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Live Stream

Mother's Day

May 10, 2020

10:30 am

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559

www.uccmedina.org



Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher

LIVE STREAMING OF THE SANCTUARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT UCCMEDINA.ORG

“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS”

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE “Petite Prelude, Op. 43, No. 1” – Glière; arr. David Sarandon Cathy Fafrak, pianist

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Take a moment to think about the people who sit beside, behind, and in front of you in church. Connect with them by phone, email, or text to pass the peace of Christ and offer support and encouragement. Write “Peace” on our Facebook live or turn to someone in your house and offer peace.

VISIONING PRAYER

by Sharon Alberson

God, help us to be welcoming. God, help us to be loving.
God, help us to see that serving you can lead us to
A place full of grace with no limits where we can be free...
To open our hands, welcoming. To open our hearts, loving.
To be more than church on Sunday, to live in the light from above;
To celebrate in service and love.

CALL TO WORSHIP (by Rev. Maia Chrystine Nartoomid)

Leader: Mother of the Light, may you reign as a Goddess of Wisdom within my soul.

People: **Be present for me now and in every moment of eternity.**

Leader: Take my hand and lead me to the Birthing Light of God within me,

People: **for there shall I find my purpose in life revealed.**

Leader: Mother, greet me at the door,

People: **embrace me in your loving countenance and smile gently upon me.**

Leader: As your lost child, give me assurance that your grace is with me always.

People: **All streams spring from the font of your heart.**

Leader: Your eyes shine as the blue sea into my heart,

People: **and you forever find me worthy of your love.**

Leader: In the spirit of this revelation, I offer to reveal myself fully to you,

People: **who is my Divine Feminine being, at all times and in all ways. Amen.**



1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good, cel - e - brate, in
 2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day, plan - ning all the
 3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - ery child, feel - ing all the
 4 Old, ach - ing God, grey with end - less care, calm - ly pierc - ing



par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
 won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e - qua - tion, gen - i - us at play:
 strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
 e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:



Hail and Ho - san - na! bring man - y names! great, liv - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!

5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger,
 on the move,
 say - ing no to false - hood and
 un - kind - ness,
 cry - ing out for jus - tice,
 giv - ing all you have:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 young, grow - ing God!

6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,
 clos - er yet than breath - ing,
 ev - er - last - ing home:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 great, liv - ing God!

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
 Carlton Young, 1989

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CONFESSION (Galatians 3:28)

**We say that we are one in Christ Jesus and that there is
neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither slave nor free,
nor is there male and female.
Yet we have only focused on male images for you, Oh God.
We demand you only be a sky man with a beard,
ignoring all other images you give us in our Sacred Scriptures,
and all the images you give us around us.
Help us see you in the feminine.
In your creation, your first testament.
Help us see you in the most unlikely places.
The leper.
The poor.
The outcast.
Even ourselves.
You work miracles and we believe in you. Amen.**

ANTHEM

"For the Beauty of the Earth" –John Rutter

Virtual Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15: 8-10

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacie Yates

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will
be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our
debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER (written by Howard Carter)

God in whom we move and have our being

You know us, love us and sustain us
We praise you for your goodness
And thank you for your care

You created the world and all that is in it
You knitted us together in our mother's womb
You made us male and female in your image
You made each one of unique and individual

Unique for relationship with you
Unique in the talents and gifts we have to serve you

We had gone astray, lost in our sin
Like a woman who had lost her gold coin
You came looking for us
You sent your son Jesus to be one of us
He spoke of your love
Healed the sick, cared for the poor
Welcomed the outcast
He longed to gather us under his wings like a mother hen her chicks.
He gave up his life so that we might be found in you

Gracious God
Today we especially thank you for mother figures
For their care and nurture
For love and support
Wisdom and sacrificial giving
For tears and smiles,
Encouragement and correction
Thank you that in such love we see a reflection of your own love for us.

Fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit
That we may know your great love and truth
Anoint us with your spirit's power that we may witness to you
and serve you and love your people and world
To the glory of all the ways we experience you, oh God... Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

Traditional/Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it
was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men. A-men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer response, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

SERMON

"The Divine Feminine"

Rev. Luke Lindon

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation

Having received freely from God, we now respond with our own offering. Thank you for continuing to financially support the work and mission of the church! You can give in many ways of your time, talent and treasure. You can send your offering via mail or online at www.uccmedina.org/give. You can also give of your time and talent of writing and calling one another to strengthen the ties that bind. Let us now reflect in this time of silence of what we will offer to God and our neighbor.

Doxology (Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter: One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, you gather us. And if one is lost, you will sweep the house until you find us. And you shall gather your friends, and rejoice. This is good news to everyone born of a woman. Thanks be to you, Our God. Amen.

BENEDICTION (A Service for Mothering Sunday from the **Church of England** website.)

Leader: Praise God who loves us.

People: Praise God who cares.

Leader: May God, who gave birth to all creation,

People: bless us.

Leader: May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother,

People: bless us

Leader: May God, who broods as a mother over her children,

People: bless us

Leader: May almighty God bless us,

People: Mother, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Mother's Day Video

MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

+++++

Participating in the service

Rev. Luke Lindon, Sr. Pastor

Rev. Pam Branscome

Rev. Harry Buch

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education

Jim Kiser, Director of Music

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

Matt Yates, Sound and Video Operator

Mother's Day

SCAVENGER HUNT

- Dinosaur
- Easter Egg
- Church Ninja
- Sheep
- Butterfly
- Coin
- Heart
- Bee
- Fish
- Flat Jesus
- Earth
- Tree



MEDINA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. CONGREGATIONAL

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

MAY 10, 2020

**“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS.
MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY!”**

May 10, 2020 thru May 17, 2020

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun **HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY**
You may give online or mail in your offering
10:30 am WORSHIP LIVESTREAM
GO TO: www.uccmedina.org/live

Mon

Tues Tuesdays & Thursdays
11:00 am Children’s Bible Study
Join us via facebook livestream @
<https://www.facebook.com/uccmedina/live>

2:00 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays
@ 2:00 Bible Study
Join us via facebook livestream @
<https://www.facebook.com/uccmedina/live>

Wed

Thurs Tuesdays & Thursdays
11:00 am Children’s Bible Study
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2:00 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays
@ 2:00 Bible Study
Join us via facebook livestream @
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Fri

Sat

Sun
You may give online or mail in your offering
10:30 am WORSHIP LIVESTREAM
GO TO: www.uccmedina.org/live

Worship Highlights: 10:30 Live Stream Only
Luke 15:8-10

Altar Flowers: The altar flowers are given this week by Alan Parkhurst in honor of his parents.

WATCH FOR OUR MOTHER’S DAY SLIDE SHOW!

Happy Mother’s Day...In our Mother’s Day live stream Sunday, May 10th we will be running a slideshow of photos of church members with their moms (or aunts, grandmas, or another "mother figure" in your life as we honor the Divine Feminine). Please join us for worship and a Mother’s Day Tribute.

HOORAY FOR ALL OUR GRADUATES!

High school and college graduations have gone virtual this spring. Please consider sending a note of congratulations to our church grads to brighten their spirits as they experience this milestone from home! You can email or call the church office for the names and addresses. office@uccmedina.org / 330-725-4559

GIFT CARD ORDERS

Plan ahead now for Special Occasions and place your Gift Card order soon. Please visit www.glscrip.com and click on the Retailer List at the bottom of the page to view or print your own list. Please call the church office between 9 & 3pm to place your order or bring it to the office with your payment.

