



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136

(440) 238-6697

StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com

StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, November 22, 2020 – Online



OPENING MUSIC

"Le Cygne (The Swan)"

C. Saint-Saëns

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Bradbury

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made: a day for worship and wisdom; a day for gratitude and generosity. This is the time God has given us: a time for singing and silence; a time for prayer and praise; a time for speaking and listening. This is the life to which God calls us: a life of humility and service; a life of faith and trust. No matter what life offers, this is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad! **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN

"O Worship the King"

O worship the King all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love!
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, and sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath, the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

All hail to the King! In splendor enthroned;
Glad praises we bring, Thy wonders make known.
Returning victorious, great conqueror of sin,
King Jesus, all glorious, our vict'ry will win.

CCLI Song # 1486 Johann Michael Haydn | Robert Grant
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FIRST READING **Ezekiel 34:1-16** (New Revised Standard Version)

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them

from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

SHARING AND PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

MUSIC

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Traditional American Melody

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART

OFFERTORY

"If With All Your Hearts"

Mendelssohn

Together, we again commit our lives and our resources to finding new, innovative ways to continue to walk with Jesus, even during this season of pandemic. We appreciate your commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able. Thank you. To give online, you may go to:

<https://www.myeoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

or mail your offering to **Strongsville UCC 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136**. You may also save a stamp and drop your envelope in the church mailbox at any time.

SECOND READING **Matthew 25:31-46** (New Revised Standard Version)

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and

you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.'"

REFLECTION

"But how do we KNOW???"

HYMN

"I Need The Every Hour"

I need Thee every hour, Most gracious Lord.
No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee. Every hour I need Thee.
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour. Stay Thou near-by;
Temptations lose their pow'r When Thou art nigh.
I need Thee, O I need Thee. Every hour I need Thee.
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour, In joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide Or life is vain.
I need Thee, O I need Thee. Every hour I need Thee.
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour, Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son!
I need Thee, O I need Thee. Every hour I need Thee.
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee.

CCLI Song # 78811 Annie Sherwood Hawks | Robert Lowry
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BENEDICTION

Now may the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Know that wherever you are, God is with you.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Apré un Rêve (After a Dream)"

Fauré

SERVING

TODAY – NOVEMBER 22

Irene Joyce

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Doug Thorn

Chuck McDougall

Brad Holtman, Carol Foley

Liturgist

Director of Music

Associate Director of Music

Sound

Video

Special Musicians

NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 29

Irene Joyce

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Doug Thorn

Chuck McDougall

Sharon Heinrich

Additional song credits

"Le Cygne (The Swan)" 13th movement of The Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saëns. Brad Holtman, cello; Mike Elkins, keyboard
Music: Public Domain

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us CCLI Song # 24078 Dorothy Ann Thrupp | William Batchelder Bradbury © Words: Public Domain
Music: Public Domain

My Shepherd will Supply My Need CCLI Song # 4756046 Isaac Watts
Public Domain Music: Public Domain

If With All Your Hearts from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn. Carol Foley, piano
Music: Public Domain

Apré un Rêve (After a Dream) Gabriel Fauré. Brad Holtman, cello; Mike Elkins, keyboard Music: Public Domain

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The steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy 12A Anniversary to Ingrid & Greg Dickson

With love from their family

Happy Anniversary to Debbie & Larry Wentz on November 24th

Happy Birthday to Stephen Popovich on November 28th

With love, Mom/Grammy

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$ 3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received	\$ 2,441.00
Difference	(-\$ 1,032.27)



Thank you very much for your support of our mission and ministry.



MITTEN TREE—YES! IT'S HAPPENING! We will still collect hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for the needy this year. From now through December 6, 2020, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree. We will update you the progress of the tree as the collection grows. This is last year's tree and the need this year is even greater.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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

Church Family: Joan Beckwith, Adria Bond, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Mike Elkins, Linda Elliott, Don Gleichauf, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Tony Koussa, Lori Kovatich, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Brigitte Matchett, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Judi Pavisich, Joyce Reed, Dorothy and Bill Ritchie, Alysha Rolland, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Ron, Yvonne, & Ronnie Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Jackie & Phil Berkheimer (Judi Pavisich's friends), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, Ruby Cuyler (Sam's sister), Donna Fargo (Sally Herzog's mom), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), 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), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (the Camps' friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Sherry Sheeks (Mark Camp's sister), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Brad Williams (Judi Pavisich's friend), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.



Many thanks to Brad Holtman for recording the cello music for today's worship service and to Carol Foley (mom of Tom) for filling in as keyboard accompanist today!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Thanksgiving Basket Project. So far, 23 families—approximately 83 individuals were given food assistance thanks to our congregation's generosity and giving spirit.



PANERA BREAD REPORT

The bread and pastries we pick up every Monday and Friday are distributed to people in need in Cleveland and surrounding areas. We could not offer this ministry without someone willing to pick up the baked goods from Southpark Mall on Mondays at 11 a.m. or from the store on Route 82 on Mondays and Fridays at 9 a.m. If you can give a half hour of your time to help, please call Cathy Hawk at 440-781-7512 or the church office. (Thank you to the faithful bread transporters and sorters who continue to help!)



ADVENT GIFT FOR YOU



Friends, your Diaconate has been working hard to find ways to keep this Advent season meaningful and somehow connected, even as our sharply rising COVID numbers preclude any chance of actually gathering for Advent or Christmas Eve

We are putting together Advent gift boxes for each family that will contain Advent devotional materials, an Advent calendar, coloring pages for all ages, treats and more! We hope to have these boxes ready and available for you to pick up around Thanksgiving. Advent begins this year on **November 29.**

We will have them at the church and will let you know when, where and how you can pick them up. (If you are unable to drive to the church but would like to receive a box, contact Pastor Heidi. We will make it happen.) If you would like us to prepare a box for your family, please let the church office know (strongsvilleucc@gmail.com).

This has been a really rough year for us all. We would all like nothing better than to stand shoulder-to-shoulder and sing "Silent Night" with our candles flickering in the breeze. If, by the grace of God, the virus numbers drastically improve, things may change. For now, we continue finding God in all places, seeking the babe in the manger and looking to the future in hope.

