



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 (Congregational)  
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**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor**  
**Sunday, August 23, 2020 – Online**

**OPENING MUSIC** "Glorious Is Thy Name" B. McKinney, arr. C. Berry

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** "Softly and Tenderly" Thompson

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

When we are alone and cannot come together, your Spirit makes us known to our sisters and brothers. When we are lonely and yearning for companionship, your Spirit whispers, "Come closer," inviting us into your presence, O God. Your Love for us is beyond our understanding. Your Grace is beyond our imagination. Your Spirit of Hope is never-ending.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**HYMN "We Are Standing on Holy Ground"**

We are standing on holy ground,  
 And I know that there are angels all around.  
 Let us praise Jesus now;  
 We are standing in His presence on holy ground.

We are standing on holy ground,  
 And I know that there are angels all around.  
 Let us praise Jesus now;  
 We are standing in His presence on holy ground.

Text and Music: Geron Davis CCLI Song # 21198  
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 Songchannel Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

**FIRST READING from Psalm 138 (New International Version)**

I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;  
 I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name  
 for your unfailing love and your faithfulness.  
 When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.  
 May all the kings of the earth praise you, LORD,  
 when they hear what you have decreed.  
 May they sing of the ways of the LORD,  
 for the glory of the LORD is great.

**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** "Simple Gifts" Copland

**TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

**BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART**

**OFFERTORY** "Many Gifts, One Spirit" Carmines

*Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.  
 In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise  
 one Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word  
 known in many ways, hallowing our days.  
 For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!*

Together, we again commit our lives and our resources to finding new, innovative ways to continue to walk with Jesus, even during this season of pandemic. We appreciate your commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able. Thank you. To give online, you may go to:  
<https://www.myeoffering.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 Romans 12:1-8 (The Message)**

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to

God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him. In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't. If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face.

**REFLECTION**

**An Inside Job for the Outside World**

**HYMN**

**"They'll Know We Are Christians"**

We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
 We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
 And we pray that all unity May one day be restored  
 And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love.  
 Yes they'll know we are Christians By our love.

We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.  
 We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.  
 And together we'll spread the news That God is in our land.  
 And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love.  
 Yes they'll know we are Christians By our love.

We will work with each other. We will work side by side.  
 We will work with each other. We will work side by side.  
 And we'll guard each one's dignity And save each one's pride.  
 And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love.  
 Yes they'll know we are Christians By our love.

All praise to the Father, From whom all things come  
 And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son  
 And all praise to the Spirit Who makes us one.  
 And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love.  
 Yes they'll know we are Christians By our love.

CCLI Song # 26997 Peter Scholtes © Words: 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Music: 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

**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** "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" J. S. Bach

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

*Happy Birthday to Joe Craig and Nate Johnson on August 24<sup>th</sup>!*  
 With love, Mom  
*In loving memory of Betty Bushea, remembering her birthday on August 27<sup>th</sup> --Barb Fraunfelder*

**SERVING**

<b>TODAY – AUGUST 23</b>		<b>NEXT SUNDAY – AUGUST 30</b>
Irene Joyce	<b>Liturgist</b>	Irene Joyce
Tom Foley	<b>Director of Music</b>	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	<b>Associate Director of Music</b>	Mike Elkins
Doug Thorn	<b>Sound</b>	Doug Thorn
Chuck McDougall	<b>Video</b>	Chuck McDougall
Sharon Heinrich	<b>Special Musicians</b>	Sarah Keenen

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed	\$ 3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received	\$ 3,929.00
Difference	+\$ 455.73



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



**Thank you to our organist, Sharon Heinrich, for sharing her music with us today.**

**Happy Birthday today to Brandt Camp!**

**CALL FOR CARDS!**

Longtime member **Lloyd Bridle**  
**(19191 Harvard Avenue 121E; Irvine CA 92612)**  
 will be celebrating his 90th birthday on **August 30!**  
**Any greetings from SUCC friends would be appreciated!**

**90!**

## OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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

**Church Family:** Joan Beckwith, Lloyd Bridle, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Robert Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Dan Davis, Riley Hawk, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Debbie Krause, Tony Koussa, Lori Kovatich, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Alysha Rolland, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Ron, Yvonne, & Ronnie Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, Ruby Cuyler (Sam's sister), Elaine Franzen (Barbara Craig's mom), Gwen Giddings (Linda Dettmer's sister), Rebecca Gordon (Irene Jannsohn's niece), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (the Camps' friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Sherry Sheeks (Mark Camp's sister), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Brad Williams (Judi Pavisich's friend), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

**Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.**



## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2020

Officers elected on Jan. 26, 2020, have an asterisk\* by their names.

\*\* = appointed by the Official Board

**Moderator** Rachel Zielinski

**Vice-Moderator** Rob Toth\*

**Treasurer** Sally Herzog

**Clerk** Judy Gaumer\*

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Kristen Clotworthy

**Board of Trustees**

Eddy Bond\* Greg Dickson Mike Clotworthy\*

Myron Costin\* Bill Giuliano

Dale Hawk Sandy Pogozelski

Ed Sobek Linda Stepan Rob Stepan

**Endowment Fund Subcommittee**

Irene Jannsohn\* Joyce Reed

**Diaconate**

Jennifer Barry Barbara Camp Gina Cathcart\*

Kristen Clotworthy Elaine Coffey\* Cathy Hawk\* Sarah Hayes

Linda Plain Linda Ponstingle Nicole Stevens Dawn Rolland\*

Marty Winch Barbara White\* Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

**Christian Education Committee**

Serena Abruzzino\* Kristen Clotworthy Mary Densmore Linda

Elkins Suzi Foley Sandy O'Shea Lora Rung

**Music Committee**

Richard Densmore\* Ingrid Dickson

Ken Mehalko Pam Keenen\*

*ex officio:* Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

**Stewardship Committee**

Serena Abruzzino\* Rosemary Bechtel Sue Gigliotti\* Beth

Giuliano Judi Pavisich\*\* Bill Schneider\*\*

**Mission and Outreach Committee**

Judy Carte Bobbie Krisak Tony Koussa\*

Michele Mhlack Gary Paul Lora Rung\*

Jennifer Sekorky\*\* Bev Wehr

## THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting and organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!



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