



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, March 31, 2024– 10 A.M.

Resurrection 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 "The Trumpet Shall Sound" Handel
Ralph Heimbürger, soloist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Greg Dickson

CHORAL INTROIT "Easter Call to Worship" Grosvenor

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day of our Lord's Resurrection:

People: The day our tears are wiped away, the day our hearts are healed. The day our fears are replaced with unbounding joy! Where, O Death, is your victory?

Leader: This is the day of our Lord's Resurrection:

People: The tomb is empty! Where now, O Death, is your sting?

Leader: This is the day of the Lord's Resurrection:

ALL: Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

† **HYMN 367** "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 118

(New International Version)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever.

Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous:

"The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!

The Lord's right hand is lifted high;

the Lord's right hand has done mighty things!"

I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

The Lord has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

Open for me the gates of the righteous;

I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter.

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;

You have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING 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.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Easter Song" Herring
With the Brass Ensemble

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Traditional
Mike Elkins, Tom Foley, Ken Mehalko, Tom Nazelli

† **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 Mark 16:1-8

(New King James Version)

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

REFLECTION "The End? Hardly!"

† **HYMN 45** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

† **BENEDICTION**

As you go out into God's world this week, be Easter people! Be those who say, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He is risen." Be ready to be surprised by what God will do next. Look for the risen Christ in those you meet. Let the Holy Spirit nudge you and guide you. The tomb is empty because Jesus is out in the world, and now we must go out into the world too! May the joy and wonder of that first Easter morning live in your hearts today, and every day. Amen.

† **POSTLUDE** "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel
Keyboard Trio: Mike Elkins, Carol Foley, Sharon Heinrich

Please join in singing hymn #39 the second time through.

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**.

SERVING

TODAY – MARCH 31		NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 7
Judi Pavisich	Greeters	Linda Plain
Dale Hawk	Liturgist	Elaine Coffey
Judi Pavisich	Ushers	Volunteers needed
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Video/Sound	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Tom Nazelli, Bells, Choir	Special Music	Sandy O'Shea, Will Foley
Ralph Heimbürger, Carol Foley, Ken Mehalko		



A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank members of our Bell Choir, Ken Mehalko, Tom Nazelli, Ralph Heimbürger, Carol Foley, our Chancel Choir, with special guest Craig Hardy, and Tom Foley, Sharon Heinrich and Mike Elkins for our Easter music!

A 2024 SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL. Please note: the cost of flowers is \$18 for 1 vase and \$36 for 2 vases.



Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Birthday to Rob Wentz on April 1st!
With love, Grammy



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING-- LAST CHANCE

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Envelopes are in the pews.



SPECIAL THANKS to Dale Hawk and the breakfast crew for prepping, cooking, serving and cleaning up our Easter breakfast this morning!



FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: PENNY SUNDAY THANK YOU! Last Sunday, we collected \$244.11 for Friendship

APL in Elyria to assist in the care of the animals at the shelter. The next Penny Sunday will be April 28th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL— The children will have an Easter Egg Hunt during our Sunday School classes today. Kids of all ages are welcome to participate!



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CHORUS

SWCC will have a Spring Concert, "When I Hear Music," on **Sunday, April 28th** at 3 p.m. at the Berea United Methodist Church (170 Seminary Street in Berea). The Chorus is under the direction of Tom

Foley, accompanied by Carol Konet and Jarred Sorauf; some of the singers this season include Craig Hardy, Sharon Maresco, Ingrid Dickson, Irene Joyce, Pam & Bruce Keenen, and Sarah Keenen and a few other familiar faces and voices. Tickets will be available at the door or from our own choir members who sing with the chorus.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 2,169.00
Difference (-)\$1,448.01

Thank you very much for your support. PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 50



JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, FOR HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY!—Bring your favorite (clean) joke--Because God has the last laugh!



