

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 30, 2014

9:00 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONGS

42 *I Will Celebrate*
90 *We Will Glorify*
26 *Great Is the Lord*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look over there. It's Jesus.

People: **Where? Where? We can't see him.**

Leader: Open the eyes of your heart.

People: **We see him now. He is here. Praise the Lord!**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

57 *Make Us One, Lord*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

He's Been Faithful

† BRING GIFTS FORWARD

86 *We Are An Offering*

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-17

New Testament, p. 89

MEDITATION

Am I Blind?

CLOSING SONGS

92 *You Are My All in All*
27 *He Is Exalted*

† BENEDICTION

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

Songs are from the white *Contemporary Worship Songbook*.

Our Vision . . .

A world filled with God's love, where all are welcome at God's table.

Our Mission Statement . . .

Wherever you are on life's journey, the Strongsville United Church of Christ (Congregational) welcomes all to become passionate followers of Christ through Unconditional Love with Justice and Peace † Meaningful Prayer † The Celebration of Worship † Uplifting Music † Mutual Support † Joy of Service † Honoring Creation † the Giving Spirit, where all are welcome at God's table.

Orders for Easter lilies are now being accepted. Order forms and envelopes are on the Greeters' Table in the Gathering Area.

Serving Today

Music Director / Drummer

Andrew Purdum

Organist / Pianist

Susan Stevenson Tressa

Substitute Keyboardist

Sharon Heinrich

Bass Guitarist

Jack Stephenson

Guitarist

Sean Patrick

Song Leaders

Barb Fraunfelder, Kyra Krause, Sandy O'Shea

Liturgist

Rachel Zielinski

Graphics Operation

Rosemary Bechtel

Coffee Hour

Tom Gaumer

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

March 30, 2014 11:00 A.M. Fourth Sunday of Lent

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *The Old Rugged Cross* arr. Bennard

INTROIT *Lord, Be with Us*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look over there. It's Jesus.

People: Where? Where? We can't see him.

Leader: Open the eyes of your heart.

People: We see him now. He is here. Praise the Lord!

† HYMN 217 *Holy Ground*

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

CHOIR ANTHEM *How Great the Love* Beall

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

If you are seated in the alcove and would prefer sitting in the sanctuary, please feel free to move to the sanctuary after the Children's Sermon.

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Allegretto in A Flat Major* Grieg

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† HYMN 624

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

SCRIPTURE John 9:1-17 New Testament, p. 89

SERMON *Am I Blind?*

† HYMN 602 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

† **BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE *Go Now in Peace*

† **POSTLUDE** *Jubilate, Amen!* Kjerulf

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

Our Vision . . .

A world filled with God's love, where all are welcome at God's table.

Our Mission Statement . . .

Wherever you are on life's journey, the Strongsville United Church of Christ (Congregational) welcomes all to become passionate followers of Christ through Unconditional Love with Justice and Peace † Meaningful Prayer † The Celebration of Worship † Uplifting Music † Mutual Support † Joy of Service † Honoring Creation † the Giving Spirit, where all are welcome at God's table.

Orders for Easter lilies are now being accepted. Order forms and envelopes are on the Greeters' Table in the Gathering Area.

Serving Today

Director of Music

Andrew Purdum

Organist / Pianist

Susan Stevenson Tressa

Substitute Organist / Pianist

Sharon Heinrich

Liturgist

Rachel Zielinski

Greeters

Kenn and Ginny Oerkitz

Nursery

Dianne Maringer

Coffee Hour

Tom Gaumer

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

March 30, 2014 7:00 P.M. Fourth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ calls us here this evening.

Many: Christ calls us from far and near to hear a message of peace.

One: Whether we feel far from God, or near to God,

Many: this peace can be ours this evening—a gift from our God of grace.

One: Peace that passes understanding,

All: Peace that needs to be shared, so that we can be Christ's disciples with good news for our neighbors near at hand, and our neighbors far away. Amen.

