



May 30, 2021

10:30 a.m. service



---

# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

[www.uccmedina.org](http://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”**

*\*Those who are able please stand*

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE “How Great Is Our God” – arr. Victor Labenske

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## \*OPENING HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy”



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,  
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

WORDS: Reginald Heber, 1826 (Rev. 4:8-11)  
 MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1861

NICAEA  
 11 12.12 10

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 29, The Message)**

**Leader:** Bravo, GOD, bravo!

**People:** **Gods and all angels shout, "Encore!"**

**Leader:** In awe before the glory, in awe before God's visible power.

**People:** **Stand at attention!**

**Dress your best to honor him!**

**Leader:** GOD thunders across the waters,

**People:** **Brilliant, God's voice and face, streaming brightness—**

**Leader:** GOD, across the flood waters.

GOD's thunder tympanic,

GOD's thunder symphonic.

**People:** **GOD's thunder smashes cedars,**

**GOD topples the northern cedars.**

**The mountain ranges skip like spring colts,**

**Leader:** The high ridges jump like wild kid goats.

**People:** **GOD's thunder spits fire.**

**Leader:** GOD thunders, the wilderness quakes;

GOD makes the desert of Kadesh shake.

**People:** **GOD's thunder sets the oak trees dancing**

**A wild dance, whirling; the pelting rain strips their branches.**

**Leader:** We fall to our knees—we call out, "Glory!"

Above the floodwaters is GOD's throne

**People:** **from which holy power flows, from which God rules the world.**

**Leader:** GOD makes people strong.

**People:** **GOD gives people peace.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

"Requiem for a Soldier" - Frank Musker &amp; Michael Kamen

Nick North, voice

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 6:1-8 &amp; John 3:1-16

Nick North, liturgist

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****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**

Rev. Harry Buch, guest minister

**HYMN****"Here I Am, Lord"**

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin  
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.  
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.

My hand will save. I, who made the  
They turn a - way. I will break their  
My hand will save. Fin-est bread I

stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.  
will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you  
 call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you  
 lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte, b.1947  
 Tune: Dan Schutte, b.1947; arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, and John Weissrock  
 © 1981, OCP

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

### Offertory Invitation

You have called us into your church, O God. To accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to serve you in serving the entire human family. May we be your Good News in the offering of our time, talent, and treasure. Guide us and our gifts into your service.

### \*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 (UCC Book of Worship, Page 507-508)

We give you thanks, eternal God, For those who have run the race of faith before us and now surround us like a cloud of witnesses. We thank you for those who pass the word of your love to each new generation, who give themselves in love for you in the pursuit of peace and justice on earth. We give you thanks, infinite God, For the church around the world. We thank you that we count as our kith and kin in Christ; people of all races, tongues, and nations. Speak through us and move through, that the story of your mighty deeds will be known in our time and place. Amen.

**\*BENEDICTION**

Leader: For God so love the world;  
**People: May God's face shine upon us.**  
Leader: That God gave God's only son;  
**People: May Christ's peace rule among us.**  
Leader: Not to condemn, but to save;  
**People: May the Spirit's fire burn within us.**  
Leader: As we scatter into the world;  
**People: To bless and help heal an unsuspecting world;**  
Leader: May grace and peace be yours. 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** "Fanfare and Processional" - Gayden Sikes Cathy Fafrak, Organist

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

+++++

Music in this bulletin reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-605137. All rights reserved.

***PASTORAL STAFF***

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - email: [luke@uccmedina.org](mailto:luke@uccmedina.org)  
Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor

***OFFICE STAFF***

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - email: [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)  
Jeff Miller, Financial Director - email: [financial@uccmedina.org](mailto:financial@uccmedina.org)

***PROGRAM STAFF***

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education  
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

## MAY 30, 2021

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

Live streaming of the Sanctuary service is available at [www.uccmedina.org/live](http://www.uccmedina.org/live)

**May 30, 2021 thru June 6, 2021**

### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sun TRINITY SUNDAY**  
8:15 am Chapel Worship (in Sanctuary)  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
10:30 am Traditional Worship

**Mon Memorial Day – Church Office Closed**

**Tues** 6:30 pm Bible Study

**Wed** 10:30 am Quilters  
7:00 pm Gathering Band Recording Session  
7:00 pm Grief Support Group

**Thurs**

**Fri**

**Sat** 10:00 am Choir Practice (in Sanctuary)

**Sun** 8:15 am Chapel Worship (in Sanctuary)  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
10:30 am Traditional Worship  
4:00 pm Youth Group

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> IN OBSERVANCE OF  
MEMORIAL DAY**

### **COOKING FOR CUPS**

The first Monday of each month the Church has been cooking meals for Cups Café. Cups Café is a café just off the Square that offers food and hope to those in need. Would you like to provide a meal? We need individuals or teams to volunteer for a Monday that can cook one hot meal for 60 people. Please contact Dan Daubner at [DDaubner@zoominternet.net](mailto:DDaubner@zoominternet.net) or 330-283-2742 if you would like to help out.

