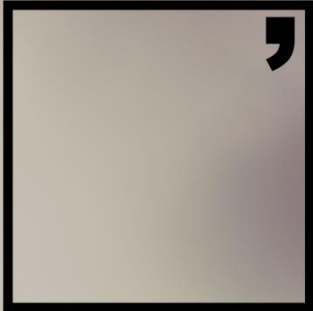


# REIGN OF CHRIST



MEDINA  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. CONGREGATIONAL



# 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”**

*Please take a moment to sign the friendship pads, (located at the end of each pew) so that you know who is worshipping near you and you may greet them by name.*

*\*Those who are able please stand*

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE “We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer” – arr. Bob Krogstad

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*OPENING HYMN

### “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

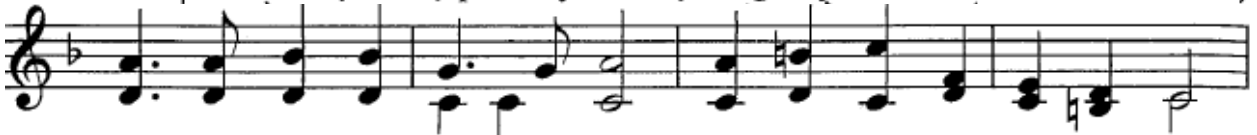
Henry Alford, 1810-1871

ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR 7.7.7.7.D

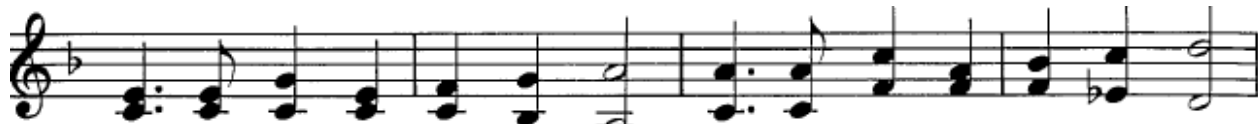
George J. Elvey, 1816-1893



1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest home;
2. All the world is God’s own field, Fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his har-vest home;
4. E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come, Bring thy fi-nal har-vest home;



All is safe-ly gath-ered in, Ere the win-ter storms be-gin;  
Wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, Un-to joy or sor-row grown;  
From his field shall in that day All of-fens-es purge a-way,  
Gath-er thou thy peo-ple in, Free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide      For our wants to be sup - plied;  
First the blade, and then the ear,      Then the full corn shall ap - pear;  
Give his an - gels charge at last      In the fire the tares to cast,  
There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied,      In thy pres - ence to a - bide;



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har - vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
But the fruit - ful ears to store      In his gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home. A - men.

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 93)

Leader: The LORD rules!

**People: God is robed in majesty—the LORD is robed, clothed with strength.**

Leader: Yes, the Creator set the world firmly in place;

**People: it won't be shaken.**

Leader: Your throne is set firm for a very long time.

**People: You are eternal!**

Leader: LORD, the floods have raised up—

**People: the floods have raised up their voices; the floods raise up a roar!**

Leader: But mightier than the sound of much water,

**People: mightier than the sea's waves, mighty on high is the LORD!**

Leader: Your laws are so faithful.

**People: Holiness decorates your house, LORD, for all time.**

**ANTHEM** "All Hail the Power" Incorporating DIADEM, MILES LANE, and CORONATION      Chancel Choir  
Arr. Mark Hayes

**SCRIPTURE**      John 18:33-37      Brad Rice, 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** (by Christine Longhurst, re:Worship.blogspot.com)

Leader: God, like the Israelites in the wilderness,

**People: we too have known Your love,  
and experienced Your care and provision.**

Leader: You invite us to extend that love to the world around us—

**People: to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves.**

Leader: And so we bring the needs of our world before You now.  
In Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the many who do not have enough:

**People: enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm;  
enough employment, or money to pay their bills;  
enough medicine or medical care.**

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Leader: We also pray for those who have more than enough,

**People: but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life;  
who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities  
to dull their pain or loneliness.**

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Leader: God, Your grace reaches out to all of us.

