



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 (Congregational)
 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, March 29, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.
 Fifth Sunday in Lent

OPENING MUSIC “Great is Thy Faithfulness” Runyan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” Dykes

CALL TO WORSHIP

In our sanctuaries, in our homes or apartments, wherever we are in worship, each morning God waits to greet us with joy and wonder. We awake to find ourselves enveloped in grace, knowing and believing God is with us. Even in these times of safe distancing, as we care for ourselves, we offer healing and hope to others. Even in those moments when fear steals over us, God’s Holy Spirit is with us.

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, soul, 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.

FIRST READING **Romans 8: 6-11**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason, the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 “Thankful” Sager, et al.

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US “Dem Bones”

BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART

OFFERTORY “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

We are all in this *together*. Like the bones of our skeleton, *together* we are so much more than we can possibly be alone. Even as we practice physical distancing, we reach out in new ways, drawing closer to Christ and closer to one another. Meanwhile, Kingdom work goes on. We are committed to finding new, innovative ways to continue the work of Jesus, even during this challenging season. We hope you are committed, as well, to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able. Thank you. Follow the prompts to sign up for electronic giving at:

<https://www.myoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

or mail your offering to **Strongsville UCC13740 Pearl Road
 Strongsville, OH 44136**

DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

SECOND READING **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign LORD, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with

skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.” So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.’”

REFLECTION

“Life in Death Valley”

HYMN 750

“Peace Like A River”

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river in my soul
 I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river in my soul (my soul)

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean
 I've got love like an ocean in my soul
 I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean
 I've got love like an ocean in my soul (my soul)

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain
 I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
 I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain
 I've got joy like a fountain in my soul (my soul)

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 “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” Lindon/Henry

SERVING

TODAY – MARCH 29

NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 5

Irene Joyce	Liturgist	Irene Joyce
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Doug Thorn	Sound	Doug Thorn
Ken Mehalko	Woodwinds	
Sarah Keenen	Vocalist	Tyler Martin

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,473.27
 Last Week’s Offering Received \$ 851.00
 Difference (-\$2,622.27)



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 Filiatrat (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)

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