**Worship Highlights:** 8:15, 9:00 & 10:30 am

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8 and John 3:1-16

Rev. Harry Buch, Guest Minister

**Communion Table Flowers:** The flowers are given by the church in honor of all veterans.

### **LITURGIST SIGN-UP**

Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during June, July and August at the 10:30 Sanctuary service. Questions? Talk to Pastor Luke or call the church office.

### **GREETERS NEEDED**

The Evangelism Team could use your help in providing a socially distant friendly face at the door when people enter church before the 10:30 service. You can stand with your mask on by the downstairs entrance or you can stand outside, waving “hi” and “welcome back.” Please review the available slots and sign up here <http://tinyurl.com/uccgreeter> or call Kate Linton at 330-663-1801. Thank you!

### **SUMMER MUSIC SIGN-UP**

Please consider providing special music for our Sunday 10:30 am worship via video or in person (depending on your comfort level). Piano, violin, voice, trumpet, flute, guitar, etc.! Dates are now open through Labor Day. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/UCCCMusic> or contact the office. Thank you, and we can't wait to hear your musical gifts!



## THANK YOU

---

Property & Grounds and the church family would like to thank Dorothie Edinger and her son Jon for donating and planting the lilies in the east border of the parking lot!

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

---

Pastor Karen is starting a grief support group lasting 8-12 weeks which will meet Wednesday evenings at 7 pm beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Adults who have lost someone (spouse, parents, child, friend, etc.) and are willing to be a part of a support group are welcome. Members must commit to attend as many sessions as possible. We will be using a book for journaling which each member is encouraged to buy and a text which each member can borrow for the duration of the group. Anyone interested please contact Karen at 330-273-4752 or email her at [karenb7777@aol.com](mailto:karenb7777@aol.com).

## TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

---

Frank Kish is bringing back the Tuesday evening bible study group and all are invited! We will be continuing our study of Ephesians. Please join us on **Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.** in the new library. See you there!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

---

We are thrilled that we will be able to offer Vacation Bible School in person this year. There will be some differences to keep everyone as safe as possible, but we are excited to be able to have the children in the building. This year VBS will be offered for 2 weeks in June. The first week will be June 7-10 and the second week will be June 21-24, with the exact same curriculum at each. So you can choose which week you would like to have your children attend. Our theme this year is "Discovery on Adventure Island" and it will be tons of fun! As always, many hands make light work. We are in need of people to help make sure it is a success. If you are interested in helping out with VBS, please see Stacie Yates.

## GOT CRAYONS?

---

All those broken-down colored crayons can result in being gathered, melted, and turned into new crayons of many colors. This is the mission of The Crayon Initiative started by Bryan Ware several years ago. After consulting with an occupational therapist, he created large three-sided, not round, paper free crayons so that hospital kids can easily grip them, and they cannot roll off hospital trays.

Recycled crayons are distributed free to children's hospitals in all 50 states to brighten the lives of young patients during their stay. This is a multi-faceted mission project to save millions of pounds of used crayons from landfills AND to bring smiles to hospitalized children.

The Mission Team is placing colorful boxes by the church entrance and at our Hobby Horse location. After collecting these boxes, the donated crayons will be sorted by color and shipped to The Crayon Initiative in California. Because of the pandemic, further expansion of this project is limited for now but hopefully could involve more schools, churches and anywhere crayons are distributed. For further information, contact Dottie Edinger.

## SUMMER Sun, Sand, Surf!

---

### Circle of Caring craft is ready for Pick Up/Delivery

Crafts will be on a table in our church Welcome area. PICK UP crafts during open office hours... 9:00am-3:00pm June 1-4, and June 7-11.

On the sheet provided, please sign your initials by the name of the recipient to indicate a craft was taken for delivery.

Making a visit? Please abide by all COVID safety distancing guidelines. Please call ahead to make arrangements for delivery/visitation drop-off.



## BEATITUDES GO TO THE MOVIES! - Worship Series

Jesus gave us some blockbuster teachings. They've been a hit ever since they came out.

The worship team has missed going to the theatre, so we'll decorate the building like a movie theatre! They have chosen eight films – from classics to recent award-winners – to gain a better understanding of each of the eight blessings imparted by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel.

