ALL THINGS IN COMMON

The New Normal

MEDINA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

April 18, 2021 - 10:00 am Live Stream Only

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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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 "Blest Be the Tie that Binds Us Together" – arr. Mark Hayes Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE 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 (Psalm 4)

Leader: Answer me when I call, O God of might!
People: You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
Leader: How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?
People: How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?
Leader: *Selah*
Leader: But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for Godself;
People: the LORD hears when I call to God.
Leader: When you are disturbed, do not sin;
People: ponder it on your beds, and be silent.
Leader: *Selah*
Leader: Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

People: **There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!**
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"
Leader: You have put gladness in my heart
People: **more than when the grain and wine abound.**
Leader: I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
People: **for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "In the Hollow of His Hand" Alice Metzloff, soloist
By William M. Runyan & George E. Schuler; arr. Alice Metzloff

SCRIPTURE Acts 4:32-37

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Stacie Yates

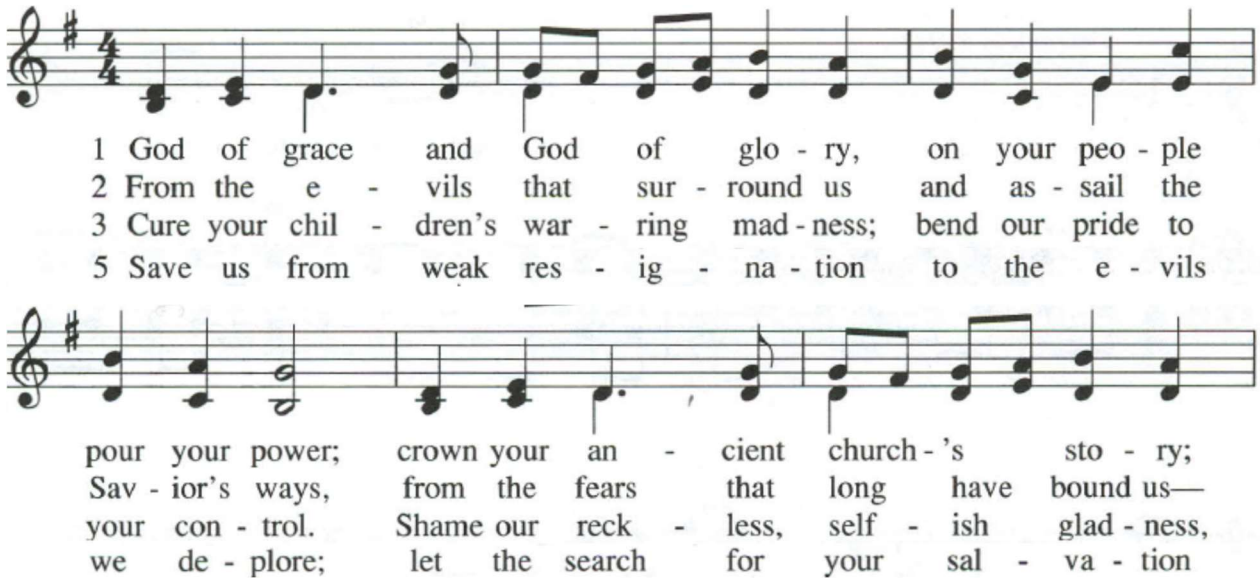
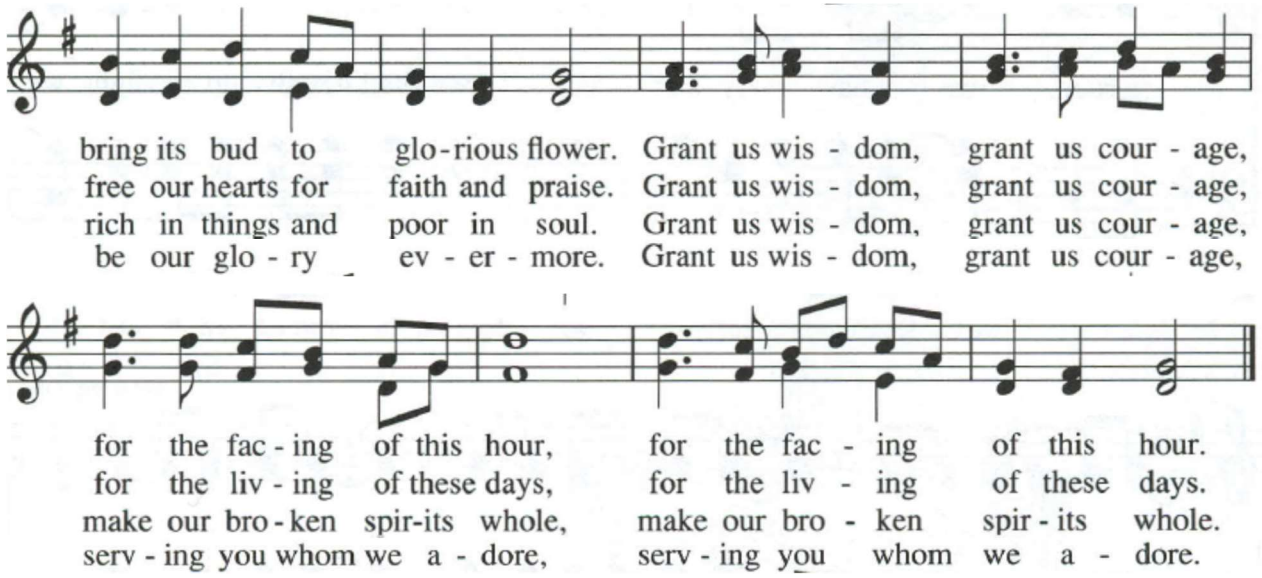
The Lord's Prayer

