



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
(Congregational)  
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor  
Sunday, June 4, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Trinity Sunday

## 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 stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Holy, Holy Holy" Dykes, arr. Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Joyce Reed

INTROIT "Jesus Stand Among Us" Whitworth

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God, whose imagination saw all that is good, beautiful, and loving,

**People: Who continues to see us as beloved children in the divine family.**

Leader: The Word, who called forth the earth and all the stars in every universe,

**People: Who speaks to us of giving ourselves through the baptismal life.**

Leader: The Spirit, which moved over creation, breathing life into all things,

**People: Who fills us with peace and patience, with hope and healing to share.**

**ALL: We praise your name, and worship you with our lives. Amen.**

† HYMN 101 "All People that on Earth Do Dwell" (vv. 1, 3, & 5)

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 8  
(New Revised Standard Version)

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory in the heavens.  
Through the praise of children and infants you have established a  
stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.  
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,  
what is humankind, that you are mindful of us,  
human beings that you care for us?  
You have made us a little lower than the angels  
and crowned us with glory and honor.  
You made us rulers over the works of your hands;  
you put everything under our feet:  
all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky,  
and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.  
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Leader:** The Word of God, for us, the people of God;

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## PRAYING IN SILENCE

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

ANTHEM "Soon and Very Soon" Crouch

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Tre Monete Nella Fontana" Styne

† 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.

## † DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 1:1-2:4  
(The Message)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said. . . .

SERMON "And it IS good!"

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor: We know too well our foolishness, our brokenness, our human ways of doing things. But God knows our hearts, our hopes, our desire to be made new. As we offer our prayers of confession, let us open ourselves to God, who forgives us and offers us new life.

## UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

**People: Artist of all things, we have been created for goodness by you, but we continue to be filled with bitterness. Your Word, who would enable us to speak words of joy to one another; instead, we offer only judgment. The Spirit who breathes hope into us, could be shared with everyone we meet, but we are tempted to hold our breath until we turn blue, rather than offer peace to those around us. But you remind us that everything created is good, even us, your naïve, foolish children. With the Spirit as our sister, we know we can offer healing and hope to those who need it most. With your Word, Jesus Christ, as our brother, we know we can tell others of your mercy and of our love for them, every moment. (silent prayer)**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: By God's grace, our chaotic choices become creative grace for others; our foolishness can be transformed by God's goodness; our lives can become new by the Spirit of our God.

**People: The good news is as true as it was on creation's first morning: Creator God is the redeeming Word who is the Breath of life for all people, even us. Thanks be to God for forgiveness and grace in our lives. Amen.**

## A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP "What a Wonderful World" Thiele  
Dave Williams, vocalist

## 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 "Earth and All Stars"

Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets,

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorm,

Sing to the Lord a new song! God has done marvelous things.

We will sing praises with a new song!

Steel and machines, Loud pounding hammers,

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Limestone and beams, Loud building workers,

Sing to the Lord a new song! God has done marvelous things.

We will sing praises with a new song!

Classrooms and labs, Loud boiling test tubes,

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Athlete and band, Loud cheering people,

Sing to the Lord a new song! God has done marvelous things.

We will sing praises with a new song!

Knowledge and truth, Loud sounding wisdom,

sing to the Lord a new song!

Daughter and son, Loud praying members,

Sing to the Lord a new song! God has done marvelous things.

We will sing praises with a new song!

## † BENEDICTION

Creator God, as we depart from this place and return to our homes, workplaces, and communities, may Your Spirit open our eyes anew to the vast splendor of Your beauty all around us. May we hear, and smell, and see, and touch Your glory. evident in all of Your creation. Above all, let us see Your beauty, even in the brokenness of our brothers and sisters, all of them, created in Your image. May we go now to love and serve our Lord, together. Amen.

† RESPONSE "Father, Give Thy Benediction" Moore

† POSTLUDE "Festival March" arr. Burkhardt

**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**.

## SERVING

### TODAY – JUNE 4

Linda Plain	<b>Greeters</b>	Linda Ponstingle
Elaine Coffey	<b>Liturgist</b>	Dave Williams
Roz Fotos	<b>Ushers</b>	Volunteers needed
Aidan Hurtig/Luke Giuliano	<b>Acolytes</b>	Oliver & Matilda Sekorky
Tom Foley	<b>Director of Music</b>	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	<b>Associate Director of Music</b>	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	<b>Organist</b>	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	<b>Sound</b>	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Chancel Choir, Dave Williams	<b>Special Music</b>	Chancel Choir

## CONGREGATIONAL PHOTO

If you would like to purchase an 8" x 24" congregational photo, please contact the church office. The cost is \$29.95 (Checks to UCC.) Orders are due NO LATER than June 25<sup>th</sup>. **\*\*\*This is a change so that we may order all together and get bulk pricing.**





A NOTE OF THANKS—

We thank the Chancel Choir, Dave Williams, Tom Foley, Mike Elkins, and Sharon Heinrich for sharing their music with us today.

CALLING ALL SINGERS, ENSEMBLES, AND INSTRUMENTALISTS! Do you want to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, but can't commit to joining the music team throughout the year? How about providing music for a service on one Sunday this summer? Please see Tom Foley or Mike Elkins and choose a summer Sunday--We're happy to work with you!

