



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
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**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor**  
**Sunday, November 8, 2020 – Online**

**OPENING MUSIC** "Here I Am to Worship" Hughes

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** "Sanctuary" Thompson/Scruggs

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

O God, we continually praise your name, blessing you in our words and through our actions. By your grace, your son Jesus, after whom we are called to model our very lives, is more fully revealed to us, day by day. When the darkness surrounds us, we turn to see a candle, flickering in the dark; a stranger offering soothing balm for our souls; a child offering our exhausted souls a cool, refreshing drink. Help us, O Lord, even during these challenging days, to be the light in the darkness. Guide us, O Christ, to speak words of love to sagging spirits. Show us, O Spirit, where you would lead us, offering your peace and harmony throughout our communities and throughout this land, that all who see us might yearn to join your loving Family. For it is in you alone that our lives find their meaning. **Amen.**

## **HYMN** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Come ye thankful people come, Raise the song of harvest-home  
All is safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin  
God our Maker doth provide For our wants to be supplied  
Come to God's own temple come Raise the song of harvest home

All the world is God's own field Fruit unto His praise to yield  
Wheat and tares together sown Unto joy or sorrow grown  
First the blade and then the ear Then the full corn shall appear  
Lord of harvest grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be

For the Lord our God shall come And shall take His harvest home  
From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away  
Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast  
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore

Even so Lord quickly come To Thy final harvest home  
Gather Thou Thy people in Free from sorrow free from sin  
There forever purified In Thy presence to abide  
Come with all Thine angels come Raise the glorious harvest-home

CCLI Song # 5252477 Don Chapman | George Job Elvey | Henry Alford  
© Words: Public Domain Music: 2004 Hearts to God Music, Inc.

## **FIRST READING** **Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16** (Good News Translation)

Wisdom shines bright and never grows dim; those who love her and look for her can easily find her. She is quick to make herself known to anyone who desires her. Get up early in the morning to find her, and you will have no problem; you will find her sitting at your door. To fasten your attention on Wisdom is to gain perfect understanding. If you look for her, you will soon find peace of mind, because she will be looking for those who are worthy of her, and she will find you wherever you are. She is kind and will be with you in your every thought.

## **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** "Blessings" Story

## **TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

## **BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART**

**OFFERTORY** "Rock of Ages" Hastings  
We have survived another week. Sometimes, it feels as if the stuff just keeps piling on and piling on. Yet through it all, Jesus remains Lord of all, the only One whom we are called to serve in our Christian community. We are in ministry together, tasked to provide healing and comfort to those in need. 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 Amos 5:18-24 (New International Version)

"Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD!

Why do you long for the day of the LORD?

That day will be darkness, not light.

It will be as though a man fled from a lion,  
only to meet a bear; as though he entered his house  
and rested his hand on the wall, only to have a snake bite him.

Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—

pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

I hate, I despise your religious festivals;

your assemblies are a stench to me.

Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,  
I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs!

I will not listen to the music of your harps.

But let justice roll on like a river,  
righteousness like a never-failing stream!"

## REFLECTION

"The Day of the Lord"

## HYMN

"Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me, This I know, For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong; They are weak but He is strong.

Yes Jesus loves me, Yes Jesus loves me,

Yes Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, This I know As He loved so long ago

Taking children on His knee; Saying "Let them come to Me."

Yes Jesus loves me, Yes Jesus loves me,

Yes Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me He will stay Close beside me on my way.

He's prepared a home for me, And someday His face I'll see.

Yes Jesus loves me, Yes Jesus loves me,

Yes Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

CCLI Song # 4771887 Anna Bartlett Warner | Philip Percival | William Batchelder  
Bradbury © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

## 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

"Kindness"

Magdalene Women

## The steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy Birthday to Jim Joyce on November 12<sup>th</sup>!*

With love, from Erik & Bryana, Evan & Estera, and Elena

## SERVING

### TODAY – NOVEMBER 8

Sandy O'Shea

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Doug Thorn

Chuck McDougall

Sandy O'Shea

### NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 15

**Liturgist**

**Director of Music**

**Associate Director of Music**

**Sound**

**Video**

**Special Musicians**

Irene Joyce

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Doug Thorn

Chuck McDougall

Richard Densmore

## Additional song credits

**Here I Am to Worship** CCLI Song # 3266032 Tim Hughes © 2000

Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

**Sanctuary** CCLI Song # 24140 John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs © 1982

Full Armor Publishing Company (Admin. by Peermusic III, Ltd.)

Whole Armor Publishing Company (Admin. by Peermusic III, Ltd.)

**Blessings** CCLI Song # 5897818 Laura Story © 2011 Laura Stories (Admin.

by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) New Spring (Admin. by

Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

**Rock of Ages** CCLI Song # 40588 Augustus Montague Toplady | Thomas

Hastings © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

**Kindness** Original video by the Magdalene Women Trio 2020

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Our deepest sympathy to the  
family and friends of **Bill  
Bitterman**, who passed away  
on October 31, 2020. His wife  
of over 60 years, Ann, died on  
October 9, 2020.

Our heartfelt condolences to **Michelle Szasz** and the friends  
and family of **Debra Szasz**, who died on November 1, 2020.



## 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., 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), 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.**

## OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$ 3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received	\$ <u>2,721.00</u>
Difference	(-\$ <b>752.27</b> )



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

Many thanks to Sandy O'Shea for serving as liturgist and vocalist, and to the trio, Magdalene Women, featuring Lisa Citore, daughter of our own Bev Wehr, for their participation in today's worship.

## THANKSGIVING BASKETS— A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

Due to the global pandemic, we will not be collecting food items and putting together actual Thanksgiving packages for those in need. We still want to provide food assistance to those who may need it, so we will be distributing food gift cards to the families on our list. To make a cash donation for Thanksgiving aid to the needy, please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**. On the memo line, write **Thanksgiving**. All financial donations will be gratefully accepted, whatever the amount. If you know someone who is in need of assistance, please contact Pastor Heidi. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project.



**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.**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Halloween "Penny Saturday" for UNICEF! We collected \$250.13 to help children in need!



