

MEDINA

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

GOOD

Enough



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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www.uccmedina.org



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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 attendance 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 BELL

MUSIC FOR GATHERING “Prayer” – Caleb Simper/arr. Michael Ryan Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME

SONG “Good Enough” *Marsha Moors-Charles & Chuck Bell, © 2021*

Choir sings 1st time through, congregation joins in on the repeat

What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?
Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?
Sometimes we get what we get,
life disappoints us and yet,
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.

***CALLING ON GOD** (Based on Psalm 91)

Leader: Let us pray together:

People: **Holy One, Our Refuge and Shelter,
we call out to you,
sometimes in praise, sometimes in distress—as life goes.
Whether we perceive it or not, you are there.
Open us this day to your presence
in the smile of a friend, in the call of a bird—
in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days.
Amen.**

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.

*OPENING HYMN

"Our Lord, You Were Sent"

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2000

FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.
Trad. American melody

Our Lord, you were sent to a place wild and vast
To ponder your mission, to pray and to fast;
Then hungry and weary, you faced night and day
The subtle temptations to turn from God's way.

How could it be wrong to want bread on the shelf?
To seek, in one's serving, to first serve one's self?
But by God's own word you remained ever sure:
It's only in God that our lives are secure.

How could it be wrong to step out and to dare,
To prove with great drama the depths of God's care?
But you knew God's word, true since all time began:
It's wrong to expect God to work by our plan.

How could it be wrong to just once bow the knee,
To shake hands with sin to achieve victory?
Yet you made it clear that no matter the cost:
Your path was obedience, your way was the cross.

Our Lord, in your struggle you chose to obey;
God's word filled your heart and you trusted God's way.
Now risen, you save us from sins that destroy;
You give us your Spirit, your peace and your joy.

HONEST QUESTIONS, COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Leader: Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the temptations of the "not enoughness" of our time, inviting us to love and revere the seeming ordinariness of the day-to-day so that we might recognize its true beauty.

And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps,
in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WORD IN MUSIC "When Jesus Walked the Wilderness" – Lloyd Larson Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Luke 4:1-13 (N.T. pg. 57) Deb Waldron, Liturgist
*At the conclusion of the reading the liturgist says, "A Word of God that is still speaking."
We respond, "Thanks be to God."*

THOUGHTS ABOUT AN IMPERFECT LIFE AND FAITH

"Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy" Rev. Luke Lindon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Song "That's Enough for Me" Chancel Choir

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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!

Offertory Invitation

We pray not just with words, but with our hands and feet. We are not simply hearers, but also doers of the Word of God, Jesus our Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith to which we now offer our time, talent, and treasure.

***Doxology** (*Old 100th, adapted*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know,
Praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow, Praise Three-in-One, from here below.**

***Prayer after Offering**

**Generous God,
in light of your extravagant blessings–
no matter what the state of the world or our imperfect lives–
we offer our gifts and ourselves,
and know that you transform what we plant
into the produce of love.
Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. You do not need to be a member of the United Church of Christ to partake in the Holy Sacrament.

Leader: Christ looks upon each one with love and says,

People: "you are welcome at my table."

Leader: Christ looks upon each one with compassion and says,

People: "whatever troubles you, bring it here."

Leader: Christ looks upon each one with grace and says,

People: "whatever you'd like to leave behind, do it here."

Leader: Will you come? Will you bring your troubles? Will you shed all that is unnecessary in your life? This is the place where you need not be perfect, you need not be sure of yourself or your faith, you need not feel whole and right with the world.

Jesus invited many to his tables and in doing so, he assured them of their place

People: in the illogical reign of love and grace.

Leader: He just wanted them to be hungry for relationship—

People: hungry to look across a table into another's eyes,

Leader: to break open their lives, and lift a cup in the midst of the hard times and hear,

People: "this is for all, and so this is for you, beloved."

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Holy Living God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, anytime and everywhere to give thanks to you. You created this world full of so much beauty and sorrow

People: and called it Good. And called it Enough.

Leader: Although we feel lost at times,

People: you are ever present.

Leader: We doubt, resist, turn away, and rage,

**People: insistent on our own power to pull us through,
and yet sure that we are to blame,
making life seem like a confusing paradox.**

Leader: But you are patient.

