



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, March 13, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.

Second Sunday in Lent



WELCOME!

For the safety and comfort of everyone, please continue to wear a mask in the Gathering Area and when entering or leaving the Sanctuary. When you are seated in the pews, you may lower your mask if you wish. Thank you.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Morceau de Concour" Fauré Kelly Wilson, flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey 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.

INTROIT "Speak, Lord, in the Stillness" Whitworth

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today, God comes to us, to gather us in worship:

People: To wait in silence for the Word, to find solace in the arms of grace.

Leader: Tomorrow, the Word of God comes, calling us to go forth to serve:

People: To bring hope to those whose hope has faded, to love those tossed aside by indifference and hate.

Leader: The next day, and the next day, the Holy Spirit will come:

People: Bringing us the gift of peace, that we might offer peace to our broken world.

† HYMN 139 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (If you wish to sing with us, please have your mask in place.)

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 97 (excerpts) (New International Version)

The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

I will sing and make music to the Lord. Teach me your way, Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

I remain confident of this:

I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER

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.

ANTHEM "Andante" Bach Kelly Wilson, flute

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

Thank you for your continuing commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able, in service to Christ in the world. Thank you. To give online, please go to:

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

OFFERTORY "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Spiritual Ken Mehalko, clarinet

† 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 GOSPELS Luke 9:37-43a (New Living Translation)

The next day, after they had come down the mountain, a large crowd met Jesus. A man in the crowd called out to him, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, my only child."

SERMON "Only believe— and pray."

† HYMN 328 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (If you wish to sing with us, please have your mask in place.)

† BENEDICTION Nathan Nettleton, Laughing Bird Ministries Go now, trusting in God's promises. Seek the presence of the Lord and abandon yourself to prayer. Follow those who are faithful to God; stand firm against evil and seek healing for all. And may God be your saving light and fortress; may Christ Jesus gather you into the safe wings of mercy; and may the Holy Spirit make you citizens of heaven. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Amen.

† RESPONSE "A Parting Prayer" Whitworth

† POSTLUDE "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Callahan

SERVING

Table with 3 columns: TODAY - MARCH 13, NEXT SUNDAY - MARCH 20, and roles like Greeters, Liturgist, Ushers, etc.

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, select Worship, and click on Service Videos.



A NOTE OF THANKS—

Many thanks to our special guest, Kelly Wilson (flute), and to our own Ken Mehalko (clarinet), the Chancel Choir under the direction of Tom Foley, Mike Elkins, and Sharon Heinrich for sharing their music with us today.

The altar flowers are given—

In celebration of our Grandson Mason's Birthday this month and in memory of Teddi Rose, he has left our lives but never our hearts! George and Joyce Reed



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday to Natalia & Mia Hill on March 17th! With Love, Grammy

Welcome to my newest great-granddaughters Isabel and Nova, born on March 3rd!—Love, "Banny" Lola Millhoane

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesdays, Pastor Heidi, along with Linda Elkins, is leading a Lenten Bible Study called, "Reading Between the Lines: Exploring Our Story through Biblical Stories." We are meeting from 1:00-2:00 p.m., in Pilgrim Hall. Materials are provided; if you wish to bring your Bible, please do so. The study will center around the Lectionary passages from Luke. Feel free to email Pastor Heidi with any questions. All are welcome and it's not too late to join us.



WE NEED YOU IN 2022!

Sign-up sheets are waiting for your name to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or bread/pastry sorter. 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. If you like to cook . . . or bake . . . or reach out to others in love . . . as winter and circumstances continue to make it hard to stay connected, your Diaconate Committee is organizing a Pastoral Care Ministry Team and would LOVE to have you take part! (You do not need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.) Please complete and turn in the enclosed response form!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you interested in becoming a member of our congregation?

Pastor Heidi is leading a "Getting to Know Us" class following the worship service TODAY, with reception of new members next Sunday, March 20th. Please come to this meeting after the service if you are interested in joining our church.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields



Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sam Cuyler, Sr., Linda Elliott, Tom Foley, Ramona Glaze, Sue Hawk, Bob Heddleson, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mihlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Judi Pavisich, Sandy Pogozelski, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Peter Smith, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Doug Thorn, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Owen Woodward, Mary Ellen & Bob Zimmerman

Extended Church Family: Ron Adams (Judi Pavisich's friend), Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Jerry Cergol, (Barb Fraunfelder & Dennis Smith's friend), Hunter Colao (Barb & Mark Camp's grandson), Mary Ann Csory (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mihlack's cousin), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend) Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend, 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), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Tina Serrano (Elliott Joyce's grandma), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Sandra Wentz (Debbie's daughter-in-law), Weston (Chelsea Cathcart's friend's baby)

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



Our condolences to **Judy and Dave Maur** on the loss of Judy's sister, **Pat Robusto**, on March 5, 2022.

