The Message*
But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master." But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he focused his attention on

OPENING MUSIC "The Lonely Bull" Lake

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND JOKES

INTROIT "O What a Beautiful Morning" Rodgers & Hammerstein

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joy breaks loose, in the wiggles and giggles of little children, in the whispers of the youth, in the smiles of adults. We thank you, God, for this amazing day! Let our worship and praise burst forth in unlikely places and in silly ways. Let our songs be loud and filled with joy! Let our laughter be deep, for we are God's people.

HYMN "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Op'ning to the sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;
 Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
 Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
 Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are Thine;
 Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, Which the morning stars began;
 Love divine is reigning o'er us, Leading us with mercy's hand.
 Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;
 Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life!

FIRST READING **John 20:19-23** *The Message*

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he showed them his hands and side. The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were

Thomas. "Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don't be unbelieving. Believe." Thomas said, "My Master! My God!" Jesus said, "So, you believe because you've seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing." Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than are written down in this book. These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and in the act of believing, have real and eternal life in the way he personally revealed it.

REFLECTION "Peace Be With You"

HYMN "Joy to the World"

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

BENEDICTION

Now may the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Know that wherever you are, God is with you.

Amen.

POSTLUDE "Shaker Parting Song" arr. Purdum

SERVING

TODAY – APRIL 19

Irene Joyce
Tom Foley
Mike Elkins
Doug Thorn
Chuck McDougall

NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 26

Liturgist	Irene Joyce
Director of Music	Tom Foley
Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Sound	Doug Thorn
Video	Chuck McDougall

The Steeple will light the sky this week—

In Celebration of our 11B Anniversary today
Ingrid and Greg Dickson

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received	<u>\$6,135.00</u>
Difference	\$2,661.73



Thank you very much for your support of our mission and ministry.

OUR PRAYER LIST



Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato at Kemper House, Martha Liebert, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Joan Beckwith, Elaine Coffey, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Robert Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Dan

Davis, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Debbie Krause, Karl and Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Bill Ritchie, Alysha Rolland, Ginger Rothel, John and Maggie Struhar, Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Fred Beba, Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Hunter Colao (grandson of Mark & Barb Camp), Lyla Joy Crowley (great grand-niece of Irene Jannsohn), Elaine Fuelling (friend of Judi Pavisich), Rebecca Gordon (niece of Irene Jannsohn), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Dana Hardy (wife of Craig), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Reggie McCray (husband of Lynne), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Linda McNabb (sister-in-law of Ginger Rothel), Mae O'Shea (mom of Sandy O'Shea), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Terry Robson (friend of the Camps), Mike Rung (brother of Lora), Amanda Shannon (friend of Sarah & Jon Hayes), Sherry Sheeks (sister of Mark Camp), Brad Williams (friend of Judi Pavisich), Daphne Wilson (niece of Irene Jannsohn)

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others.

Happy Birthday today to Devin Thorn!

A PARTING JOKE: At the Christmas Eve service at my church, the pastor, quizzing some children about the nativity, asked, "What gifts did the three wise men give the Christ child?" "Gold!" one child yelled. "Frankincense!" shouted another. After a pause, a third asked, "Gift cards?"