People: You are here to meet us—reside with us in strange and alienating times,

Leader: always faithful, always present

in this Body...

in this Body

And so,

together we proclaim the praise-filled truth of your glory along with all the saints:

People: Holy, holy, God of Hosts! Heav'n and earth sing out your name!

Blest are they who come today; and take their place.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
He proclaimed freedom for the bound, justice for the oppressed,
grace for the lost, love for the prodigal.
Through the life and ministry of Jesus, we can imagine and live into a community
where all who struggle are taken into loving arms and those who struggle to love are
invited into greater compassion.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you,
Broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples,
and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and
for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of
me.”

And so, We remember... We offer ourselves ... We proclaim God’s time...

**People: Christ has died, yet Christ is ris’n; Christ will come once again!
We remember and proclaim redeeming love.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and fruit of the
vine. Make them be for us sustenance for our days, love for simple and ordinary lives, fuel
for justice in this world. By your Spirit open us to each other.
Open us to the world, making us one in you, through Christ, in the power of your amazing
grace!

Partaking of the Elements

*CLOSING HYMN

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth you have for me;
2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth you send so clear;
3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where;



place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - lock and set me free.
and while the mes - sage sounds in my ear, ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear.
o - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with your chil - dren thus to share.

Si-lent-ly now, on bend-ed knee, read-y I wait your will to see;
 o - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 o - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 o - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

OPEN MY EYES 8.8.9.8.8.8.4.
 Clara H. Scott, (1841-1897), alt.

Clara H. Scott, (1841-1897), alt.

A BLESSING FOR A JOYFULLY MEDIOCRE JOURNEY (from Good Enough by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie)

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: And now, may the God who loves all of creation,
People: especially the imperfect bits,
 Leader: and Jesus,
People: our companion along this crooked path called life,
 Leader: and the Holy Spirit,
People: who loves to improvise in surprising ways,
 Leader: go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy.
People: Amen.

***CHORAL REPRISE**

***POSTLUDE** "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" – setting, Edwin Childs Cathy Fafarak, Organist

As you leave church today, stop by the White Board in the Welcome Area and contribute to this prompt posted for this week of lent:

Share your ideas and images when an ordinary life moment was...

**Good
Enough**

“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”

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“Good Enough” theme song by Marsha Charles, Marcia McFee, Chuck Bell.
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“A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey” from Good Enough: 40’ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission.

Purchase the book at www.katebowler.com/goodenough

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ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF YOUTH & MISSION SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee for the Pastor for Youth & Mission is on the case! We have met three times and will meet again today about finding a great fit, either ordained or not, to lead our youth group and our mission initiatives. Right now, we, with the heavy lifting being completed by Pete Metzloff, are completing the paperwork about this church, and will be posting the job description far and wide. One thing to keep in mind, we are not able to share the names of the applicants along the way, for confidentiality purposes in their job search. If you know of someone you think would be a great fit, please reach out to one of us on this committee to request a job description to share with them. I thank you, and my fellow committee members: Andy Bixler, Katy Medley, Nora Nolan and Alex Swantek. We will keep you posted!
Thanks, Julie Gilliland

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

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

MARCH 6, 2022

**“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

March 6, 2022 thru March 13, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir rehearsal
10:30 am Traditional Worship
4:30 pm Youth Group

Mon Cook for Cups

1:00 pm Bible Encounter
4:00 pm Jackie Smith Celebration of Life
7:00 pm Bible Encounter

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

Wed

10:30 am Quilters
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal
7:00 pm “Good Enough” Lenten
Book Discussion

Thurs 6:30 pm Financial Peace Zoom Class

Fri

Sat

Sun 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir rehearsal
9:30 am 3rd & 4th Grade Bible Class
10:30 am Traditional Worship

ENCOUNTER – BIBLE STUDY

Please join us as we read through the Sacred Stories. Mondays at 1pm and 7pm.

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

Scriptures: Luke 4: 1-13

Sermon: “Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy”
Rev. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Darlene & Steve Fazekas in honor of Marilyn Koehler.

THE BIG BIBLE BUY GOAL IS 200!

Essential to our worship is the Bible—our sacred stories. To show our gratefulness for the inspired word, the Endowment Fund, the Worship Team and the Caring Team are sponsoring a new initiative to replace the Bibles in the pews, many of which are torn, faded and damaged. We are calling this the BIG BIBLE BUY because it is a big way to show our commitment to the Holy Bible that we cherish.

