

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Sunday School 9:30 a.m./Worship Service 10:45 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 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Lowell Mason  
(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:

Choral Introit #219 "Surely the Presence (of the Lord Is in This Place)"  
Lanny Wolfe

\*Call to Worship: Judy Fabian

Leader: Almighty Father, in Your Son, we find our way to You.

All: **Help us to believe, O Lord!**

Leader: Abba, may we find Your kingdom through our faith in Christ.

All: **Help us to believe, O Lord!**

Leader: Just as You delivered Lazarus from the grave through Christ, deliver us also.

All: **Help us to believe, O Lord!**

Leader: Count us among Thy faithful.

All: **We pray these things in Your most holy name, amen.**

\*Hymn #552 "I Am Thine, O Lord"

\*Unison Invocation:

All: **Jesus, You are the only light that leads us to Heaven. Shine on the path of righteousness and lead us home. When we falter in faith, strengthen our resolve. When we try to find another way, set our feet steadfast on the road to eternal life. When our time comes, as it does for all, take us home. We pray in Your most holy name, amen.**

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

Anthem "Hosanna, Blessed Is He" John Wilson

Joys and Concerns/Time of Silent Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (debt and debtors)  
Prayer Response #532 "Only Believe" Paul Rader

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory "I Believe" (Organ/Piano) Ervin Drake  
Doxology #815 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

\*Hymn #581 "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Scripture **Psalm 130** (pg. 573-574 O.T.) Judy Fabian  
Scripture **Romans 8: 6-11** (pg. 157-158 N.T.)  
"Celtic Alleluia" Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker

Gospel **John 11: 1-45** (pg. 104-105 N.T.)  
Pastor: "This is the Word of our Lord"  
All: **"Thanks be to God."**

Sermon "Believe" Rev. Gerald Gammon

\*Hymn #319 "Near the Cross"

\*Benediction  
Choral Response "Through It All" Andraé Crouch

Postlude "Stepping in the Light"  
(Organ/Piano) William Kirkpatrick

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NOTE: Scripture readings are from NRSV Bible

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

3/26/2023

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: Sheryl Cozad

The flowers have been placed on the altar to the honor and glory of God by Bob & Diane Lemasters, and in memory of Diane’s father, Merle Meeker.

**Thought of the Week:** “Am I faithful or just hopeful?”

**Parish News:** Please pick up your April Parish News in the lobby.

**Covid Precautions:** We will continue with the precautions of social distancing with the wearing of masks being optional. Please, **if you feel ill, do not come to church.**

**Spring Bake Sale:** The pick up date is Sunday, April 2, **from noon to 1:00 p.m.**

**Easter Breakfast:** Please join us for breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 9th, from 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby for egg-baked dishes, sweet rolls, muffins, etc. Beverages, cereal, and fruit will also be provided. ALL ARE INVITED!!!

**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.

**WANTED:** Readers for Maundy Thursday service to be held April 6, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. A sign up sheet is in the lobby for those interested in participating this year.

	3/5/23	3/12/23	3/19/23	3/26/23
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	
Benevolent		5.00		
Building Fund		\$ 50.00		
Current Expenses	\$388.00	\$ 915.00	\$685.00	
Floating Five	\$ 30.00	\$ 270.00	\$120.00	
Lily		\$ 10.00	\$ 29.25	
One Great Hour Sharing			\$110.00	
Flowers			\$ 50.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$418.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$994.25</b>	

<b>February Income</b>	<b>February Expenditures</b>	<b>February Net</b>
\$5,134.00	\$6,882.71	-\$1,748.70

**PRAYER LIST**

**SHUT-INS**

American People	Jim Lytle	Donna Beavers
Joanne Bode	Peggy Marshall	Ruth Gilbert
Becky Callahan	Mary Sabol	Betty Howren
Betsy Chapley	Ukraine People	Betty Jamison
Beverly DeSavigny	Tricia Unger (Mark)	Dick Leiby
Kaye Doran	Angie Wiland	Marilyn Leiby
East Palestine People		Glenn Mark
Phil Fletcher		Sue Schoch
Diana Graham		Bob Spencer
Ruth Gilbert		Barb Sponaugle
Betty Howren		

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Sunday, April 2	Palm Sunday/Baptism of Tara Fumerola
Monday, April 3	Elders/Deacons 6:15 p.m.; Consistory 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 5	Men’s Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 6	Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m. (Communion)
Sunday, April 9	Easter/Breakfast 9-10 a.m./Service at 10:45 a.m.