

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, March 8, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.

Sacrament of Baptism

Second Sunday in Lent



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 complete your Attendance Card and place it in the offering plate.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Be Still My Soul" Sibelius

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Were You There" Traditional Spiritual

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ who would call us out of our security and sameness, down an unknown path which leads to God's heart:

People: Help us to trust you as we place our hands in yours, and follow.

Leader: Jesus, you who would beckon us out of the shadows of our fears, inviting us to bring our doubts and questioning hearts along:

People: Help us to listen humbly for those answers we do not expect, or even understand.

Leader: Creator God, who creates out of nothingness, fill us with life where we see only emptiness. Show us where you keep your promises, even those we cannot understand:

People: Help us allow your grace to transform us into faithful disciples.

† HYMN 224 "We Have Come into His House"

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 2: 15-17

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, Lord" Foley

ANTHEM "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Dorsey

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Ember Marie Schneider

Child of William and Deborah Schneider

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY WORDS

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES FROM THE FAMILY

CONGREGATIONAL PROMISE

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

(We promise our love, support and care.)

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy with the gift of Jesus. Bless this child, Ember Marie; fill her with your strength and courage for life's journey; joy for all to see; freedom of love; hope for a new life. May she never be ashamed to confess her personal faith in you. Bless us, O God, that we, too, may be faithful to your Word, united in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

† HYMN "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

Child of blessing, child of promise, Baptized with the Spirit's sign
With this water God has sealed you, Unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression; Love's creation, loved indeed
Fresh from God refresh our spirits, Into joy and laughter lead

Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are from God you came
Back to God we humbly give you, Live as one who bears Christ's name

Child of God your loving Parent, Learn to know whose child you are
Grow to laugh and sing and worship. Trust and love God more than all.

CCLI Song # 1727790

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Amazing Grace" Traditional

† 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.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 3: 1-7

SERMON Water of Life

† HYMN 465 "Baptized in Water"

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE "Were You There" Traditional Spiritual

† POSTLUDE "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Parry, arr. Hustad

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 8

Betty Craig
Judi Pavisich
Volunteers needed
Elaine Coffey
Tom Foley
Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich

Liturgist
Greeters
Ushers
Coffee Hour
Director of Music
Associate Director of Music
Supplemental Organist
Guest Minister

NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 15

Mary Ellen Zimmerman
Sharon & Karl Kuhlenschmidt
Elaine Coffey
Volunteer needed
Tom Foley
Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich
Rev. Jim Longworth

The altar flowers are given—

In honor of my great niece and great nephew arriving this spring!

Carol Woodward

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

In celebration of Ember Marie Schneider's baptism

With love from your church family

Happy Birthday today to Bill Schneider!

The Trustees will meet Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received \$3,295.00
Difference (-\$178.27)

To date for the Stewardship Campaign, we have received 75 pledges totaling \$155,384.00. **If you have not yet returned your Estimate of Giving card, the church will gratefully accept it at any time. Thank you very much for your support.**



Our next **Penny Sunday** collection, **March 29**, will again go to the United Church of Christ Outdoor Ministries, which runs camps for all ages at Templd Hills in Bellville, Ohio. Our Annual Winter Family Retreat is held at Templd Hills.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO PLACE ALTAR FLOWERS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE SPECIAL. MANY DATES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2020. Cost is only \$15 per vase (\$30 for both). There is a chart in Pilgrim Hall along with envelopes and order forms.

YOU MAY ALSO LIGHT THE STEEPLE IN A LOVED ONE'S MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF A SPECIAL OCCASION. Envelopes and order forms are located on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. You may give any amount you choose, but the minimum is \$5.00.



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Jean Straub**, who passed away on February 26, 2020 in Florida. Jean became a member here in 1951. She was 95 years old. Memorial service will be held at our church on Saturday, April 25 at 1 p.m..



