**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)**

13740 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**Rev. Rebecca Stephenson,** Pastor **Church** (440) 238-6697

**Website** strongsvilleucc.com **Email** strongsvilleucc@gmail.com

**January 17, 2015 9:45 A.M. Second Sunday after Epiphany**

**†** *Those who are able may stand.*

**PRELUDE**  *Prelude in C Major* J. S. Bach

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** *Sing, Rejoice, Delight in His Word* Charles Yannerella

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our God has made us to be One Body with many members.

**People:** **United and uniting, this is our calling.**

Leader: God calls us to share our diverse gifts activated by the one and same Spirit.

 **People: United and uniting, this is our redemption.**

Leader: God longs for us to be united in love and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

**People: United and uniting, this is our worship.**

Leader: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship

 to our Holy God, who challenges us and calls us to createthe Beloved Community.

**† HYMN 539** *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**OUR 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.**

**RESPONSE** *Sweet Hour of Prayer* William Batchelder Bradbury

**ANTHEM** *My Loving Shepherd* Michael Ware

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERING**

 **OFFERTORY** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* arr. Brian Dean

 **\* DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

 **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**† HYMN 548** *As the Deer Panteth for the Water*

**SCRIPTURES**  John 2:1-11 New Testament, p. 80

**SERMON** *Water to Wine*

**HYMN 690** *He Leadeth Me*

**† BENEDICTION**

**† RESPONSE** *The Lord Be with You* Charles Yannerela

**† POSTLUDE** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* arr. Joel K. Boyd

**Welcome, visitors!** We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning.No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.

**Welcome back** to our choir director, Joshua Konow, and to our Chancel Choir after their holiday break!

*Worship Accompanist Elena Taylor*

*Chancel Choir Director Joshua Konow*

*Bell Choir Director Barbara Fraunfelder*

*Technical Setup and Operation Doug Thorn*

*Sound System Jim Heinrich*

*Liturgist Pam Keenen*

*Greeter Lola Millhoane*

*Morning Announcements Natalie Daniels*

*Coffee Hour Cheryl and Ed Sobek*

**† BENEDICTION**

**† RESPONSE** *Benediction* Jean Spencer

Gary Hackett – Voice and Guitar

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***Welcome, visitors!*** *We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning.**No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.*

**SERVING TODAY**

Gary Hackett – Acoustic Guitar, Voice

Kyra Krause – Voice

Toni Newborn – Voice

Julia Soltis – Clarinet, Violin, Acoustic Guitar

Mike Soltis – Drum Set

Jack Stephenson – Bass Guitar, Voice

Elena Taylor – Praise Band Director, Keyboard, Voice

Robert Toth – Mallet Percussion

Clay Williams – Voice

Jake Williams – Acoustic Guitar, Viola

Doug Thorn – Sound System, Technical Setup and Operation

Natalie Daniels – Morning Announcements

Jack Stephenson – Liturgist

Adria Bond – Graphics Operation

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**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**January 17, 2015**

**11:15 A.M.**

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**†** *Those who are able may stand.*

**PRELUDE** *Change My Heart, O God* Eddie Espinosa

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** *Jesus, Name Above All Names* Naida Hearn

**† OPENING SONG** *Calling All Nations*

Calling all nations, hear the story of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

Calling all nations, hear the story, of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

Ev'ry woman, ev'ry man, rich and poor, old and young,

Heaven's love is coming down, to wipe all your tears away.

Calling all nations, hear the story of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

Calling all nations, hear the story, of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

There's a bell to be rung. There's a song to be sung.

Sweeter music yet to play when we gather on that day.

Calling all nations, hear the story of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

Calling all nations, hear the story, of God's amazing grace.

Calling all nations, come and worship, fill the earth with praise.

CCLI Song # 2577674

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our God has made us to be One Body with many members.

**People:** **United and uniting, this is our calling.**

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**People: United and uniting, this is our worship.**

Leader: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship

 to our Holy God, who challenges us and calls us to createthe Beloved Community.

**† PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**GATHERING SONG** *Sanctuary* Sing 3 times

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

CCLI Song # 24140

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *You Are My All in All* Dennis L. Jernigan

**THE OFFERING**

 **OFFERTORY** *How Majestic Is Your Name* Michael W. Smith

 **DOXOLOGY** *We Are An Offering* Dwight Liles

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,

we lift our lives up to You; we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;

Lord, use our lives, they are Yours; we are an offering.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,

We lift our lives up to You; we are an offering, we are an offering.

CCLI Song # 16220

**THE WORD OF GOD** John 2:1-11 New Testament, p. 80

**MEDITATION**  *Water to Wine*

**CLOSING SONG** *The River Is Here*

Down the mountain the river flows,
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing.
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

The river of God is teeming with life,
And all who touch it can be revived,
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing.
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

Up to the mountain we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord.
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter giving praise to the Son.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing.
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

Down the mountain the river flows,
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing.
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

Yes, we rejoice for the river is here.

CCLI Song # 1475231

**January 2015**

19 Tue Advertising Team Meeting, 7pm

 Trustees Meeting, 7pm

20 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm

21 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm – All are welcome.

24 Sun Kindred Spirit Singles arrive 1pm, meet at 2pm

26 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm

27 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm

 Men’s Luncheon at European’s Best Restaurant, 11:30am

28 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm

31 Sun 1 Service ONLY at 9:45am

 KFC Penny Sunday, Newsletter Pickup

 Annual Meeting at 11:45am, preceded by the traditional Pancake Brunch

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

*Hospitals no longer provide names of members who are patients.*

*If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at*

*(440) 238-6697. This list is updated weekly. If you wish someone to remain on the list, please call the church, (440) 238-6697.*

**Long-Term Care or Homebound Members**: Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

**Church Family**: Jim Davis at Falling Water, Betty Kircher, Eileen Pincombe, Denzil Richards, Sharon Ritchie, Barb Stayrook, Pastor Becky Stephenson, Keith Sullen, Judy Thurn, Leah Tressa Forget, John Wood at Southern Hills

**Extended Church Family**: Elizabeth Arendt (granddaughter of Bev Wehr), Ryan Brubeck, Emelyn Carels (sister of Irene Jannsohn), Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Rebecca Deeb (Goddaughter of Lora Rung), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Kay Gritti (friend of Lola Millhoane), Irene Hagemeier (niece of Betty Craig), Amanda Hover (granddaughter of Betty Kircher), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Jessica Lane (granddaughter of Len and Bev), Lily (student of Lora Rung), Maggie (friend of the Bickleys), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Dolores Mihlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANUARY 17, 2016**

**Welcome, visitors!** We are so glad you are with us this morning.

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

**All are invited to enjoy coffee and baked goods** in Pilgrim Hall after 9:45 worship today.

**The altar flowers** are given—

*To Celebrate Our January Birthdays—*

*Rachel on January 16, Kennedy on January 18, and Chris on January 19*

The Morgan/Zielinski Family

*In Celebration of My Wife Kathie’s Birthday on January 18*

Gary Paul

*Happy Birthday, Sharon!*

Love, Mom, Dad and Gina

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

*Happy Birthday to Tony Tran on January 20*

With love, Grammy

*Celebrating Sharon’s Birthday on January 18*

Love, Mom, Dad and Gina

**The February Church Newsletter deadline is now.** Please leave your article(s) in the church office today.

**Tuesday Meetings on January 19: Advertising Team** at 7:00 p.m. **Trustees** at 7:00 p.m.

**2016 All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills** – Today is the final day to reserve your spot for the Annual All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills on February 12 - February 14.  There is a limited amount of space left (2 rooms with 2 beds each) in Fellowship House.  In addition, payment in full is due today.  Anyone attending that has special dietary needs should contact Charles Jannsohn.  Lastly, even if you cannot make it for the entire weekend, but would like to join the group for Saturday only, please contact Charles Jannsohn.  Dietary needs and Saturday-only guests must be reported by January 22.  Please see Charles and/or Aimee Jannsohn if you have any questions.

