

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 26th, 2020

Third Sunday after Easter

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (silent congregational preparation for worship)

PRELUDE Our Redeemer and Our Lord A. *Schreiner*

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has called us into e-community for this time of worship.

God is listening to our thoughts and to our speaking.

God inclines an ear to us and hears us.

God knows us better than we know ourselves.

Let us open our hearts to the One who gives us life.

Let us set our faith and hope in God.

With one voice, we renew our vows.

Together we offer our thanksgiving sacrifice.

God's promises to us are ancient and ever new.

God is with us here and on all the roads we travel.

Together we lift our voices in songs of praise.

Together we recognize we are precious in God's sight.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

Wondrous God, present with us when we do not know it, valuing us when we do not care for ourselves, planting in us the seed of your word even when the soil of our hearts is hard and unyielding, open our eyes to recognize you here. May we sense your presence next to us. May we hear your voice. May we know your touch. May we see you in one another and in the beauty all around us. May your reality emerge deep inside each life, transforming our thoughts and deeds and our relationship with one another. Amen.

***HYMN** Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above **#50**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, we confess that even with our slower pace, we still can rush through our days without recognizing your presence with us. We follow our diversions without reference to your will for us. We strive for financial security and validation, while you call for obedience to truth and genuine mutual love. Purify our souls, we pray, and redirect our priorities. May we be born anew through your living and enduring word. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The promises of forgiveness is for us and for our children, for everyone whom God calls. The gift of the Holy Spirit is ours to receive. Lift up the cup of salvation every day, and call on God's name. Give thanks for the words and deeds of Jesus, who revealed God's love for us and enlists us as disciples and apostles.

***GLORIA PATRI** **#805**

CHORAL ANTHEM Let Us Serve Him *Besig and Price*

CHILDREN'S CHAT Janna Levings

***HYMN** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian **#563**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 116:1-4 & 12-19 (p.553); 1 Peter 1:17-23 (p. 1104) & Luke 24:13-35 (p.964)

MESSAGE Faith for our time: lab #5 Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Nicene Creed **#15**

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

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Evening Prayer *Humperdinck*

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

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

Thank you, God for the privilege of joining with Christ in bringing your love to all people. May the ministries we support serve to unite people across all differences, building up the body of Christ and reaching out to the world with healing. Bless these gifts and all who give in any way to make your love known. Amen.

***HYMN** Leaning on the Everlasting Arms **#609**

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

We have been called away from anxiety, fear, and boredom..

We have been ransomed from futile ways.

Life's meaning is not to be found in diversion, silver, or gold.

We have found new life in trusting God.

We have been born anew through God's enduring word.

We embrace a living faith and hope.

We purify our souls through obedience to truth.

We love one another deeply from the heart.

Christ is alive in our midst.

Christ goes with us along all life's roads.

We go out to serve in Christ's name.

May the love of Christ find expression in us. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE Petit Pastorale

#840

H. Carey

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

SINGERS Becca Nelson, Julie Radke, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

ACCOMPANIST Myra Bliss

TECH CREW Ernie Bliss, Mary Zinniker, Lynn Adams

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

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Church office phone 715-682-3093

Large print bulletins, children's bulletins, and aids for the hearing impaired are available, as are a nursery and children's room for families who need a quiet space for babies and young children. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Website: <http://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 SCHOOL 9:00 am

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Psalm 116:1-4 & 12-19

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"

12-19:

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.

Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

BIRTHDAYS

4-28	Lorie Guski
4-29	Tim Fridsma & Lori Mahnke
4-30	Elaine Kirke
5-2	Joanne Weister

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.