



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)

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[StrongsvilleUCC.com](http://StrongsvilleUCC.com)



**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor**

**Sunday, March 1, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Sacrament of Communion**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**WELCOME!**

We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Please complete your Attendance Card and place it in the offering plate.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PRELUDE** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" Maker

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Irene Joyce

**INTROIT** "Come, Now it the Time to Worship" Doerksen

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Lord Jesus, you wander the wilderness of our worldly hunger, our yearning for power, our eagerness to test God.

**People: Be with us on our journey to Jerusalem, we pray.**

Leader: Holy Jesus, you set aside your glory, choosing to cradle us in your scarred hands.

**People: Hold us in your tender embrace, we pray.**

Leader: Jesus of the Feast, freely you give, so we might be healed; you pour out your life, so we might be drenched in your grace.

**People: Feed us from the simple gifts of creation, we pray. Amen.**

**† HYMN** "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God, Come

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God

One day ev'ry knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God, Come

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives

Willingly our knees will bow

With all our hearts, oh, mind and strength. We gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God, Come...Come...Come,

Just as you are...Come.

**A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 2: 15-17

**PRAYING IN SILENCE**

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy, **ALL: Hear our prayers. Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Hear Our Prayer, Lord" Foley

**ANTHEM** "In Christ Alone" Getty/Townend

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** "Eternal Father Strong to Save" Dykes

**† DOXOLOGY 815** Tune: *Old Hundredth*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**† PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 3: 1-7

**SERMON** Something's gotta change!

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

Leader: How easily we are seduced by the temptations all around us! But if we are willing to trust God and offer our confessions, God is quick to forgive us and fill us with hope. Join me, as we pray together:

**UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**People: When our hearts wander away from you, O God, we wander into the wasteland of wrong-doing. We hunger for more and more, and feel emptier and emptier. We seek power, especially over others, only to do harm. By our choices, we worship the false gods of success, wealth, and spectacle. Have mercy on us, God of love, and forgive us for the power we give to temptation in our lives. Help us to become humble as Jesus, for in that humility, we learn to trust you in all things; in that trust, we discover the grace which sets us free from the grasp of temptation; in that freedom, we can leave our desert and darkness behind, seeking to follow Jesus in this life and the next. (Silent prayer)**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Be glad and rejoice! Give thanks with shouts of joy! Grace abounds for everyone.

**People: With glad cries of deliverance, we offer our thanks to God who loves us and forgives us. Amen.**

**A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP** "How Beautiful" Paris

*All are welcome to come forward to partake of the Lord's Supper, or the communion servers will come to you if you wish.*

**† THE LORD'S PRAYER** (in unison)

**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.**

**† HYMN 343** "Amazing Grace" (w 1, 2, 5)

**† BENEDICTION**

**† RESPONSE** "Shaker Parting Song" arr. Purdum

**† POSTLUDE** "You Are My All in All" Jernigan, arr. Carter and Holstein

**SERVING**

**TODAY – MARCH 1**

Linda Ponstingle

Elaine Coffey

Linda Plain/Judi Pavisich

Volunteer needed

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Sharon Heinrich

Sarah Keenen

**NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 8**

**Liturgist** Betty Craig

**Greeters** Judi Pavisich

**Ushers** Volunteers needed

**Coffee Hour** Elaine Coffey

**Director of Music** Tom Foley

**Associate Director of Music** Mike Elkins

**Supplemental Organist** Sharon Heinrich

**Soloist**

**The altar flowers** are given—

*Happy Birthday to Mike Elkins on February 29<sup>th</sup>* Love, Linda

*Happy Birthday to Elena Joyce on March 3<sup>rd</sup>*

*With love from your family*

**Our steeple** will light the sky this week—

*Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday tomorrow to Mikey Craig* With love, Grammy

*A special thank you to Pastor Heidi and our UCC friends for their*

*prayers and well wishes.* Jim and Linda Dettmer

**Happy Birthday** today to Eddy Bond!

**The Worship Team will meet today at 11 a.m.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Our worship services are video recorded each week and posted on our YouTube channel for all to enjoy. Just go to [strongsvilleucc.com](http://strongsvilleucc.com), select **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.*

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,473.27

Last Week's Offering Received \$2,317.10

Difference (-\$1,156.17)

To date for the Stewardship Campaign, we have received 75 pledges totaling \$155,384.00. **If you have not yet returned your Estimate of Giving card, the church will gratefully accept it at any time. Thank you very much for your support.**



Last week's **Penny Sunday** collection of \$134.20 went to the United Church of Christ Outdoor Ministries, which runs camps for all ages at Templd Hills in Bellville, Ohio. Our Annual Winter Family Retreat is held at Templd Hills.