OPENING SONGS Hymn 602 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*
Hymn 121 *How Majestic Is Your Name*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG Hymn 655 *Sanctuary* (Sing 3 times.)

COUNT AND AMOUNT * *Totals will be placed here each week.*
Red Team - 120 White Team - 104

JOYS AND CONCERNS / PRAYER

OFFERING

BRING GIFTS FORWARD Song 88 *We Bring the Sacrifice*

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-17

SONG

Hymn 184

Thy Word

PLAY

Mom's Next Year

MEDITATION

CLOSING SONG

Song 66

Rise Up and Praise Him

BENEDICTION

Hymns are from *The Celebration Hymnal*. Songs are from the white *Contemporary Worship Songbook*.

* HOW POINTS ARE AWARDED

Each Team Member - 1 point for attendance each week

Visitor - 2 points (A visitor becomes a team member after 2 visits.)

Each Person in a Play - 2 points

Volunteer Worship Leader 2 points

Best Banner - 15 points

Our Vision . . .

A world filled with God's love, where all are welcome at God's table.

Our Mission Statement . . .

Wherever you are on life's journey, the Strongsville United Church of Christ (Congregational) welcomes all to become passionate followers of Christ through Unconditional Love with Justice and Peace † Meaningful Prayer † The Celebration of Worship † Uplifting Music † Mutual Support † Joy of Service † Honoring Creation † the Giving Spirit, where all are welcome at God's table.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MARCH 30, 2014

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. **Members, please wear your nametags** to assist others to get to know you.

This morning's altar flowers are given—

*Happy 7th Birthday to Our Grandson Mason on March 31
George and Joyce Reed*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy 40th Birthday to Rob Wentz on April 1
With love, Grammy*

*In Memory of My Parents, Arthur and Mary Hirt, on
the 16th Anniversary of My Father's Passing and
the 29th Anniversary of My Mother's Passing
Paul Hirt*

*In Remembrance of My Father, Nicholas Paul's, Birthday on March 31
Gary Paul*

*In Memory of Edith Graves – always in our hearts
Bill and Dorothy Ritchie, Gina Cathcart, and Sharon Ritchie*

Happy Birthday today to Reagan Morgan!

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received today. OGHS offering envelopes are in the pew racks.

Women's Fellowship will sell candy today and next Sunday.

Sunday Evening Lenten Services and Meals continue today. The potluck meal will be served at 6:00 p.m., with casual worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share for the potluck. The main course each Lenten Sunday evening will be:

Today – Spaghetti

April 6 – Ham

April 13 – Chicken and Biscuits

Pastor Becky is leading two Lenten Studies on Mondays:

12:00 noon – "Peter and Paul" and 7:00 p.m. – "Jesus and the Movies."
More information is on the greeters' table in the Gathering Area. All are welcome.

Worship Team will meet on Wednesday, April 2, at 9:00 a.m.

Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, April 2, at 10:00 a.m. Hostess is Karen Morgan, and the guest speaker is Officer Mary Ann Hanson from the Strongsville Police Department. Please bring your own lunch; coffee, tea and dessert will be provided. As always, all ladies are welcome.

If you receive paper copy, please pick up your **April Church Newsletter** today in the Gathering Area before you leave the church. Thank you!

Thank you to all who supported yesterday's **Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner** fundraiser for our Confirmation Class and Youth Group's trip to Washington, D.C.

Roast Pork Dinner – Thank you to all who supported the dinner on March 15. The total profit was \$1,303.75. Thanks again.