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| Weekly Offering Needed $3,190Offering 1/3/16 Traditional $2,711 Contemporary $5,734 8,445Difference $5,255 |

**Annual Report Booklets –** If you are willing and able, we will collate booklets in Pilgrim Hal today after church today. All are welcome to join in the fun! When all copies are collated, we will have lunch together.

For those who need a booklet mailed to them, please call the church office at (440) 238-6697.

**Wednesday Free Lunch** – All are welcome to this free lunch, which is served every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

**Wednesday Rehearsals:** Children’s Choir at 7:30 p.m.

 Praise Band at 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday Rehearsals:** Bell Choir at 7:00 p.m.

 Children’s Instrumental at 7:30 p.m.

 Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.

**Family Game Night – This Friday, January 22, 7-9pm in Pilgrim Hall**

Please bring a game and a snack to share!

A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

**KFC “Soup”er Bowl** **Sunday** – Kids for Christ will collect cans of soup at the church on the Sundays of January 24 and 31, and February 7 for the Strongsville Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

**The Annual Meeting** of the Congregation will take place Sunday, January 31, 2016, when **we will have only one worship service—**

**at 9:45 a.m.** The traditional Pancake Brunch will follow worship, and the meeting will commence at about 11:45 a.m. All are encouraged to attend the meeting.

**Child Sponsorship –** Our church continues to sponsor young Caroline Y from the Family Village Farm and School in Vellore, India. If you would like to sponsor her for a month, please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Please make you check payable to ***Strongsville United Church of Christ*** and on the memo line and/or the envelope write: ***Child Sponsorship and the month*** you are sponsoring her. Please place your donation into the offering plate. Your $30 a month gift will cover her tuition, fees, textbooks and other expenses. 100% of your gift goes directly toward her expenses at the school. This program is part of Global Ministries, United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ Churches. We rejoice in your gift sent to undergird Christ’s mission in the world. Along with your giving, we covet your prayers that the deepest needs of all God’s children will be met. Thank you.

The Mission and Outreach Committee

**The new charts for 2016** for Greeters, Ushers, and Altar Flowers are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. **Please help** in these areas if you are able. Your assistance is needed. Thank you!

**Nominating Committee –** Many offices in the church will be available for the coming year. Please consider saying yes when a member of the Nominating Committee asks you to serve. Some of the positions available include serving on the:

*Diaconate***,** which oversees the worship operations and church services. The committees of the Diaconate are Acolytes, Altar, Coffee Hour, Funeral, Greeters, Membership, Nursery, Pastoral Relations, Special Events and Ushers.

*Board of Trustees,*which oversees the finances and physical plant of the church. The committees of the Trustees are Building and Grounds, Finance, and Long-Range Planning.

*Strongsville UCC*

**S W I S S S T E A K D I N N E R**

**Saturday – February 6, 2016**

**Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 P.M.**

Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198

Adults $13.00 Ages 6-12 $5.00 Under 6 years Free

***Tickets are available for purchase after the 9:45 a.m. service.***

Help is needed. The sign-up sheet is 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.

The Thrift Shop will be open.

**Pastor Becky will again teach a Journey in Faith Membership Class.** The class will begin this Thursday evening, January 21. Class is held at the church from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Members, as well as potential members, are welcome and encouraged to attend.  Topics covered include: *Establishing the Group, The Bible as Our Authority, Discovering Jesus, What We Believe and How We Got Here, The Nature of the Church, From the Early Church to Us, We Are ALL Gifted, Investigating the Local Church, Christian Giving, Understanding Different Levels of Living and Giving, The Meaning of Christian Covenant,* and *Investigating Worship*.  Both members and nonmembers will enjoy the camaraderie within the group and the knowledge that Pastor Becky shares.  To register, please mark your Attendance Card, tell Pastor Becky, call the Church Office, or see the signup sheet on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 24, 2015**

Liturgists 9:45 Tom Gaumer 11:15 Tom Gaumer

Greeter Denise Bell

Ushers Volunteers Needed

Morning Announcements Denise Bell

Coffee Hour Rosemary Bechtel

Graphics Operation Rosemary Bechtel