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato at Kemper House, Martha Liebert, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Joan Beckwith, Elaine Coffey, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Robert Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Dan Davis, Jim Dettmer, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Debbie Krause, Karl and Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Bill Ritchie, Alysha Rolland, Ginger Rothel, John and Maggie Struhar, Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Hunter Colao (grandson of Mark & Barb Camp), Lyla Joy Crowley (great grand-niece of Irene Jannsohn), Elaine Fuelling (friend of Judi Pavisich), Rebecca Gordon (niece of Irene Jannsohn), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Dana Hardy (wife of Craig), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Linda McNabb (sister-in-law of Ginger Rothel), Mae O'Shea (mom of Sandy O'Shea), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Terry Robson (friend of the Camps), Mike Rung (brother of Lora), Amanda Shannon (friend of Sarah & Jon Hayes), Sherry Sheeks (sister of Mark Camp), Brad Williams (friend of Judi Pavisich), Daphne Wilson (niece of Irene Jannsohn)

Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.

Please see Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others.



HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?



New Sign-up sheets for 2020 in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, bread/pastry sorter, or nursery helper! 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. **Also, please bring in any extra plastic grocery bags for the kitchen, if you can spare them!** Special thanks to **Janis Williamson** for pitching in with the bread sorting last Monday!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED YESTERDAY'S ROAST PORK, KIELBASA, AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER



MISSION OUTREACH



Mission Outreach is still collecting donations of tissues and cough drops for **Laura's Home**, an outreach for women and children through the City Mission. A box is located in Pilgrim Hall.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

OGHC provides support to health, education, refugees, agriculture and emergency relief initiatives. Coronavirus is a new concern that has now been added to their list. Your contribution to this annual special donation is a way to do your part, knowing that it goes directly to these needs without being diverted for administrative fees. Envelopes are in the pews.



MARCH 2020 DATES TO REMEMBER

- 8 Sun Worship 10am with Baptism**
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 10 Tues Trustee Meeting 7pm
- 11 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Lenten Study 1pm
Fit Club 7:15pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 12 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 15 Sun Worship 10am**
Coffee Hour
Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 17 Tues Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 18 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Lenten Study 1pm
Fit Club 7:15pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 19 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm
Choir Rehearsal at Columbia UMC 7:45pm
- 22 Sun Worship 10am**
Coffee Hour, Children's Choir Rehearsal
Easter Lily order deadline
- 24 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm
Interfaith Passover Seder 7pm
- 25 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Lenten Study 1pm
STOP THE BLEED TRAINING-SFD 7pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 26 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm
Men's Lunch 11:30am
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 29 Sun Worship 10am with Baptism--Penny Sunday**
Coffee Hour



SAVE A LIFE

Free Training for Strongsville United Church of Christ Wednesday, March 25 from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

at the Strongsville Fire Department on Prospect Road
More than 30,000 lives could be saved each year with effective bleeding control.

Please see Irene in the church office to sign up for the training or sign up on the back of your attendance card by writing "Stop the Bleed" on the back and placing it in the offering plate.



PUPPY CHOW FOR PEOPLE

The ladies will be selling the products of last meeting's labors today after church. Only \$2.50 will get you a bag of everyone's favorite tasty treat. Proceeds will go toward the programs of Women's Fellowship.

YOU ARE INVITED

Please join Pastor Heidi and Chuck, and interfaith leaders for the Annual Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple on **Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m.** If you are interested in attending this field trip, please write "Seder" on the back of your attendance card and place it in the offering plate.



EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

Orders are now being accepted. Please complete this form and place it in the Church Office or offering plate with your cash or check payment by the deadline of **Sunday, March 22, 2020**. The cost is **\$8.00**.

Wording for bulletin:

Given by: _____

Total number of plants: _____

I will take my plant(s). I will leave my plant(s) for someone who needs some cheer.

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville UCC**, and place your order (with payment) in the church office, or mail it to:
The United Church of Christ
13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136

Thank you for placing a lily on the altar on Easter Sunday morning.

For Church Records 2020 Easter Lily

Total number of plants: _____

Amount enclosed: \$_____

Offering envelope number: _____

Cash/Check No. _____

Name: _____

Order deadline is **Sunday, March 22, 2020.**

