

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 27th, 2020

17th Sunday after Pentecost

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (silent congregational preparation for worship)

PRELUDE Thy Strong Word *Paul Manz*

CHORAL INTROIT *Sing to the Lord of Harvest* *JSB Monsell*

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us remember God's presence with us.

Let us give ear to all that God would teach us.

Our ancestors have told us about God's might.

They have celebrated God's wondrous deeds.

In the wilderness of Sinai, God provided water.

Through the sea, God provided safe passage.

Yet the Israelites questioned God's presence.

They needed assurance amid their doubts.

Our doubts can lead to honest searching.

God welcomes questions that seek new truth.

We want to see God's larger picture.

We are here to broaden the scope of our concern.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

We marvel, O God, at the thought that you care about us. We are amazed that the Creator of the universe would take on human flesh to draw near to us in ways we could begin to understand. As Jesus emptied himself to serve, modeling your love even in the face of death, we seek in these moments to lay aside self-interest that we might take direction from you. Help us to humble ourselves in order to obey you, to listen in order to hear, to care in order to serve. Lead us day and night through the dangers of the wilderness of our times. Lead us in these moments to honest and fervent worship. Amen.

***HYMN** Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him **#17**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

We fear to approach you with our confession, holy God, for you may require charges in us that are costly. You ask us to have the mind of Christ, a mind free of pretense and self-interest. You challenge us to lay aside our advantages to go where you send us. We fear loss of security if we are obedient. It is hard to see ourselves as exploiters when we pursue advantages for our families. It is difficult

to consider others when we feel like victims. We confess our need for you and our desire to find your purpose for us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God accepts us in the midst of our struggles. There is encouragement in Christ, there is consolation from love, there is compassion, sympathy, and the opportunity to share in the Spirit. God blesses us as we gather in community, calling us to find our common mind in Christ Jesus. May we not only agree to do the work God places before us as a ministry of love, but let us do all we can to share our faith with a faithfulness stripped of pretense and conceit. May our lives praise God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#805

CHORAL ANTHEM Ten Thousand Reasons *Myrin & Redman*

CHILDREN'S CHAT Pastor Jim

***HYMN** Have Thine Own Way, Lord verses 1,2,3 **#584**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (p.526); Philippians 2:1-13 (p.1069); Matthew 21:23-32 (p.899)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed **#14**

PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Evening Prayer *Flor Peeters*

***DOXOLOGY** **#809**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

We empty our pockets, trusting you, O God. We empty our selfish ambitions, believing that the common good is of greater concern. We give because you have richly blessed us. We present ourselves in your service because you have gifted us in so many ways. We reach out helping hands because we care about all those you have called us to love. May every tongue confessing Christ as Savior share in that mind which so powerfully demonstrates your love. Amen.

***HYMN** Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us **#522**

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go forth to serve in the spirit of Christ.

Dare to question false values that hold us captive.

We will seek the mind of Christ in all things.

We will put aside selfish ambition and conceit.

Look to the greatest interest of all people.

In humility, view each person as precious to God.

We count it a privilege to serve in Christ's name.

We are grateful for the saving power of love.

Remember always that God is at work in you.

With God's help, amazing good can be accomplished.

May we do what we have so boldly declared.

May we follow and serve in joyous obedience. Amen

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO BENEDICTION** Blest Be the Tie That Binds verse 1

POSTLUDE Praise!

#708
G. Martin

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

SINGERS Becca Nelson, Lynn Adams, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

Church office hours Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon

Rev. James Deters, Pastor upccpastor@gmail.com

Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant kate.uppc@gmail.com

Church office phone 715-682-3093



United Presbyterian/Congregational Church
214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

PASTOR: Reverend James Deters

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger

Website: <https://upcchurch.org>

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Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven and sitteth at
the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

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Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.

We will not hide them from their children;

we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.

12-16

In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels

in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

He divided the sea and let them pass through it,

and made the waters stand like a heap.

In the daytime he led them with a cloud,

and all night long with a fiery light.

He split rocks open in the wilderness,

and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

He made streams come out of the rock

and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and

trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

p.899

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not', but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him;

and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

BIRTHDAYS

9/28 Maleia Fuhrman
10/3 Kaylee Smart

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Chats We are looking for volunteers to do children's chats via video for our Sunday streaming services. If you would like to volunteer, need help with this, or need to learn how to do this please email ladams1055 [@gmail.com](mailto:ladams1055@gmail.com) or text or call Lynn at 715-209-6784.

Communications Committee In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to info@upcchurch.org.

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17 Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above. Ps. 148:1



1. Praise the Lord! O heavens, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels in the height;
 2. Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail;



sun and moon, bow down be - fore him; praise him, shin - ing stars of light.
 God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he hath spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
 Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his power pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.
 heaven and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name.



584 Have Thine Own Way, Lord

We are the clay, you are the potter . . . Is. 64:8

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the
 2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and
 3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wound-ed and
 4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my

Pot - ter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me aft - er thy
 try me, Mas - ter, to - day! Whit - er than snow, Lord, wash me just
 wea - ry, help me, I pray! Pow - er - all pow - er - sure - ly is
 be - ing ab - so - lute sway! Fill with thy Spir - it till all shall

will, while I am wait - ing yield - ed and still.
 now, as in thy pres - ence hum - bly I bow.
 thine! Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine!
 see Christ on - ly, al - ways, liv - ing in me!

WORDS: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902
 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1907

ADELAIDE
 5.4.5.4.D.

522 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

He goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him . . . Jn. 10:4

1. Sav - ior, like a Shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre -
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a -
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms

pare: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we
 stray: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we
 free: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to
 fill: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us

are; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 pray; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 thee; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee.
 still; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.