



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, September 20, 2020 – Online

OPENING MUSIC “How Glorious Is Thy Name” Mozart, arr. Simone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Seek Ye First” Lafferty

CALL TO WORSHIP

In sacred times of wonder, and awe, on ordinary days of work and play: in every moment, God is with us. Whether we are stuck in the mud of doubt, or standing on a high mountain of faith: in every place, God is with us. In those who teach us and in those who trouble us; in those who surprise us, and in those who forgive us: in every person, God is with us.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN “This is My Father’s World”

This is my Father’s world and to my list’ning ears
All nature sings and round me rings The music of the spheres
This is my Father’s world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas. His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world; The birds their carols raise;
The morning light, The lily white declare their Maker’s praise
This is my Father’s world; He shines in all that’s fair.
In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass. He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father’s world; Oh let me ne’er forget.
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father’s world; The battle is not done.
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied And earth and Heav’n be one

CCLI Song # 7053359 Blair Masters | Franklin L. Sheppard | Ken Lewis | Maltbie D. Babcock | Scott Dente | Steve Green © 2014 Oh My Coco Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Sankyousuh Songs (Admin. by Moon & Musky Music) Addytunes Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Remaining portion is unaffiliated

FIRST READING **Matthew 20:1-8** (*The Message*)

God’s kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a

dollar a day, and went to work. Later, about nine o’clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went. He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o’clock. At five o’clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, ‘Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?’ They said, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He told them to go to work in his vineyard. When the day’s work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, ‘Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.’

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 “Shine, Jesus Shine” Kendrick

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

BEING COMMUNITY WHEN WE ARE APART

OFFERTORY “We Give Thee But Thine Own” Mason and Webb

The Kingdom of God is like family. We don’t always agree, but we always know we are loved. We know we can count on one another, no matter what. And together, we are worth so much more than we are alone. 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.

DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

SECOND READING

Matthew 20:9-16 (*The Message*)

Those hired at five o’clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, ‘These last workers put in only one

easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.'

He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

REFLECTION

God's Flourishing Economy

HYMN

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

He's got the whole world in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the wind and the rain in His hands;
He's got the wind and the rain in His hands;
He's got the wind and the rain in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the tiny little baby in His hands;
He's got the tiny little baby in His hands'
He's got the tiny little baby in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands;
He's got you and me, sister, in His hands;
He's got you and me, brother, in His hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands.

CCLI Song # 279163 Traditional Spiritual 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

"Hymn Medley"

F. J. Haydn

Thank you very much to **Sharon Heinrich** for recording music for our service and to **Gary Hackett** for recording his song!



Happy Birthday today to Claire Wills, Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit and Rachel Kovatich!

The steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy Wedding Day to Chelsey Cathcart & Jeremy Cox
on September 20th!*

*Happy Anniversary to Lisa & Brian Bird on September 23^d
In celebration of Bill & Dorothy Ritchie's 68th Wedding Anniversary
on September 26th!*

With love, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie

Happy Birthday to Abby Craig on September 21st!

With love, Grammy

SERVING

TODAY – SEPTEMBER 20

NEXT SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 27

Irene Joyce	Liturgist	Irene Joyce
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Doug Thorn	Sound	Doug Thorn
Chuck McDougall	Video	Chuck McDougall
Sharon Heinrich, Gary Hackett	Special Musicians	Satori Winds

BLESSING OF THE BEASTS:

St. Francis of Assisi Sunday--On **Sunday, October 4th**, we will have a drive-through "Blessing of the Beasts!" Please bring your pets to receive a blessing and a treat.



OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$ 3,473.27
Last Week's Offering Received	\$ 3,255.00
Difference	(-\$ 218.27)



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

Additional song credits

Seek Ye First CCLI Song # 1352 Karen Lafferty © 1972 CCCM Music (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

Shine, Jesus Shine CCLI Song # 30426 Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

We Give Thee But Thine Own CCLI Song # 3922369 William Walsham How Public Domain Mason and Webb's *Cantica Laudis*, 1850 Tune: Schumann

CCLI License # 11237335

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, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Riley Hawk, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Debbie Krause, 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, 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), Loretta Bacon (Irene Jannsohn's friend), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, Ruby Cuyler (Sam's sister), Elaine Franzen (Barbara Craig'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.



LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

The Executive Team met on Labor Day to develop a plan and protocols for returning to in-person worship. We are planning an in person contemplative service in Pilgrim Hall for **Sunday, October 11th**, which will follow strict guidelines and require a sign-up to attend. Space will be limited. However, we will continue with our online worship services for those who don't feel comfortable gathering. Thank you for your continuing support in these challenging times.



ROLLING RALLY DAY

Thank you to everyone who drove through to celebrate Rally Day with us last week—a different way! Special thanks to **Doug Thorn** for his work setting up and cleaning up!

Thanks to our band: **Ken Mehalko, George Kiteley, Tom Foley, Mike Elkins, and Brian King!**



Thank you also to our Rally Day greeters/cheerleaders: **Linda Elkins, Irene Joyce, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Lora Rung, and Mary Densmore!**