**The next order will be due a day later on
Tuesday, May 19th at 10:00 am.**

PRAYER CONCERNS



SUPPORT

Betty	Strength and healing
Lois Boston	Strength and healing
Mary Alice Bradshaw	Strength and healing
Natoma Canfield	Strength and healing
Lane Clark	Strength and healing
Blair DeSio	Strength and healing for heart health
Dorothy Devine	Strength and healing
Tom Evans	Strength and healing
Gwen Fazekas	Strength and healing
Fazekas Family	Strength, healing and comfort
Ella Fink	Prayers for 3 yr. old- inoperable brain tumor
Ron Foster	Strength and healing
Brian Howard	Strength and healing
Roger Ingraham	Strength and healing
Sarah Jane Ingraham	Strength and healing
Virginia Jeandrevin	Strength and healing from broken leg
Sam Langol	Strength and healing
Kathleen Murray	Strength and healing
Peyton Nolan	Strength and healing
Alberta Taylor	Strength and comfort
Jen Welday	Strength and healing
Terry Yancer	Strength and healing

MILITARY SUPPORT

SFC Roberta Craigo	Army Reserve, Deploying in June (Pastor Luke's half sister)
PFC Joe DeSario	Army/National Guard, OH (Paul & Kelly DeSario's son)
LT Patrick Donnelly	Navy, Virginia (Joe & Lori Donnelly)
PFC Travis Dunn	Marines, San Diego, CA (Ruth Dunn's grandson)
SSG Edwin Kay	Army, Columbus (Suzi Kay's nephew)
CPL Vincent Lupica	Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA (Jim & Karen Repas)
CPL Greg Swayer	Army, Philadelphia (Stacie Yates' cousin)
SGT Tyler Walschon	Army/National Guard, OH (John & Joan Walschon's son)
Kyle Weekley	Army (Daubner Family)
SFN Evan Phillips	Navy, S. Carolina (Xanthe & Jim Phillips' son)

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT:

	APRIL	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD as a % of Budget
Income:	\$32,797	\$122,668	\$358,252	34.2%
Expense:	\$26,768	\$118,212	\$372,383	31.7%
Net Income (Loss)	\$6,029	\$4,456	(\$14,131)	

- One Great Hour of Sharing donations are \$400.00, still accepting donations
- Easter Offering donations are \$205.00, still accepting donations
- Thank you very much for all of the mail-in and on-line donations
- Automatic Withdrawal Options are available for your weekly, monthly or even quarterly contributions; contact Kelly for form to complete.

*** NEW ALL CHURCH EMAILS ***

WE WOULD LIKE TO BE SURE WE CAN REACH YOU ALL WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

We sent an all church email out on Tuesday, April 14th. If you did not receive the email, please check your spam folder or junk mail folder. If it is in there, please make sure that you have your email set to accept emails from uccmedina.org domain. You must add us to your "Allow Sender" List. Also, if you did not get the email and would like to, please send your email to the church office. If you need to change an email, please notify the church office. We hope to implement this in the very near future for church updates.

MAY / JUNE "UPPER ROOM" IS IN

Just to let you know, we now have the new Upper Room booklets for May & June. Since we are not worshipping in the building right now, no one has been here to get one. If you would like your copy, you can either stop in and grab one during office hours, or if you are "quarantined" or are not allowed visitors and you would like your copy just call the church office and we can mail you your copy. As always, there is a limited amount of copies, so they will be first come (call), first served!



The Strengthen the Church Special Offering supports the expansion and growth of UCC local congregations.

It will be received on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020.

As God calls our congregation to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new initiatives in existing churches, and develop the spiritual life of our youth and young adults in our quest for a just world for all. Because of your gift, we all grow stronger. Thank you.

IMPORTANT CHURCH INFORMATION AND UPDATES!

Our Children's and Adult's Bible Studies will continue on line. Join us on Facebook for live streaming on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11:00 am for the Children's study & 2:00 pm for the Adult study at <https://www.facebook.com/uccmedina/live> .

Join Pastor Luke for a ZOOM book study session! The Book: Unbinding Christianity Choosing the values of Jesus over the beliefs of the church.

It's by his friend and mentor, the Rev. Jan G. Linn.

Why?: Let's discuss a more open-handed way of approaching our faith. What would church look like if we focused not on what you believe, but on how we live like Christ?

When? Wednesday's at 2 p.m. **starting on May 27th** and going chapter by chapter.