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Judy Carte, Jennifer Cockrell, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Kay Konicek, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Peter Smith, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldridge, Ron & Yvonne Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Allison Emerson (Colette's sister), Ed Fabian (the Bagley's Grill girls' friend), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog's friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), 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), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel, 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



FAMILY GAME GATHERING!

SATURDAY, APRIL 6th 2 p.m. - ?

Couldn't make it to Retreat? Join us for a sample of the fun and games we enjoy at

Templed Hills every year. Bring a snack to share, your own beverage, and your favorite board games, card games, or craft project. We'll have trivia, food, fellowship, and fun for all ages!



Mark your calendars now for the Diaconate's Annual Wing Night! Friday, May 3rd at Grindstone Tap House in Berea—start thinking of your basket ideas now!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP—Upcoming Events

On **Monday, April 1**, at 7pm at church, the Evening Group will trace and cut out fleece circles for Snuffleballs (treat holders) for dogs and cats at the Columbia Station animal shelter.

On **Wednesday, April 3**, at 1pm with Elaine Coffey, the Daytime Group will meet at church and then go to Kemper House for a sing-along with residents.

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of long-time church member **Ruth Milidonis**, who died on March 20, 2024 at the age of 96. Ruth was an active member, serving on many boards and committees until she was no longer able to do so. She had three daughters and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The graveside service will be held on April 5, 2024 at Crown Hill Cemetery in Twinsburg at Noon. Donations in memory of Ruth may be given to our church's Memorial Fund. (Checks to UCC).



To the Glory of God

Easter flowers are given:

In honor of all the lost souls in the world and those who are alone without families. Our hearts and God are with you all.
Serena Abruzzino & Familia

In Honor and Remembrance of Seal Team #3 member
Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Chris Chambers
Diana Creecy

In Honor and Remembrance of Seal Team #3 member
Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Cass Nathan Gage
Diana Creecy

Happy Easter around the World!
In Loving Memory of My Grandparents—
Peter and Edna Lansell, LeRoy and Rasha Ritchie
Gina Cathcart

In Memory of Gordon Cockrell,
Harry and Kathryn Johnson, and
Harold and Wava Cockrell
Kathryn Cockrell and Family

In Loving Memory of Michael E. & Deborah M. Dickson
Ingrid and Greg Dickson and Family

In Honor of Sarah Toth, Sally Herzog, & Brandi Garsteck
In Memory of Steve Herzog
Mary Fargo

In Honor of the Foley Family
In Loving Memory of William J. Foley
Carol Foley

In honor of Maureen Harrah
Roz Fotos

In Loving Memory of Bill Fraunfelder
Barb Fraunfelder

In Loving Memory of Betty and Don Bushea
and Anita and Bill McKenna
Barb Fraunfelder and Dennis Smith

In Loving Memory of Joyce and Beck Summers
Judy Fox

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,
Beth and Don Babics
The Gigliotti & Kubancik Families

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,
JoAnn & Louis Gigliotti
The Gigliotti Family

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,
Don and Lois Winch and Bill and Ruth Giuliano
In Loving Memory of Mark Giuliano
Bill and Beth Giuliano, Nicole and Brett Wade, and Luke Giuliano

In Loving Memory of Lois Anne Hampson
Herb Hampson

In Memory of our Parents, Verna Vardiman and John Hatterly, Sr.
John and Martha Hatterly

In Loving Memory of Charles and Thelma Hawk
In Loving Memory of Richard and Sally Mack

Dale and Cathy Hawk
For the Love of our Grandchildren:
Riley, Jack, Lacey, Ella, and Henry
Cathy and Dale Hawk

Happy Easter, Everyone—with Love!
Corinne Jackson

In Loving Memory of our Parents
Frank and Beatrice Jefferis and Paul and Dorothy Jackson
In Loving Memory of all our loved ones
Frank and Pat Jefferis

In Loving Memory of Erik O. Jannsohn,
James J. Joyce Sr. and Mary Joyce-Smith
Eric R. Jannsohn, Aimee J. Jannsohn,
and Brooke M. Akins
Irene A. Jannsohn, Ingrid and Greg Dickson,
Irene and Jim Joyce