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

SERMON "All Things in Common" Rev. Luke Lindon

HYMN **"God of Grace and God of Glory"**



Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
John Hughes, c. 1907

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation

Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, wrote, "What we do is very little. But it is like the little boy with a few loaves and fishes. Christ took that little and increased it. He will do the rest."

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

Give us peace and humility with our feeble efforts at faithfulness. Bless the small things we do in your name so that our small acts of faith may find witness among many and thereby glorify you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

BENEDICTION (from *Common Payer: a liturgy for ordinary radicals*)

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you;
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you from the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.
May be bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be with You"

God be with you 'til we meet again; By His counsels guide uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you 'til we meet again.

POSTLUDE "Postlude on Hymn to Joy" – Gordon Young Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"More than Church on Sunday"

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - email: luke@uccmedina.org
Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor

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Kelly Charnley, Financial Manager - email: financial@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

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Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth
Jim Kiser, Director of Music
Cathy Fafrak, Organist
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor
Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool
Laura Garcia, Assistant Director of Hobby Horse Preschool
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance
Jack Manhoff, Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER
APRIL 18, 2021

"Welcoming, Loving, Serving, Where God Has No Limits.
More Than Church On Sunday!"

April 18, 2021 thru April 25, 2021

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	10:00 am	Online worship only
	12:00 pm	Mission Team Meeting
	4:30 pm	Youth Group Gathering
Mon		
Tues	10:00 am	**Gift Card Orders Due**
Wed	**7:00 pm**	**Zoom Book Study "Radical Welcome"**
Thurs	7:00 pm	Congregational Council
Fri		
Sat		
Sun	10:00 am	Online worship only

FAREWELL RECEPTION

Please stop by (bring a lawn chair) or drive by to wish Kelly Charnley well in her new journey of retirement on Sunday, May 2nd after the Livestream Church Service from 11:30 to 12:30 pm under the pergola, weather permitting. Individually wrapped cupcakes will be provided as well as coffee/tea/punch. Join us!

MULCHING PARTY

The Property & Grounds Team is hosting a mulching party Saturday May 8th. Many hands make light work! Bring your shovels, rakes and wheelbarrows to help. All ages welcome!

Worship Highlights: 10:00 am Live Stream Only
Scripture: Acts 4:32-37
Sermon: "The New Normal: All Things in Common"
Rev. Luke Lindon

Communion Table Flowers: The flowers are given by Terry Rhodes in honor of his and Carol's 47th anniversary.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Please join the Moderators and your church family in wishing Pastor Luke Lindon a very Happy Anniversary for joining us four years ago. Pastor Luke, Kate, Eve, and Sam have blessed our church family beyond measure. We look forward to many, many more years together!

FRIENDS IN NEED OFFERING

May 9, 2021

The **Friends in Need Fund** was established by the Mission Leadership Team in 2003 to provide financial assistance to Medina UCC members with basic living expenses. Please give generously to help our church family members.

On Mother's Day, we usually have asked for donations to the Amanda Fund. However, due to the generosity of so many, the Amanda Fund is well funded at this time. The Mission Leadership Team has found that the Friends in Need Fund is in need of additional support, so we are seeking your donations for the Friends in Need Fund this Mother's Day. The Amanda Fund continues to be available to provide assistance with medical bills and other related costs that arise due to pressure put on families during hospitalizations of their children. Please pass this information along to your friends and family. For more information you may call the church office.

CLAGGETT FOOD PANTRY

The Mission Team is beginning a campaign to **restock the food pantry at Claggett Middle School**. The students are taking advantage of your generosity during Advent when we collected three SUV loads of food. The following items are the focus of this campaign. Please keep the sizes small as they need to fit into backpacks and must not be in glass containers.