Do you remember the "50's" with Elvis Presley and poodle skirts, Lawrence Welk, the Beatles, the Beach Boys and great hits such as *Moon River* and *Over the Rainbow*? If so, you will not want to miss **Glitz XIII – Moments to Remember**. The show's final performance will be today at 2:00 p.m. at Strongsville Senior High School. Tickets are \$12.00 for Adults and \$10.00 for Seniors and Students. This high-energy production features adults over 55 including UCC members **Beverly Wehr, Ken Oerkfitz and Jack Stephenson**. The show is directed by **Ken Mehalko**. Sound Engineer is **Jim Heinrich**. Hope you can make it! Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Church Street Ministries will hold a Mission Fair next Sunday, April 6, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Middleburg Heights UCC, 7165 Big Creek Parkway. It will help us understand the work being carried out by a consortium of churches, including ours – a behind-the-scenes look into the areas this wonderful ministry serves, i.e. outreach to those in need of assistance, from transportation to utilities, food and clothing to home furnishings, job training to veteran assistance, crisis intervention to AA, and more. Come and experience first-hand the depth and breadth of this vital ministry of outreach to our communities. Stories and videos will be available in various booths, plus refreshments. --Mission & Outreach Committee

Thanks to your generosity, The Thrift Shop is now overstocked!

If possible, please hold your donations until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation.

Greeters and ushers are needed for 11:00 a.m. worship. Please help if you are available. The signup sheets are now on the Gathering Area bulletin board. (The 9:00 a.m. service is casual and has no sign-up.)

Easter Sunday Morning Breakfast will be served between 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated.

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. Please inform the church of updates to this list.*

Long-Term Care or Homebound Members: Bill Betz at Chapel Hill Community in Canal Fulton, Betty Kovach at Emeritus at Brookside Estates (15435 Bagley Road), Debbie Krause, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

Church Family: Janet Kato at ManorCare of Parma, Margot James at The Altenheim, Rachel Kovatich, Dolores Matchett, Ruth Milidonis, Barbara Morgan, Joyce Reed, Susan Tressa

Extended Church Family: June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Ryan Brubeck, Logan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Megan Craig (granddaughter of Rev. Larry and Christina Craig), Audrey and Gene Curry (parents of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Rebecca Deeb (Goddughter of Lora Rung), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Kate Heisler (friend of Lora Rung), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Erik Kratky (friend of Sarah Hawk), Rick Mahon (friend of the Woodwards), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)

March 2014

- 30 Sun One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
Women's Fellowship Candy Sale during coffee hour
Newsletter Pickup
Youth Group Meeting, 3 p.m.
Lenten Meal at 6 p.m., followed by Worship at 7 p.m.
- 31 Mon Lenten Bible Studies – 12 noon and 7 p.m.

April 2014

- 2 Wed Worship Team Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
Women's Fellowship Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Praise Band Rehearsal, 8:00 p.m.
- 3 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Sun Deadline for Ordering Easter Lilies
Lenten Meal at 6 p.m., followed by Worship at 7 p.m.
- 7 Mon Lenten Studies at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Tues Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Wed Mission and Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Praise Band Rehearsal, 8:00 p.m.
- 13 Sun Communion, Reception of New Members
Sun Lenten Meal at 6 p.m., followed by Worship at 7 p.m.
- 14 Mon Mom's Group Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Lenten Studies at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Tue Newsletter Deadline
- 16 Wed Worship Team Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
Pipe Organ Tuning, approximately 12:00 noon
Praise Band Rehearsal, 8:00 p.m.
- 17 Thu Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall
- 18 Fri Good Friday Worship, 7:30 p.m. in Sanctuary
- 20 Sun Easter Sunrise Service Outdoors, 6:30 p.m.
Easter Breakfast served in Pilgrim Hall, 8:00-10:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service Indoors, 9:00 a.m.
Traditional Service Indoors, 11:00 a.m.
- 22 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Wed Praise Band Rehearsal, 8:00 .m.
- 24 Thu Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.
- 27 Sun Newsletter Pickup
Kindred Spirit Singles Meeting, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- 30 Wed Worship Team Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
Praise Band Rehearsal, 8:00 .m.

Serving Next Sunday – April 6, 2014

Liturgist
Greeter
Nursery
Coffee Hour
Ushers

Tom Gaumer
Jim Studer
Ginny Oerkfitz
Cheryl Sobek
Volunteers Needed