**People: You call us to live as citizens of heaven,  
working together with one heart and mind.  
Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of  
the Good News we have received,**

Leader: offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,  
where the last are first, and the first are last,

**People: and there is grace enough for all.**

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

**People: Amen.**

**SERMON** "Reign of Christ"

Rev. Luke Lindon

**HYMN** "Jesus Shall Reign"

*Isaac Watts, 1719*

DUKE STREET LM  
*John Hatton, 1793*



1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 4. Bless-ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; all pris-oners  
 ces - sive jour - neys run; his king-dom spread from  
 leap and loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
 shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*There is an offering plate by the East Room and by the tower doors if you feel led to deposit your envelope or an offering there. You can also give through our Realm app or text-to-give by texting 73256 and following the prompts. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!*

### Offering Invitation

Christ our sovereign and servant sets forth a just and compassionate domain in which the needs of the vulnerable and the powerful hang in righteous balance. Let us share what we have as we work toward Christ's reign here on earth, both in our gifts and our pledges.

### \*Doxology for Reign of Christ (*Isaac Watts, 1719*)

Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;  
 Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

### \*Prayer of Dedication (from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand website <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/>)

On my own what I have to give doesn't amount to much  
 in the light of all you have given to me and in the face of so much need.

Put together as a congregation, what we offer you here in love becomes more,  
 not simply added together, but somehow multiplied in its usefulness.

We ask you to bless our gifts and with the addition of your blessing,  
 just as it was with the loaves and fishes, there is enough for all. Amen.

## \*CLOSING HYMN

## "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

DIADEMATA SMD  
George J. Elvey, 1868

Matthew Bridges, 1851, & Godfrey Thring, 1874



1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
4. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,



Hark! how the heav-en-ly an-them drowns all mu-sic but its own.  
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.  
those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
His glo - ries now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierc - ed feet  
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

## \*BENEDICTION

Leader: As you enter your own domain today,  
remember Christ's reign of justice and compassion,  
setting it before you as an example now and always.

People: **We have gathered and have been reminded that we are the church,  
the body of Christ, the promise of God.  
Let us go forth in the Spirit we have found here to bless and heal the world. Amen!**

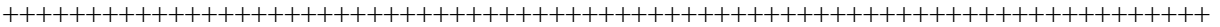
**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be with You"**

**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** "Now Thank We All Our God" Op. 65, No. 20  
- Sigfrid Karg-Elert/ed. & arr. Janet Linker

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**



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Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor – email: [karen@uccmedina.org](mailto:karen@uccmedina.org)

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***PROGRAM STAFF***

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Cathy Fafrak, Organist – [cathy@uccmedina.org](mailto:cathy@uccmedina.org)  
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor  
Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – [jen@uccmedina.org](mailto:jen@uccmedina.org)  
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance  
Sharon Perry, Custodian

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**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**

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## NOVEMBER 21, 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)

November 21, 2021, thru November 28, 2021

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

#### Sun STEWARDSHIPSUNDAY

8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 am Traditional Worship  
11:45 am Caring Team  
4:00 pm Youth Group

Mon 7:00 pm Conversation on Race

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

Wed 10:30 am Quilters  
6:30 pm Bell Practice  
7:00 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal

Thurs **Thanksgiving Day**  
**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

Fri **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

Sat **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

Sun **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:15 am Choir rehearsal  
10:30 am Traditional Worship  
11:45 am Caring Team  
3:00 pm Confirmation Class – Mentors  
Invited

### NOTICE!

**We will not be mailing the Pilgrim  
Messenger next week**

YOU CAN STILL READ THE PILGRIM MESSENGER  
IN ITS ENTIRETY **ONLINE!**

JUST GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT:

[WWW.UCCMEDINA.ORG](http://WWW.UCCMEDINA.ORG)

SCROLL DOWN UNTIL YOU FIND WORSHIP  
BULLETINS AND PILGRIM MESSENGER ON THE  
RIGHT SIDE OF THE PAGE

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

Scripture: John 18:33-37

Sermon: “Reign of Christ” - Rev. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table Flowers:** The flowers today  
are given by Karen & Ken Zuehlke in honor of  
their anniversary.