In Memory of the Pastor's wife
In Memory of the Pastor's mother
In Honor of the Pastor's children & grandchildren
Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall

Easter Blessings to our Family and Friends!
Judi Pavisich

In Loving Memory of Family Members
No longer with us. Miss them immensely!
George and Joyce Reed

In Loving Memory of Our Grandparents,
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Clements
In Loving Memory of Our Parents,
Roger and Lorna Robinson
In Loving Memory of Our Aunt Rhea Clements
Becky and Bill Robinson

In Loving Memory of our parents and grandparents, Jean and Joe Rung and
Willie Mae and Jimmy Lee Cuyler
In Loving Memory of Ruby Jean and Jimmy Lee Cuyler, Jr.
Sam, Lora, Samuel, and Braxden

Happy Easter!
Bill and Deborah Schneider

For our loved ones, church family and friends—a very Happy Easter to all of
you—Peace and God Bless

Sandy O'Shea, Doug, Schyler, Devin and Leo Thorn

Easter Blessings to our Children and Grandchildren
John and Barbara Toth

Love to our Children and Grandchildren
Bev Wehr and Ken Mehalko

For our Grandchildren:
Isaac, Jonah, Luke, Leila, and Hannah
Mike and Mary Willis

In Loving Memory of Bob Zimmerman
Mary Ellen Zimmerman



CHURCH OFFICERS IN 2024

**Elected January 28, 2024 **Appointed by the Official Board*

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

Sunday School Co-Superintendents
Linda Elkins Mary Densmore

Board of Trustees

Bill Giuliano* Chris Goff Mike Elkins* Les Fox*
Herb Hampson* Cathy Hawk Sarah Hayes* Sandy Pogozelski*
Cheryl Sobek Dan Winrod Laura Winrod Rachel Zielinski*

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish* Jean Bittinger Elaine Coffey* Bobbi Cook Wayne Cook
Judy Davis Judy Fox* Carole Kapcar Susann Lerch* Cherie Teagno*
Barbara White Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino Mary Densmore Linda Elkins*
Colette Emerson* Sarah Hayes** Amanda Marshall* Lora Rung

Music Committee

Karen Bates* Ingrid Dickson*
Pam Keenen Ken Mehalko Mike Willis
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Sue Gigliotti* Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider Rob Toth* Mary Willis

Mission and Outreach Committee

Diana Creecy* Sarah Hayes* Lora Rung
Jennifer Sekorky* Peter Smith Bev Wehr* Mary Ellen Zimmerman

**FREE LUNCH FOR ALL--
Wednesdays**

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Thank you to all our faithful
volunteers!**

Please note: If the Strongsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather on a Wednesday, the Free Lunch will not be served on that day.



BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing on **April 15th**, Pastor Heidi and Linda Elkins are leading a monthly book study based on Rachel Held Evans's wonderful book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. The group will meet on the **third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.**, for one hour. It's not too late to join us!



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **April 9th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **April 16th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Sunday of the month, **April 23rd** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN --M.A.P.L.E.

- M- Making and moving**
- A- Accepting and Acknowledging**
- P- People**
- L- Learning and Loving**
- E- Encompassing**



Strongsville United Church of Christ 2024 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2024:

Name _____

Address _____

I plan to give \$_____ each

week month other _____ to be used for

Our Congregation's Ministries and Operations \$_____

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) \$_____

I would like to talk with someone from the Endowment Committee about including the church or church-related institution in my Will.

I would like to talk with someone about using the automatic deduction plan from my checking/savings account.

Signed _____ Date ____/____/____



IMPORTANT INFO—Do you know where the AED and First Aid Kit are located in the church? They are adjacent to the doorway in Pilgrim Hall, just to the right of the confirmation classroom.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN every Thursday 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.

MANY THANKS, AS ALWAYS, TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS!

DO MORE IN 2024! New sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for your name to be added as a greeter or 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.