Our prayers and sympathy go out to **Linda Plain** and family on the death of her ex-husband **Alan Plain**. Linda and Alan had remained friends over the years. Alan died on March 2, 2022.

Our love and prayers are extended to **Diana Creecy** and family on the passing of Diana's long-time partner, **Lou Conté** on March 10, 2022. Lou had just entered hospice care.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received **\$6,018.00**
Difference +\$2,368.63

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 62



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, March 15th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Official Board** will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, March 22nd at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is **OPEN** on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with lots of interesting merchandise. Donations are being accepted, but you must **call** the church first to arrange a time for drop-off.



THRIFT SHOP BONUS HOURS

The 3rd **Thursday** of the month,
March 17, 2022 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

(We're still open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)



The United Church of Christ responds to humanitarian and development needs in the world. Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing® carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. Through our work with local churches, conferences, international

partners and organizations, One Great Hour of Sharing provides sources of clean water, food, education, health care, small business micro-credit loans, advocacy, resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, emergency relief and rehabilitation as well as disaster preparedness and response. We will be collecting throughout the month of March.

IT'S A GIRL! IT'S A GIRL!

Congratulations to parents **Joe and Kyleen (Masuga) Avramovich** on the birth of their twin daughters, **Isabel Joann** and **Nova Victoria**, who were born on March 3, 2022. Proud grandparents are **Dan and Vicky Masuga**, and great-grandmother, **Lola Millhoane**.



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



LIMITED RESERVATIONS--Call (440) 238-5389
(To-go meals will be available.)

Reminder: When the Strongsville City Schools are closed for weather, the Free Lunch for All will not be served that day. We love you and want you to stay safe.

COMING SOON

Plans are underway for our church to lead a community-wide project to put together Disaster Relief kits and fill a trailer with these much-needed supplies for victims of any sort of disaster. **STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!**



PENNY SUNDAY



The next Penny Sunday is **March 27th** and the money will go toward the church's **Disaster Relief project**.

GIFT CARDS

AN EASY WAY TO BENEFIT THE CHURCH!



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your order. **Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.**

Thank you to those who continue to support this project by buying gift cards!

HAVE YOU DONE THIS ALREADY?

Are you shopping online? If so, why not benefit the church while you make your purchases from Amazon? It's incredibly easy! Here's what you do:

1. Instead of typing amazon.com into your search bar, type in **smile.amazon.com**.
2. Select United Church of Christ Congregational Strongsville by clicking this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-1298100>
3. Shop as you would normally—that's it!



Your addresses, billing information, and shopping cart are still saved and your Prime membership privileges still apply. A small percentage of your purchase price will go toward supporting the church.

OFFICERS FOR 2022 Elected January 30, 2022 * = 1 year term

Moderator Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator** Jennifer Barry
Treasurer Sally Herzog **Clerk** Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Serena Abruzzino

Board of Trustees

Myron Costin Diana Creecy Bill Giuliano* (Vice-chair) Herb Hampson
Dale Hawk Sarah Hayes Sandy Pogozelski*
Dave Sekorky Ed Sobek* Rachel Zielinski (Chair)

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Joyce Reed*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Barbara Camp* Elaine Coffey Cathy Hawk*
Linda Kapcar Bobbie Krisak Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle
Cheryl Sobek* Cherie Teagno Barbara White*

Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino* Mary Densmore
Linda Elkins Amanda Marshall Lora Rung

Music Committee

Richard Densmore Ingrid Dickson
Pam Keenen* Ken Mehalko* Rob Stepan
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Sue Gigliotti* Beth Giuliano* Judi Pavisich
Richard Taylor Rob Toth

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak
Lora Rung* Jennifer Sekorky Bev Wehr*

YES! I'D LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

I AM INTERESTED IN:

_____ OFFERING OR RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOME

_____ CALLING FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PRAY, BUT DON'T USE EMAIL

_____ PREPARING AN EXTRA MEAL AND DELIVERING IT TO SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ HELPING COOK A DISH AND OR SERVE MEALS AT FUNERAL LUNCHEON

_____ BECOMING A "PHONE BUDDY" AND PERIODICALLY CHECK IN WITH SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ CALLING FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PRAY, BUT DON'T USE EMAIL

_____ OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO TAKE MEMBERS TO APPOINTMENTS

_____ I WOULD BE WILLING TO...



Please turn in the form to the Church Office.