The altar flowers are given—

Celebrating Hannah's high school graduation today! Love, Grandpa and Grandma Camp



Blessings & thankfulness for our 10 grandchildren Barbara & John Toth



Our steeple will light the sky this week— Happy Birthday to Tom Foley on June 8th! With love, the Chancel Choir

FRESH FLOWERS EACH WEEK! Please sign up for 2023 altar flowers on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Many Sundays are available to honor a special date or loved one.

Happy Birthday today to Dan Davis!

NEXT WEEK, JUNE 11th, IS RECOGNITION SUNDAY!

As is our tradition, our church will recognize the high school, technical school, college, and advanced degree graduates in our church and extended church family. Of course, we will celebrate with cake following the service!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School is underway! We are still looking for folks to commit to teaching a single Sunday with our children. All lessons and materials will be provided in advance. Start thinking about which

Sunday you're available for this special ministry, and then add your name to the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall.

PENNY SUNDAY THANK YOU!

Last week, we collected \$176.20 for the Strongsville Emergency Food Bank. The next Penny Sunday will be on June 25, 2023!



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP—

"Disaster Preparedness" is the program for our meetings this week. Diana Creecy will present the program in Pilgrim Hall on Monday, June 5, at 7 p.m. and again on Wednesday, June 7, at 1 p.m. As always, all ladies are welcome to attend whichever meeting they would like—or both!

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, June 13th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, June 20th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, June 27th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Joan Beckwith, Mary Carey, Laurie Meister, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Diana Creecy, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Bruce Lerch, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfritz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozeleski, Cade Raymond, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Lora Rung, Peter Smith, John Toth, Sharon Wilson, Janis Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Ron Colosimo (Judi Pavisich's friend), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dr. Angelo Gagliani (Ingrid Dickson's friend), Joanne Garipey (Sally Herzog's friend), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's daughter-in-law), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Tom Irelan (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Bill Luca (Marianne's husband), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Tina Serrano (Elliott Joyce's grandma), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicky Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Weston (Chelsey Cathcart Cox's friend's son), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), Lee & Brad Wright (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's friends), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters

OPT-IN: Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain. h.e.denman@gmail.com



ATTENDANCE CARDS ARE IN YOUR BULLETIN!

Please take a moment to complete the card that is in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may write prayer requests on the reverse side, if you wish to have us pray for someone and add a name to the prayer chain.



OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$8,459.00
Difference \$4,841.99

Thank you very much for your support.



PLEASE BE AWARE:

Due to a bank change, all checks to the church should be made out to United Church of Christ or UCC or United Church of Christ (Congregational). Please do not use "Strongsville" or "SUCC" in the "Pay to the Order of" line. Thanks!



HELP WANTED!

Volunteers are needed to serve as tellers on Sunday mornings after church (usually less than an hour of your time). Please indicate on your attendance card if you can help.

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2023

\*Elected January 29, 2023

Moderator: Greg Dickson Vice-Moderator: Jen Barry
Treasurer: Sally Herzog Clerk: Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Co-Superintendents
Linda Elkins Mary Densmore\*

Board of Trustees
Diana Creecy Chris Goff\* Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk
Sarah Hayes Cheryl Sobek\* Dan Winrod\*
Laura Winrod\* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Dave Williams\*

Diaconate
Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger\* Elaine Coffey
Bobbi Cook\* Wayne Cook\* Judy Davis\*
Carole Kapcar\* Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle Cherie Teagno
Barbara White\* Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

Christian Education Committee
Serena Abruzzino\* Mary Densmore\*
Linda Elkins Amanda Marshall Lora Rung

Music Committee
Richard Densmore Ingrid Dickson
Pam Keenen Ken Mehalko\* Mike Willis\*
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee
Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider\* Richard Taylor
Rob Toth Mary Willis\*

Mission and Outreach Committee
Judy Carte\* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung\*
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith \* Bev Wehr
Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND
2023 Summer Concert Schedule

Friday, June 16-7:30 PM at Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, June 30-7:30 PM at Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, July 7-7:30 PM at Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, July 21-7:30 PM at Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, July 28-7:30 PM at Strongsville Rotary (Ehrnfelt Event Center)
Friday, August 4 SCJazz-7:30 PM at Ehrnfelt Event Center
Friday, August 11-7:30 PM at Strongsville Middle School Lawn

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL--Wednesdays

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Our Free Lunch for All Program welcomes everyone to enjoy a nutritious meal and warm fellowship. Faith in Action Grants Team of the Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, Heartland Conference United Church of Christ, awarded Strongsville UCC's Free Lunch for All project a grant of \$2,217.11.
Many thanks to our wonderful prepping, cooking, serving, and clean-up volunteers!





**THRIFT SHOP**

**The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.** Come and shop lots of interesting merchandise at amazing prices.

Donations are being accepted during those hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs. **Thanks, as always, to our dedicated volunteers!**

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**BE A BUSY BEE IN 2023**

Sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for **your name** to be added as a greeter or an usher. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know!



Everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.

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**PANERA PALS—HELP NEEDED**

Are you able to give less than an hour of your time on a Monday or Friday morning to pick up and/or sort Panera bread, bagels, and pastries? Please contact the church office if you can help with this worthwhile ministry.

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