Interested? The send an email to Luke letting him know you want the Zoom link!
luke@uccmedina.org (Facebook messages, tweets, and texts also will be accepted)
Can't make the time? We'll have a recorded archive at your request.



GOSPEL GALLEY

by Alice Metzloff

“Pestilence, Public Forums & Passion” – (Part 3 of 3)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US? MUCH! *JESUS is our Mercy Seat* where we can come 24/7/365 to seek God's mercy to meet the madness of our lives. Today, it is the current COVID-19 pandemic PESTILENCE. The shut-downs...PROHIBITED PUBLIC FORUMS. PASSION/compassion...We will worship INDIRECTLY via “Live-Stream”, web-camera chats, texting, calling on the phone, Skyping, FaceBook, Twitter, writing letters, sending cards...as “non-gathering public” health-safe ways. We are called to help others suffering, and in pain from the ravaging forces of human tragedy and personal guilt. Thus reaching out to all to be touched and transcended by the steadfast grace and mercy of JESUS, our Redeemer who loves us through all, and in all.

Pastor Kenneth Samuel ends his devotional discussion with a Prayer...LET US PRAY:

“Come ye disconsolate...Wherever you languish! Come to the Mercy Seat...fervently kneel! Here bring your wounded heart! Here tell your anguish! Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal! AMEN.”

The questions again are: Is the PUBLIC FORUM of a church/place of worship the place to bring “the madness of our lives” in order for us to seek mercy and freedom from the pestilence that surrounds us? Through worship together can we find our passion and fervor renewed, so we can do God's right and just will? I SAY TO ALL, A RESOUNDING “Y-Y-E-E-S-S!” Remember, though the “Tabernacle throne of God” is a long-gone relic of the past.

TODAY, WE HAVE **JESUS...PROTECTOR FROM PESTILENCE! PROPRIETOR OF PUBLIC FORUMS! PASSIONATE PROPHET** quietly asking us to make him our **MERCY SEAT**. Come, sit! The veil is torn away! The stone is rolled away! **There is NO BARRIER between JESUS/GOD and YOU.**

The deadline for submission of articles for NEXT Sunday's Messenger is this Sunday at 11:30 am
Please submit articles to the church office at office@uccmedina.org

*****CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm MONDAY THRU FRIDAY*****

John 14:1-14

Enduring Witness

Dialogue with our Jewish, Muslim, and Eastern Orthodox neighbors, as well of those of other faiths, is a cornerstone of our understanding of what it means to be a part of the United Church of Christ. These dialogues often look like ordinary conversations between a few people, taking place over a couple of hours or days. After the dialogue is over, all the participants return to the routines and rituals of their home communities.

One of the flabbergasting critiques of interfaith dialogue is that it's "just words," that doesn't solve the whole problem, that it is too small an effort to have an impact. Of course, conversations like these don't solve the whole problem of interfaith conflict and understanding, but that doesn't mean that they have no use. Far from it. Small encounters like organized interfaith dialogues, are the individual building blocks from which the structures of peace are built.

Jesus' words in today's scripture passage are part of what is sometimes called his Farewell Discourse. They started out as "just words," quiet conversations with friends which were later written down as comfort to the early Christian community. It's sometimes hard to remember the very real fear of the early Christian community. Those who first wrote down Jesus' words were not mainline Christians. They were not mainline anything. There were just a few of them, oppressed by the forces of Rome on one side and the temple authorities on the other.

But over time, the movement Jesus began with just words would scatter all over the world. But these are the kind of words that have the unexpected strength of the stone that the builder rejected, the stone that became the cornerstone. And that cornerstone is what holds up the whole of God's house.

Building God's house is slow work and can seem painstaking. At times, there can seem to be no progress. But brick by brick, word by word, dialogue by dialogue, the house of God is built. God's house is vast, it has many rooms. The conversation you begin with an interfaith neighbor is only one brick among many. But look around you and you will notice that there are many bricks connected with yours. In order to stand tall, you need them as much as they need you. One by one, we are building up this house of many rooms.