

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, July 30, 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 "It is Well With My Soul" *Philip Bliss/*  
(Lighting of the Candles) (Organ/Piano) *arr. Marianne Kim*

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: Sheryl Cozad

Leader: O Lord, Your kingdom is our goal!

**All: Help us to be worthy of entering the gates of Your kingdom.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, You are the key to the gates of Heaven.

**All: Through Your love, may You open the gates wide for us.**

Leader: Lord, we seek eternity with You. Help us not to falter in our quest.

**All: Guide us, O Lord. Keep us on the path home to You.**

Leader: Bless us with citizenship in Your holy realm.

**All: We pray in Jesus' name, amen.**

\*Hymn #416 "We're Marching to Zion"

\*Unison Invocation:

**All: Lord, we all have visions of Your kingdom and hopes to someday enter its gates. Please find favor with us and grant us entrance to Your home. Find us worthy of Your love, forgiveness, and mercy, so that we might join You, the triune God, in Heaven when our time on Earth is finished. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.**

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

Joys and Concerns/Time of Silent Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (debt and debtors)  
Prayer Response "O come to my heart" *Timothy Matthews*

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory "Shall We Gather at the River" (Organ/Piano) *Robert Lowry*  
Doxology #815 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Apostles Creed (May be found in the back cover of the hymnal)  
Hymn #774 "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"

Scripture **Genesis 29: 15-28** (pg. 26 O.T.) Sheryl Cozad  
**Romans 8: 26-39** (pg. 158 N.T.)  
"Celtic Alleluia" *Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker*

Gospel **Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52** (pg. 14-15 N.T.)  
Pastor: "This is the Word of our Lord"  
**All: "Thanks be to God."**

Sermon "Heaven, A Beautiful Place" Rev. Gerald Gammon

\*Hymn #772 "When We All Get to Heaven"

\*Benediction

Postlude "I'll Fly Away"  
(Organ/Piano) *Albert Brumley*

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NOTE: Scripture readings are from NRSV Bible

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7/30/2023

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: Sharon Longworth/Jeff Robinson

**Thought of the Week:** “Will I walk the streets of Heaven?”

**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.

**10 k Run & 1.5 Walk in Memory of Craig Cozad:** We will meet on Saturday, September 2, starting at 8:00 a.m. at the Sunside Trailhead of the Western Reserve Greenway bike trail on Rt. 305 in Champion. In the Parish News it said Subside, but it is Sunside.

**Annual Church Picnic:** Saturday, August 26, 2023, from noon to 4:00 p.m., at Howland Township Park pavilion. Join us for food, fun, and fellowship! Please plan on bringing a covered dish, your own place settings, chairs, and games for all ages to play. Everyone is welcome! A sign-up sheet for will be in the lobby.

	7/2/23	7/9/23	7/16/23	7/23/23	7/30/23
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	
Benevolent		\$5.00		\$ 25.00	
Building Fund				\$ 50.00	
Current Expenses	\$160.00	\$851.00	\$285.00	\$ 900.00	
Floating Five	\$53.67	\$130.00		\$ 275.00	
Flowers					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$213.67</b>	<b>\$986.00</b>	<b>\$285.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</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**

Wednesday, August 2	Men’s Fellowship breakfast @9:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 6	Summer Communion/Floating Five/Refreshments
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