The items most often needed are:

peanut butter	**squeeze jelly**
pasta	**pasta sauce**
canned chicken	**cereal**
granola bars	**canned soup**
Ramen noodles	

There is a table in the Welcome Area marked for this collection. **The final day of the campaign is Sunday, May 2nd**.

YOUTH GROUP GATHERING

Our next gathering will take place **Sunday, April 18th from 4:30 – 6 pm**. We are planning a scavenger hunt on the Square followed by ice cream at Chill. Please meet in the parking lot and we'll walk over together. Don't forget to bring a mask and $5 to cover the cost of ice cream. After the fun, we'll meet back in the parking lot for pickup. If weather becomes an issue, we'll reschedule. Questions? Contact Stacie Yates or Nicole Rubino.

GIFT CARD ORDERS

Plan ahead now for special occasions and place your Gift Card order soon. Please see the Yellow Retailer List in the rack near the church office or visit www.glscrip.com and click on the Retailer List on the left side to view or print your own list. Complete a Green Order Form, also available in the rack and return to Kelly or Stacie with payment.

The next order will be due on Monday, April 19th at 10:00 am.

MISS THE SERMON APRIL 11th?

Because of technical glitches, many of you may have missed last Sunday's sermon. You can watch it is its entirety here:
https://tinyurl.com/April11Sermon

NOTES OF THANKS

Join us in thanking Kelly Charnley for her 18 years of service! You and your family and invited to share a favorite memory, a thank you note, or your retirement suggestions on a 4" x 6" index card. You can submit one card per person or one per family – the more the merrier! Please mail to the church (attention: Cindy) or drop them off in the box in the church library. Please try to submit these by Wednesday, April 21st. The cards will then be placed in a decorative box, and given to Kelly at the Sunday, May 2nd church service. If you do not have a 4" x 6" card, Kellie Johns has placed a supply of cards in the library. Thank you all for helping us thank our beloved Kelly!

YOU CAN STILL JOIN OUR BOOK STUDY

Continues April 21st – Zoom call @ 7 p.m.

Stephanie Spellers *Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation.*

Spellers' book enriches the value of welcoming and defines what radical welcome is and gives tangible examples of congregations living out that value. Radical welcoming communities are committed to the values of hospitality, connection, purpose, conversion, comprehension, and compassion. Order the book, start reading and join us! **Realm Registration here: Register for Book Study Series**

LAWN MOWER CREW

"The Lord God took humans and put them in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." Genesis 2:15

If you admire the beautiful landscaping of our church's grounds consider joining the mowing crew! The time commitment for mowing the church's lawn averages about 1 ½ hours every two weeks in the spring and once a month in the summer and fall. The Property and Grounds team provides a riding mower, push mower, gasoline, and trimming tools. Please contact Carl Skorepa at carlskorepa@yahoo.com or call 330 421 3189 for more details.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Easter Bag Outreach this year! We were able to brighten the day of 21 children this year with their own, personalized Easter Bag thanks to the people who made phone calls, decorated and filled bags, and delivered the bags to the families.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE SOON!

Teams, Committees and Leadership of the church are being asked to write up their **Annual Reports** to be presented at the May 16th Annual Meeting.

The due date for your report is April 26th.

Please email or drop off your reports to Cindy in the church office. Please try to limit your reports to one page. I appreciate all your efforts in **getting these to me on time.**
Please email to: office@uccmedina.org or uccoffice@zoominternet.net.

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

April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:36b-48

Christ Among Us

Earth Day is coming up this Thursday. Has your church explored what it might mean to be a Creation Justice Church? You can find out more at the website: https://www.ucc.org/creation_justice_churches.

*"As we learn in the opening pages of Genesis, our first calling as people of faith is to care for God's creation. Whether it is taking on the climate crises or addressing the lead poisoning of children, environmental justice ministries could not have a higher purpose or calling than they do now.

If the followers of Jesus today care about the air we breathe, the water we drink, or the world in which we live, then environmental justice ministry should undoubtedly be an integral strand in any church's DNA. The UCC's Creation Justice Church program aims to help you do just that. Here are some of the tremendous features and benefits of doing the program:

- Congregations collectively discern their high calling to care for creation and seek justice for the oppressed.
- Congregations make a commitment so serious and so sacred that it necessitates talking about God's covenant with us and with all of creation.
- Congregations not only become recognized as "green." They become a part of a larger network of churches and a larger movement to change the world.
- Congregations engage in critical thinking about the socioeconomic dimensions of environmental justice such as race, class, and global inequality.
- Congregations foster a deeper sense of connection: connection to God, to each other, and to the world in which we live.
- Congregations unleash their imagination and creativity as a sense of purpose propels them to make a difference."
  *(https://www.ucc.org/creation_justice_churches)