

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

July 28, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE UNITY CANDLE

PRELUDE O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Robert J. Hughes

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT Sanctuary (*sing twice*)

On insert

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the hour to bend our knee before God.

This is a time to offer our best to our Creator.

We gather before God, who sees all our deeds.

We open our hearts to One who knows all our thoughts.

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

We come together proclaiming, "God is with us!"

We come to be strengthened in our inner being.

We seek to pattern our actions after Christ Jesus.

God's presence evokes our joyous worship.

The Holy Spirit empowers our service.

To God be the highest glory in the church.

To God be endless adoration in the world. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

We are seeking after you, loving God, for you are our refuge. Your power is at work within and among us, even when we are unaware. We want to respond, not as fools, but as faithful friends of Jesus. We have come to discover the riches we did not know we possessed. We are here to offer our best for the good of all. Use us, we pray, to accomplish in and through this church, far more than we can ask or imagine. All glory be to you, amazing God, in this and every hour, forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN** Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

#514

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, you know our secret hearts. You are aware of our distortions, our jealousies, our lust. You observe our unfaithfulness, our treachery, our unwarranted fears. We are corrupted by greed, self-indulgence, and desire to be entertained. We do not take responsibility for our misconduct, our abuse of power, our lack of trust in you. We have little sense of vision to see beyond immediate circumstances or to

embrace new possibilities. We miss the signs of your grace and resist the empowerment of your Spirit. Mighty God, still the storms within us with your transforming peace and boundless forgiveness, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

All who truly repent can know the love of Christ that surpasses human knowledge. We are rescued, delivered, and restored to fullness of life in God, our Creator. We are being rooted and grounded in love that we, in turn, might show love to others. We are invited to join the saints in realizing ever fuller dimensions of life centered in faith and trust.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#805

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC Gentle Shepherd

The Gaithers

CHILDREN'S CHAT Bill Handy

***HYMN** Open My Eyes, That I May See

#557

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 3:14-21 (p. 1065) and Psalm 40 (p. 502)

MESSAGE Michael Van Uytven

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

On insert

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

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Open My Eyes

Paul Taylor

Please sign the friendship pad at the end of the pew and pass it on.

***DOXOLOGY**

#809

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

We join with Jesus in giving thanks for the little things we can see, that our eyes may be opened to the great possibilities we had not imagined. May our efforts be multiplied by your grace so there is more than enough for all—more comfort in sorrow, more relief from pain, more mercy to meet our treachery, more sense of presence amid our loneliness, more strength to overcome our weakness, more joy and enthusiasm to erase our apathy. Amen.

***HYMN** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

#556

***COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Go out to share what you have received.

God will multiply the gifts that you give away.

We will turn away from fears of scarcity.

We will celebrate and share our abundance.

God meets you amid the storms of life,

God goes with you through the terrors of the night.

We are embraced by God's steadfast love.

We will look up and not be afraid.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith.
May the Holy Spirit strengthen your inner being.

To God be glory in the church forever.

May Christ be honored in all we say and do. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO BENEDICTION** God Be With You

#840

POSTLUDE Allemanda

A. Corelli/Arr. K. Norris

*All those who are able, please stand.

A WORD ON THE OFFERING

For your convenience, the offering plates are placed at each entrance. You are welcome to place your offering in the plate as you enter or during a hymn. The ushers will bring your offering forward later in the service.

Large print bulletins, children's bulletins, and aids for the hearing impaired are available. All people are welcome in the sanctuary; however, a nursery is available for kindergarten and younger children needing a place to invest their excitement. There is also a children's room for families who need a quiet space for babies and young children. Please ask an usher for assistance.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

PIANIST Marian Penn

VMIX Ernie Bliss **STREAMING AUDIO** Ernie Bliss

SANCTUARY SOUND Rob Sanders

PRODUCTION Ernie Bliss

TECH SUPPORT Ernie Bliss

LAY READER Bill Handy

USHERS Tom and Connie Cogger

COFFEE HOSTS Kay and Dale Despard

BAKERS Pat Sheils and Kay Despard

Church office hours Monday--Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Rev. James Deters, Pastor upccpastor@gmail.com

Susan Sanders, Administrative Assistant upcc.office214@gmail.com

Church office phone 715-682-3093

Website: <https://upcchurch.org>

Like us on Facebook at United Presbyterian Congregational Church

Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection



United Presbyterian/Congregational Church

214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

PASTOR: Reverend James Deters

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger



Calendar of Events

ACTIVITIES

- 7/31 Noon: AA meeting in lower lounge
- 8/2 Susan - Out of the office
- 8/4 9:30 am Worship service

BIRTHDAYS

- 29 Anne Whiting
- 30 Caraline Evenson
- 1 Sharon Hammond
- 4 Julie Whiting, Marshall Swanson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to all of you who faithfully contribute to our Noisy Coin collection for The BRICK. Even in the middle of summer vacation season, you gave \$211 to The BRICK along with several "picnic" style food items. All of these noisy coins and food items help our neighbors in need right here in our community. THANK YOU!

"Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out".
Frank A. Clark

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 Wednesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to info@upcchurch.org.



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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The reconciling work of Jesus
was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.
His cross and resurrection
become personal crisis and present hope for all
when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.
In this experience,
the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to people,
moves people to respond in faith,
repentance,
and obedience,
and initiates the new life in Christ.
The new life takes shape in a community
in which we know that God loves and accepts us
in spite of what we are.
We therefore accept ourselves and love others,
knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand,
except God's grace.

Confession of 1967, 9.21, 22

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Lord, Prepare Me 701

Sanctuary

Musical score for 'Lord, Prepare Me' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A7, D, A, G, Em7, D, A, A7, D, A, G, A7, D.

The lines given here convey the central message of the longer song for which they form the refrain. The principal Scripture reference is 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Paul's reminder to the Christians at Corinth that "[they] are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in [them]."

TEXT: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982
 MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982; arr. Nylea L. Butler-Moore
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 Music Arr. © 2013 Full Armor Music Publishing Co. (admin. in the U.S.A. Peermusic III, Ltd./Hal Leonard Corp.)

SANCTUARY
 Irregular

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SANCTUARY
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Ephesians 3:14-21 (p. 1065)

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, **15** from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. **16** I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit **17** and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. **18** I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth **19** and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. **20** Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Psalms 40 (p. 502)

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

1 I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
2 He drew me up from the desolate pit,[a]
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
3 He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.
4 Happy are those who make
the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
5 You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.
6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.[b]
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.

7 Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.[c]
8 I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."
9 I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O Lord.
10 I have not hidden your saving help within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congregation.
11 Do not, O Lord, withhold
your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.
12 For evils have encompassed me
without number;
my iniquities have overtaken me
until I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.
13 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me;
O Lord, make haste to help me.
14 Let all those be put to shame and confusion
who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt.
15 Let those be appalled because of their shame
who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"
16 But may all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the Lord!"
17 As for me, I am poor and needy,
but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God.