We'll explore the Beatitude concepts through popular movies. We'll even gather and watch a few at our pergola (or Fellowship Hall if the weather is bad) at 8 p.m. See below for specific dates.

As the late theologian Rachel Held Evans wrote in her book *"Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again"*,

"The kingdom, Jesus taught, is right here--present yet hidden, immanent yet transcendent. It is at hand--among us and beyond us, now and not-yet. The kingdom of heaven, he said, belongs to the poor, the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful, and those who hunger and thirst for God. It advances not through power and might, but through missions of mercy, kindness, and humility. In this kingdom, many who are last will be first and many who are first will be last. The rich don't usually get it, Jesus said, but children always do. This is a kingdom whose savior arrives not on a warhorse, but a donkey, not through triumph and conquest, but through death and resurrection. This kingdom is the only kingdom that will last."

Date	Beatitude	Movie	Pergola	Streaming
June 13	Blessed are the poor in spirit	Back to the Future		Netflix
June 20	Blessed are those who mourn	Up	Showing on 6/13	Disney+
June 27	Blessed are the meek	Sandlot	Showing on 6/20	Hulu
July 4	Blessed are the those who hunger for righteousness	To Kill a Mockingbird		\$3.99 Prime/Youtube
July 11	Blessed are the merciful	Just Mercy		\$9.99 Prime/Vudu
July 18	Blessed are the pure in heart	Forrest Gump		\$2.99 Youtube/Prime
July 25	Blessed are the peacemakers	Brave	Showing on 7/18	Disney+
August 1	Blessed are those who are persecuted	Hidden Figures	Showing on 7/25	Disney+, Hulu, Sling TV

The summer is a wonderful time to head to the movies, so come out each Sunday or join us on the livestream as we change our attitudes to the beatitudes! You can also pick these movies up at the Library!

## COLLECTION OF BREAKFAST FOODS FOR A.I. ROOT

We have an amazing opportunity to expand the help we give to students in the Medina City Schools by joining with a group of parents and other community organizations to provide breakfast items to a small group of in-need students at Brookdale Park. The food donations will be available for students to pick up daily as they walk to their bus stop. The food items should be durable and non-perishable and suggestions include: **6-packs of boxed apple juice and orange juice, packs of fruit cups, large boxes of poptarts, granola bars, fruit breakfast bars like Nutrigrain, and boxes of yogurt pouches, applesauce pouches.** Please **no food that requires refrigeration**, including fresh produce. We will continue to take donations for future deliveries as well. Thank you for helping these students!

## **FATHERS REALLY DO KNOW BEST...**

---

Our fathers, who taught their children a love of Christ and His Church, are now the leaders of their families. Now, many of their sons and daughters, wives and friends are saying, "Thanks for everything, Dad" by donating to the Endowment Fund. It's a great way to give the gift of appreciation and love to the next families of dads, wives and kids who will worship here on the square.

Remember your dad on Father's Day with a generous donation to the Endowment Fund. He will be so proud of you!

## **THE SOCIETY THANKS YOU**

---

To Linda Turek, Carolee Rafn, the Mission Team and the entire UCC congregation,

On May 20<sup>th</sup> the three women whom the church has been collecting gift cards for were able to see their new home. They gave permission to share this picture of them in their new kitchen with you. Thank you for helping make this dream of theirs possible!

Melanie Kasten-Krause

The Society



---

**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](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)**  
**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**

John 3:1-17

### **Mysterious Encounter**

In today's Gospel story, the man Nicodemus has an encounter with Jesus that changes his life. As Christ's disciples, we never know what small interaction might be life-changing for those we meet.

Andy DeBraber, generosity officer of the United Church of Christ, tells this true story.

At a gathering of United Church of Christ members who support the National Setting financially, the question was asked, "Why do you support the UCC?"

At first there was silence, but then a man in his 70s from rural Ohio stood up. His wife elbowed him, he explained, so he had been nudged to tell his story.

As a child, he had learned to give to the church and be generous from his father. His father would give him a dime each Sunday to put in the offering plate. Then one Sunday, he turned to his father at the offering for his weekly dime to put in the plate.

His father refused. You see, he had just started delivering newspapers. His father told him that from now on, the boy had to put his own dimes in the plate. Learned early, his practice of giving continued into adulthood.

But why does he now give so generously to all settings of the UCC, 62 years after that long-ago lesson?

"I was a homophobe and racist," he said. "And if it weren't for the UCC, I still would be."

Just like Nicodemus, the man in this story was changed, and changed again. First by his father who taught him the value of giving and then by those who helped him see a way of love and openness. How might your witness bring change to the world?