

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, July 16, 2023**

**Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**

*Pastor: Rev. Gerald Gammon (330) 306-8965*

*Director of Music: Karen Fumerola*

*Organist: Barbara Edwards*

*(\*Please stand, if you are able, at each asterisk.)*

**Welcome to our Sunday service. Please use the time during the Prelude to prepare yourself for worship in quiet reflection and prayer and allow others to do the same.**

Prelude

(Lighting of the Candles) (Organ/Piano)

Greeting

Pastor: "The peace of Christ be with you."

**People: "And also with you."**

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Gerald Gammon

Let us begin our worship today:

\*Call to Worship:

Sharon Longworth

Leader: Lord Jesus, You are the greatest expression of love the world has ever known.

**All: Happy are we to know God's love for us!**

Leader: Son of God, You took the sins of the world upon yourself so that we may be cleansed of all iniquity.

**All: We thank You for our salvation!**

Leader: You alone are the holy one, You alone are the Christ!

**All: We are forever thankful for all You have done for us!**

Leader: We look to the day of Your return with great anticipation.

**All: We pray for eternity with You in Your Father's kingdom, and we do so in Your most holy name, amen.**

\*Hymn #648 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

\*Unison Invocation:

**All: Lord, we Your people, stand fast in our love for You. We thank You for Your love, mercy, and grace. Be with us and make us ready for the coming of Your Son, Jesus, that we might ascend with Him to Your kingdom. Grant us pardon for our sins, and make room ready for us in Your kingdom. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.**

\*Gloria Patri #812 "Glory Be to the Father"

Special Music

Randy Davis

Joys and Concerns/Time of Silent Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (debt and debtors)

Prayer Response "Three-fold Amen"

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Randy Davis

Doxology #815 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Apostles Creed (May be found in the back cover of the hymnal)

Hymn #429 "They'll Know We Are Christians"

Scripture

**Psalm 65: 1-13** (pg. 527-528 O.T.) Sharon Longworth

**Romans 8: 1-11** (pg. 157-158 N.T.)

"Celtic Alleluia" *Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker*

Gospel

**Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23** (pg. 13-14 N.T.)

Pastor: "This is the Word of our Lord"

**All: "Thanks be to God."**

Sermon

"Love Takes Time"

Rev. Gerald Gammon

\*Hymn

#508 "Love Lifted Me"

\*Benediction

Postlude

"The Family of God"

(Organ/Piano)

*William Gaither*

Thank you, Randy, for your offering in song this Sunday morning. God bless you for sharing His message.

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NOTE: Scripture readings are from NRSV Bible

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7/16/2023

Please call the church office or fill out a prayer card if you would like to put someone on the prayer chain or prayer list.

**Next week:** Liturgist/Lay Reader: Judy Fabian

**Thought of the Week:** “Do I have time to love Jesus?”

**Donation:** We have received a donation from our former organist, Florence Simons, in the amount of \$15,185.42. She loved this church and she loved to play the organ.

**Custodian:** The church is currently seeking to fill the, soon to be vacant, custodian position. If you or someone you know, who may be qualified, is interested in doing this part time job, please contact the church office. The job description is posted in the lobby.

**Toy Drive:** From now until the end of November, we will be holding a toy drive for the Warren Family Mission. If you wish to participate, there will be a bin in the lobby where you can drop off any new, unwrapped toys at any time. In late November or early December, we will take these toys to the Mission for their yearly Christmas give away. Please keep in mind that while it’s fun to shop for the little ones, there are teenagers who need love and support at Christmas also. Thank you in advance for your kindness. If you have any questions please see Karen Schoch.

**Rummage Room:** We will be cleaning out and disposing of ALL things from this room, including the old hymnals, as of August 1. If you want anything from this room, take it now or it will no longer be there after August 1, 2023.

	7/2/23	7/9/23	7/16/23	7/23/23	7/30/23
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>			
Benevolent		\$5.00			
Building Fund					
Current Expenses	\$160.00	\$851.00			
Floating Five	\$53.67	\$130.00			
Flowers					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$213.67</b>	<b>\$986.00</b>			

**June Income**

\$18,668.42

**June Expenditures**

\$7,471.93

**June Net**

\$11,196.49

**PRAYER LIST**

**SHUT-INS**

American People	Norma Patchin	Donna Beavers
Donna Beavers	Mary Sabol	Ruth Gilbert
Steven Bupp	Ukraine People	Betty Howren
Becky Callahan	Angie Wiland	Betty Jamison
Betsy Chapley		Dick Leiby
Roger Davis		Marilyn Leiby
East Palestine People		Glenn Mark
Phil Fletcher		Norma Patchin
Ruth Gilbert		Sue Schoch
Diane Lemasters		Bob Spencer
Peggy Marshall		Barb Sponaugle
		Angie Wiland

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Thursday, July 20	Parish News deadline
Wednesday, August 2	Men’s Fellowship breakfast @9:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 6	Floating Five
Monday, August 7	Deacons/Elders @6:15 p.m./Consistory @7:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 26	Annual Church Picnic 12-4 p.m. at Howland Park