

Service of Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2016

10:30 AM

Welcome to this service of Worship and Holy Communion.
The Lord's Table is open to all who come seeking the presence and peace of Christ. The cup contains unfermented juice, and we serve gluten-free bread.

*those who are able, please stand.

GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Soul Adorn Thyself* Brahms

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Whoever we are, God say,

All: you are welcome here!

One: Wherever we have been, God say,

All: you are welcome here!

One: Whatever you have done, God say,

All: you are welcome here!

One: In the midst of temptation, anxiety, or confusion,
God say,

All: you are welcome here!

One: Whether we feel we deserve it or not, God say,

All: you are welcome here!

One: Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN # 340** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

***OPENING PRAYER** (*let us pray together . . .*)

God of outstretched arms, you welcome us to this place. You invite us to experience forgiveness, community, welcome and an overwhelming sense of the love that you pour out upon all your children. May we feel that love in this time of worship, may we share it with one another, and may we leave this place committed to sharing your love in our world. Amen.

***MUSICAL RESPONSE**

① Come, come, who - ev - er you are, wan - der - er,

② wor - ship - er, lov - er of leav - ing. Ours is no car - a - van

③ of de - spair. Come, yet a - gain come.

④

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LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

The Psalter Psalm 32 Hymnal pg. 739

The Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 NT pg. 78

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children through second grade may go to the nursery.)

***HYMN** (see music page) *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor & Needy*

SERMON

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

MINUTE FOR MISSION *One Great Hour of Sharing*
Anne Wingard, deacon

OFFERING

Invitation

Choral Anthem (see music page) *How Beautiful*

***Doxology** (*page 48 in hymnal*) *tune: TALLIS' CANON*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God triune, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** (*let us pray together . . .*)
**Generous God, we have received from you more than
our share of blessings. We thank you. Now increase
and multiply our gifts that others may feast of your
goodness through our witness. Amen**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *with the Lord's 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.**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*(You are invited to come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it into
the cup, eat and return to your seat. The elements can be brought to
you if you wish. All are welcome!)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*Let us pray together.*)
**God, you are making us into one body of Christ,
nourished at your table with this bread and cup.
Thanks you for feeding our hunger and relieving our
thirst. Send us into the world to show mercy, and to be
part of your healing presence. Amen.**

GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE

***HYMN** (see music page) *There Is Now a New Creation*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fugue in D Minor* Mendelssohn

There is Now a New Creation

1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,
 2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:
 3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.
 4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;
 5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.

peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.
 now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.
 All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.
 Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.
 Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

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Come, Ye Sinners, Poor & Needy

All or Leader

1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed,
 2 Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty
 3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined
 4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
 glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
 by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
 fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

Refrain
All

full of pit - y, love, and power.
 ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and
 you will nev - er come at all.
 is to feel your need of him.

go to Je - sus; he will em - brace me in his arms. In the

arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

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HOW BEAUTIFUL

(Incorporating When I Survey the Wondrous Cross)

for congregation

Arranged by
BENJAMIN HARLAN

Words and Music by
TWILA PARIS (ASCAP)

Verse 1: How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.
(Choir only) How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

Verse 2: How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead.
(Choir only) How beautiful the tender eyes that chose to forgive and never despise.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

Verse 3: *See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
(Choir only) Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Verse 4: Choir and Congregation

How beau - ti - ful the feet that bring the sound of good
news and the love of the King. How beau - ti - ful the hands that
serve the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. How beau - ti -
ful, how beau - ti - ful, how
beau - ti - ful is the bod - y of Christ.

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross; music by Lowell Mason (1792-1872); words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

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NOTES AND NOTICES

Prayers gathered. During Lent, the youth group will have colored strips of paper in the pews for the congregation to write prayers on. On Maundy Thursday, during their sleepover, they will read the prayers and make it into a prayer chain to hang in the sanctuary on Easter morning.

Next Sunday, March 13, remember to set your clocks forward one hour to be able to join us for worship. During our service we will have the dedication of church officers and the opportunity to give input into the creation of a “New Way Forward.”

