

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 19th, 2021

17th Sunday after Pentecost

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

PRELUDE Praise to the Lord, The Almighty *arr. Larry Shackley*

INTROIT Sing to the Lord of Harvest *Monsell*

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

Happy are those who find delight in God's law.

God is always nearer than our next breath.

We gather to become more aware of that presence.

Knowledge of God is a delight to the righteous.

They seek to grow in wisdom and understanding.

There is always more to discover than we know.

God is our teacher and helper and judge.

Put your trust in God as you prepare to serve.

Learn to be peaceable, gentle, and merciful.

We seek to do good and not harm all our days.

We would open our hands to the poor and needy.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

You watch over us, O God, and show us the way to prosper in life, not so much in things as in relationships that contribute to our wholeness and well-being. Thank you for meeting us here and helping us to deal with our selfish ambition, disorder, and conflicts. We submit ourselves to you for instruction. Help us to be honest with ourselves and you, voicing our doubts as well as our faith, our hypocrisy along with all that is deeply genuine. Create in us a space for quiet listening and thoughtful medication. Amen.

*HYMN Blest Be the Tie That Binds #708

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Forgive us, God, for our complacent attitudes and self-serving comforts. We do not relish the thought of sacrificing for some larger good we cannot see, for people

with whom we find it difficult to identify. We compare ourselves favorably against many who seem less attuned to your purposes than we, forgetting that our true standing is Christ Jesus. We ask you to take from us all the bitterness, envy, and anger that stands in the way of your reign. May all we ask of you be for the common good of all your children. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God, who tries our hearts and minds, judges righteously, hears our prayers and forgives and upholds us. In our daily meditation, God meets us, and in our encounters with one another, God's presence is revealed in unexpected ways to those who are alert and receptive. Nourished by the streams of living water which our God provides, we will prosper in the work God gives us to do.

*GLORIA PATRI

#805

SPECIAL MUSIC I Will Call Upon the Lord

Michael O'Shields

CHILDREN'S CHAT Rev. James Deters

*HYMN I've Got Peace Like a River

On insert

SCRIPTURE: James 3:13-4-4:3,7-8a (p.1102) & Mark 9:30-37 (p.920)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

On insert

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

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness

arr. Sandra Gay

*DOXOLOGY

#809

*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

We who have spent much on our own pleasure are pleased to share that others may obtain the necessities of body and spirit. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to support the ministry and mission of our congregation. May there be a harvest of righteousness among us, shown in the peaceful handling of disputes, in mutual love and support, and in courageous outreach to people near and far who need the help we can give. Bless each gift and giver. Amen.

*HYMN O Jesus, I have Promised

#648

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go forth, trusting God and one another.

Live each day seeking to be trustworthy.

We seek to do well the tasks set before us.

We commit ourselves to quiet times for meditation.

The rhythms of prayer and service enrich our lives.

A gentle spirit and good fruit are the result.

We seek the wisdom God imparts.

We aim to serve without partiality or hypocrisy.

God is watching over you and caring for you.

In God's hands, your hearts are being purified.

We put our trust in the God who loves us.

Our strength and dignity find renewal in Christ.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Diana Mann

Choir Director Diana Mann

VMIX Robert Sanders **SOUND** Joseph Deters

PRODUCTION Hannah Deters

TECH SUPPORT Ernie Bliss

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

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: <https://upcchurch.org>

Like us on Facebook at United Presbyterian Congregational Church

Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection

#840

arr. David Lasky



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

Psalm 1

p. 479

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

p. 1102

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it;

so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

7-8a

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Mark 9:30-37

p. 920

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

AFFIRMATION

Christ suffered for you,
leaving you an example

so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse;
when he suffered, he did not threaten;
but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross
so that, free from sins,

we might live for righteousness;
by his wounds you have been healed.

For you were going astray like sheep,
but now you have returned
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Pet. 2:21-25

As you meditate on today's Offertory, this is the text:

Soul, adorn thyself with gladness; leave behind all gloom and sadness.
Come into the daylight's splendor; there with joy thy praises render.
Unto God whose grace unbounded, hath this wondrous Supper founded.
High o'er all the heavens God reigneth; yet to dwell with thee God deigneth.

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ACTIVITIES

TODAY Youth Ministry event at Good Shepherd Lutheran
4-5:30 Middle school youth (6-8th grade)
5:30-6 pm Middle school and high school youth will have supper together
6-7:30 pm High school youth will meet (9-12th grade)

9/20 7:00 am Men's Bible study group meet
1:00 pm Mary Martha & Deborah Circle meet in Youth Room
5:15 pm Yoga in education wing

BIRTHDAYS

26 Grace Swanson
28 Maleia Fuhrman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Association The first monthly meeting of the Women's Association Bible Study, "What My Grandmothers Taught Me", will be held on Monday, Sept 20 at 1:00 pm in the Youth Room. New members welcome. Please use the 3rd St entrance. Please bring a picture of your grandmother or another memento, and be prepared to share a special memory of her.

Children's Chats Our need for Children's Chat volunteers continues during this school year. To accommodate pandemic concerns, you may invite children to the front, or request that they remain in their pews. Large props are helpful for our online audience but not necessary. Pastor Jim welcomes volunteers on short notice; or to reserve a Sunday, call the church office or email kate.uppc@gmail.com. Thank you to all the volunteers who keep this ministry going!

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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I've Got Peace Like a River

368

African-American spiritual

7.7.11

African-American spiritual

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1
riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in - a my
foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain in - a my
o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in - a my

2
soul. I've got riv - er in - a my soul.
soul. I've got foun-tain in - a my soul.
soul. I've got o - cean in - a my soul.