### COIN JARS FOR SENIORS DUE NEXT SUNDAY

Do you have a coin jar filled up early? Please drop  
them off to the church office for Jeff Miller, our  
Financial Director. **Jars will be collected on  
Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for your  
support of Feeding Medina County.

### LITURGISTS AND ADVENT READERS NEEDED!

The new sign-up sheet for liturgists is in the East  
Room hallway. Please consider signing up for  
an upcoming Sunday! We also need people to  
light the Advent Wreath and read a brief prayer.  
You can sign up alone or as a family or friends.  
The need is for all 3 services. Please sign up in  
the East Room hallway.

### ADVENT FAMILY FUN NIGHT

**Sunday, December 5, 2021**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> as  
we welcome the season of advent with our annual  
Advent Family Fun Night. We are going to try  
something new this year so stay tuned for details  
to come soon. Have no fear though, it will still be  
a night of fun, fellowship and lots of Christmas  
spirit. Hope you will join us.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

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It's time to order your beautiful poinsettia again! You may donate a poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary and East Room for Christmas services and claim it afterward, or you may donate a poinsettia to be delivered by the Flower Committee to a shut-in to be enjoyed before the holiday. The cost is \$8.50 for each poinsettia. **Deadline for ordering is December 6th.** Please fill out a poinsettia order sheet (available from the ushers and online) and turn it in to the offering plate or the church office. You may also call the church office to place your order. Click here to order online: [Poinsettia Order Form](#)

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

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**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

The children have started to work on the Christmas Program for this year. They will be performing The Best Christmas Pageant Ever during the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, December 12. Make sure to mark your calendars for this special day. You will not want to miss it!

## SPECIAL MUSIC PROGRAM

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**Sunday, December 19, 2021**

The choir will share their gifts and we'll sing out with joy as we await the coming of the Lord! This will be a jam-packed Christmas hymn Sunday with a few surprises. I hope you'll come out.

## FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES COMING IN JANUARY VIA ZOOM!

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Tell your money where to go instead of wondering where it went! *Financial Peace University* is a nine-lesson class designed to help you build a budget, dump debt, grow your wealth, and leave money stress behind. Each lesson is based on biblical wisdom and common sense. Sign up for this class and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at [fpu.com/1141840](http://fpu.com/1141840). Class starts **Thursday, January 20, 2022.**

## REALM HOW-TO

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For those choosing to give via Realm, you can now enter your 2022 Pledge towards Operating, Mission & Capital Funds.

We've created 3 quick videos to guide you through Realm: How to sign up, how to pledge, and how to give.

Watch them here: <http://tinyurl.com/RealmVideos>. Questions? Contact the office!

## WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

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An Endowment Fund at the UCC-Congregational Church is a special asset of the church that is prepared to fund worthy projects and causes outside the Operating Budget. Founded in 1996, the Endowment Fund is considered an asset of the church and is ready to serve the members in a special way. It is time for appropriate projects, endeavors and ideas to be submitted for funding to the Endowment Fund Committee for the year 2022.

Requests for Funding forms are available in the church office with a *deadline of Monday, November 29, 2021*. Electronic copies are also available.

Who serves on this Committee? Earle Olson, Virginia Hall, Bert Humpal, Ellen Hunter and Jane Langol. Please consider submitting a request this week. The deserving projects will be announced in late December.

## SALVATION ARMY RINGERS

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Members of our congregation will once again have the opportunity to be "**Red Kettle Ringers**" for the Medina Salvation Army. **Volunteers are needed for Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** in the vestibule at Buehler's River Styx. There are several short shifts available **between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**. It is a good idea (but not necessary) to bring a second person with you for your time slot, that way the kettle is never unattended if you need to take a break. You may **sign up through [THIS LINK](#), on Realm or the FB page, or by calling or emailing Jessica Manners at [jgmanners@gmail.com](mailto:jgmanners@gmail.com) or (216) 287-6302.** This is a popular event each year, so sign up soon!

# STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

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Our Stewardship theme "Project" has taken us through several weeks of watching a concept transform into a completed goal. As members of the United Church of Christ, Congregational, we are all called upon to share our talent, time and giving. Now is the time to submit your 2021 financial pledge.

To recap our goals in 2022:

- Grow revenues by 30%
  - Operating: \$401,000
  - Mission: \$80,000
  - Capital: \$25,000
- Hire Pastor for Youth and Mission
- More balanced giving by age group – Minimum goal of \$26.80 weekly per Family
- Increased use of our new church app, Realm, for information sharing, giving, and learning
- A better overall understanding of church expenses and how your gifts are used to serve our community

## Ways to Pledge:

1. Fill out and submit you pledge card received last week in the mail
2. Submit your pledge online through the Realm app
3. Schedule meeting with Jeff Miller, our Finance Director to setup your Realm Account

The Stewardship Team is very appreciative for what you have done for our Church. Feel free to reach out to the team with questions (names were in the mailing). We encourage you look toward the future of our Church and continue to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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The 2022 Flower Chart is now hanging in the East Room Hallway. Please sign up to sponsor the Altar Flowers. This is a wonderful way to honor or remember someone, or to celebrate a special occasion. Please fill in your name and **write "Church" or "Self"** to let us know if you would like the church to order the flowers for you or if you will be ordering them yourself. The cost of the flowers ordered through the church office is \$22.50. **Also, please write what you would like printed in the Messenger and if you want to claim your flowers** after the 10:30 service.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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When I began the "You've Got This" period project with a Thrivent Financial grant I calculated that I could make 100 period packs on my own. The grants request that projects be open to others to inspire giving. I never expected such a generous response from our Medina community, and particularly our congregation. You helped with donations that generated 1,230 period kits for 11 schools, plus extra boxed products for every school. You helped by showing up to pack the kits in fellowship with each other. Some of you came back to pack missing supplies, to pack and divide kits, and deliver. My goal when opening this project was to deliver 250 complete kits. You have reminded me (as you do each Sunday) of the power of community. More than just a church on Sunday!

Thank you, and thankful for you all. Ellen Nolan

## COSTA RICA TRIP

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We are heading back to Costa Rica for a home build! Covid held us back this year but we are planning a trip back in May of 2022. This will be a new time of the year for us to build, so we may have some new weather adventures! We may also build in a new location. If you are interested in traveling down to Costa Rica with us or would like more information about what we do with Mercy Home Missions, please feel free to reach out to Vicki Miller at [tamvic1@aol.com](mailto:tamvic1@aol.com).

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November 21, 2021  
**Reign of Christ**  
Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
*Thanksgiving Sunday*

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John 18:33-37

### **A Wise Reign**

Jesus talked about money more than any other topic. Eleven of his forty parables were about money and he talked more about money than faith and prayer combined. Why was money so important to Jesus? Because he knew and preached the truth that how we earn, save, and spend our money is one of the most telling markers of our spiritual life.

Since 1993, The United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund (<https://www.cornerstonefund.org/>) has helped to bring Jesus's words to life for congregations and individuals. According to their website, the UCC Cornerstone Fund "helps local churches and non-profit organizations create change within their communities. And we're building transformative products that not only empower these communities, but also help our clients earn even more on their investments."

Founded in 1993 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the UCC Cornerstone Fund holds more than \$100 million dollars in total assets with a total of 3000+ investors. In just a few decades, they have financed more than 650 projects worth more than \$275,000,000 across the United States. They champion green building, supporting projects that save more than 350,000 kWh in energy usage per year. And they help churches save \$3.1 million every year with their refinancing programs.

The website of the Cornerstone Fund (<https://www.cornerstonefund.org/>) offers a wealth of free advice on conscious investing, funding college education and more. There are stories there, too, about churches that have been helped by the Cornerstone Fund to breathe new life into their structures and ministries.

Let the Cornerstone Fund inspire you to plan ahead and to follow Christ's teachings.