In addition to our gathering on Sunday mornings during Lent a brief worship service with Holy Communion will take place in the sanctuary each **Wednesday evening from 6:15 to 6:45.** All are invited to use this time as a time of focus during our Lenten journey.

Maundy Thursday, March 24, 6:00 PM



This year our Maundy Thursday service will be an inter-generation Passover Seder in Russell Fellowship Hall with communion, concluding with prayer in the sanctuary. The various aspects of this meal will communicate biblical stories and biblical truths using all five senses of the participants. We won't just hear the Word spoken, we will see, smell, taste and feel the Word. We won't just inform our children, we will involve our children. This is a dinner and a story, a story about God's redemptive plan of love being carried out in history. If you would like to bring a part of the meal please contact Bonnie Haaland.

Save the Date! On **Saturday, April 23,** HCC will host the workshop *A Sacred Conversation on Race* in conjunction with the Susquehanna Association Spring meeting.

NOTES AND NOTICES

Worship Service Participants

Ushers and Greeters

Shirley Osterhoudt,
Anne Wingard, Bev Berry,
Carol Costell Corbin

Worship Leaders

Bonnie Haaland
the Bertram Family

Acolyte

Caoimhe Dudgeon,
Sophia Wright

Flowers

Nursery Volunteers

Lori Schmidt, Abby Elkins

Coffee Hour

Gwen Hayne & Nita Baldwin

Attendance

February 28 - 60

Our giving 2/21/16:
Operations - \$5,208
Missions - \$1,849

Our giving 2/28/16:
Operations - \$1,558.50
Missions - \$627

Life in the Parish Week of March 6

TODAY – March 6

9:15 am – Deacon training,
10:30 am – Worship service
11:45 am – Christian Education
Ministry Committee meets

MONDAY – March 7

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – March 8

Office open 10:00 am until Noon
2:00 pm – Senior Fellowship
Club meets
6:30 pm – Deacons meeting
7:00 pm – Homer Brass
rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – March 9

5:30 pm – Worship & Music
Committee meets
6:15 pm – Lenten worship with
Communion
7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – March 10

12:00 pm – Bible Study Group

SATURDAY – March 12

8:30 am-4:00 pm – Stephen
Ministry meets

SUNDAY – March 13

9:15 am – Sunday School classes,
The Well
10:30 am – Worship service
3:00 pm – Spud Fest

The United Church of Christ is one of nine denominations that support **One Great Hour of Sharing** in cooperation with Church World Service and is one of the five special offerings in which we participate each year. It is a part of our global outreach. Money from this offering is used for work with international partners to provide clean water, food, education, health care, small business micro credit, emergency relief and advocacy/resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. It also supports domestic and international disaster preparedness and response. We receive the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering throughout the month of March. We hope that you will prayerfully consider a generous contribution. For more information see www.ucc.org/OGHS.

The Senior Fellowship Club meets **Tuesday, March 8, at 2:00 pm**. Our guest will be Mr. William Locke, who will present a cabaret type St. Patrick's Day musical program. .

Join us for **Spud Fest** on **Sunday, March 13 at 3:00 pm**. We'll put baked potatoes in the oven and then play board games and have our "spud-sculpturing" contest until the spuds are done. And yes, there **WILL** be Mr. Potato Heads available. We're providing butter and sour cream. You bring some other good toppings for the baked potatoes.

Join our two **Dream Team (brainstorming) gatherings**.
Saturday morning, **March 19, 10:00 – 11:30 am**. Session focus:

- We are seeking to be a community caring for each other.
(Belinda Burtner, convener)
- We are seeking to be a community growing in our faith.
(Gary Harrington, convener)

Sunday, **March 20, 12:00 – 1:30 pm**. Session focus:

- We are seeking to be a community participating in outreach.
(Bonnie Smith, convener)
- We are seeking to be a community maximizing our resources.
(Jim McKenna, convener)

Being guided by the findings of the Transition Team Report, we will develop specific and realistic goals for the accomplishment of the above four pursuits. All are welcome.