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO PLACE ALTAR FLOWERS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE SPECIAL. MANY DATES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2020. Cost is only \$15 per vase (\$30 for both). There is a chart in Pilgrim Hall along with envelopes and order forms.**

**YOU MAY ALSO LIGHT THE STEEPLE IN A LOVED ONE'S MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF A SPECIAL OCCASION. Envelopes and order forms are located on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. You may give any amount you choose, but the minimum is \$5.00.**



**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, Jim Dettmer, 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:** 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), 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)

**Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.**

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

**HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?**



New Sign-up sheets for 2020 in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, bread/pastry sorter, or nursery helper! Don't know how to do any of those things? No worries—we will show you everything you need to know! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life. **Also, please bring in any extra plastic grocery bags for the kitchen, if you can spare them!**

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW FOR THE ROAST PORK, KIELBASA, AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER ON SATURDAY, MARCH 7!** Seatings will be at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
*Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198*

**Adults \$12.00    Ages 6-10 \$5.00    Under 6 Free**

**Help is needed.** The sign-up sheet will be posted on Pilgrim Hall's board. For safety reasons, no children under age 6 (with or without parent) can be helpers in any capacity during the serving hours of 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Children 6 to 10 must have a parent helping them.



**Women's Fellowship** will meet Tuesday, March 3, at **10:30 a.m.** in the Parlor. We will make a bunny craft, make "puppy chow" for people, and have lunch altogether. Sally Herzog will present devotions; and Sharon Heinrich will make coffee and tea, and provide dessert. Please bring your own bag lunch. *Elaine Coffey will present her "Pet Sitting" program on a date to be determined. The meeting time is a half hour later so we have kitchen access to make puppy chow (after Tuesday morning AA meets).* As always, all ladies are welcome to all Women's Fellowship activities.



**MISSION OUTREACH**

Mission Outreach is still collecting donations of tissues and cough drops for **Laura's Home**, an outreach for women and children through the City Mission. A box is located in Pilgrim Hall.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING**

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received throughout the month of March. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, United Church of Christ members reach out in the name of Christ for humanitarian needs throughout the world. Envelopes are in the pews.



**MARCH 2020 DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 1 Sun Worship 10am with Communion**  
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal  
Worship Team
- 4 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 5 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 8 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 10 Tues Trustee Meeting 7pm**
- 11 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 12 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 15 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 17 Tues Diaconate Meeting, 7pm**
- 18 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 19 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Choir Rehearsal at Columbia UMC 7:45pm
- 22 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal  
Easter Lily order deadline
- 24 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm**  
**Interfaith Passover Seder 7pm**
- 25 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
**STOP THE BLEED TRAINING-SFD 7pm**  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 26 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Men's Lunch 11:30am  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 29 Sun Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**  
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal

**YOU ARE INVITED**

Please join Pastor Heidi and Chuck, and interfaith leaders for the Annual Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple on **Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m.** If you are interested in attending this field trip, please write "Seder" on the back of your attendance card and place it in the offering plate.



**LENTEN STUDY!**



Pastor Heidi will be leading a five-week study during Lent entitled *Living in the Light*, by John Birch. We will gather on Wednesday at 1:00, beginning March 4. Please sign up with your name and "Lent Study" on the back of your attendance card. See you then!

**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM**

Orders are now being accepted. Please complete this form and place it in the Church Office or offering plate with your cash or check payment by the deadline of **Sunday, March 22, 2020**. The cost is **\$8.00**.

Wording for bulletin: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

I will take my plant(s).  I will leave my plant(s) for someone who needs some cheer.

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville UCC**, and place your order (with payment) in the church office, or mail it to:  
**The United Church of Christ**  
**13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136**

*Thank you for placing a lily on the altar on Easter Sunday morning.*

**For Church Records                      2020 Easter Lily**

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Offering envelope number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash/Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Order deadline is*  
**Sunday, March 22, 2020.**