Our goal is to sponsor 200 bibles! We are currently at 66 bibles sponsored! We are seeking a \$25.00 donation for each bible. \$5.00 of that amount will be allocated to the Endowment Fund. **If you would like to make your donation in honor of someone and have the names printed in the front of the bible you may do that** by filling in the sign-up sheet in the East Room hallway or sign up and [pay through REALM here.](#)

Our old bibles were shipped to the Philippines this week!

LITURGISTS NEEDED

We are in need of a liturgist for **Sunday, March 27th**. Please sign up on the sheet in the East Room hallway. The new sign up sheets for April, May and June will be posted soon.



YOUTH GROUP TODAY

Our Elementary School youth will be cooking a meal for Cups Café today, Sunday, March 6th from 4:30-6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Remember to wear your face mask!

Our Middle & High School youth will be going into the square for a fun night of miniature golf and ice cream! Meet at the church at 4:30 pm and we will walk to Alien Golf and ice cream after. We are covering the cost of golf but bring money for ice cream. **If you bring a friend, they will have to pay for both activities. Be sure to wear your face mask!

Next month we swap activities, and our Middle & High School youth will be cooking a meal for Cups Café and our Elementary School youth will go golfing and indulge in ice cream.

We hope to see you all today, March 6th!

LINUS BLANKET PROJECT

The Linus Blanket Project is a non-profit organization who delivers blankets to children in need in our area. Many of the blankets go to foster shelters or to hospitals for children who are in need of surgery or who have a life threatening diagnosis.

The requirements:

- They need to be handmade with love!
- Quilts, afghans, crocheted and tie blankets are all welcomed!
- They need to be washed if animals or smoke may come in contact with the blanket.
- The general size of the blanket is 40" by 60"

We will be collecting blankets throughout the year to see how many we can make by the end of the year!

Please place your completed homemade blanket in the box when you come into Church!

You can go to www.projectlinus.org for more details!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY LENTEN FUNDRAISER

The Mission Team is happy to announce we are moving forward with Habitat for Humanity! In the past several years, we have given financially to Habitat, but this year we would like not only to give financial help, but to get out in the community and build! We are donating \$8,000 to Habitat, which was allotted to Habitat in the Mission Team Budget for the 2022 fiscal year, but we are looking to raise \$2,000 more, so we can rally and help build a house for a family in our community! With our generous donation and hands on help, a family will be blessed with a new home they can call their own and be proud of! The family selected will help build their new home along with our hands on and financial help! While the home is being built, the selected family will participate in financial education classes and learn skills to help maintain their new home.

So, that is where our Church Family comes in! For a Lenten Fundraiser we would like to raise \$2,000 more for Habitat for Humanity to get to a \$10,000 total donation from our Church which will get us 5 days to work on a Habitat site starting in March or April, depending on the weather! If you would like to help, please donate, and then sign up for a workday! The workdays will be posted on the bulletin board in the East Room hallway once we reach our fundraising goal!

Why should you donate money and time to Habitat?

- Habitat is a non-profit organization which helps qualified families in Medina County who are willing to help build affordable housing for their family with the help from the Habitat community
- We are helping families in our community
- We develop community within our Church as we go out to sites to work together and build with Habitat staff
- Learn new skills
- Build new relationships with others
- It will feel good to help people in our community
- Get to know people and develop friendships

If you would like more information, please go to <http://www.medinahabitat.or>

March 6, 2022
First Sunday in Lent
UCC Women's Week – March 6-12

Luke 4:1-13

Wilderness Companions

Women's week is an opportunity to celebrate the lives of women who have had an impact on the church. Here, some UCC clergywomen reflect on the women who were formative in their faith stories from childhood on. What a great cloud of women witnesses surrounds us!

My preschool teacher, Kay Mitchell...took me with her to church when she realized my parents were never going to. (Jane Sorenson)

Katie Weisenheimer met me after school in our church's fellowship hall. She played the piano, and I sang from the hymnal. She was an always-single woman. I might have been the daughter she would never have. Or she might have sensed the unhealthy environment of my home. Whichever, she enabled me to live God and the church. (Diane Snowa)

My mom, Yolanda Rosas waited 25 years until her church recognized women's call to ministry and ordained her. I asked her why she waited so long? I would have left right away! She said, "someone had to make a way for you and your sister." God and she made a way for me and for so many! (Nancy Rosas)

Amelia Altenbaumer was our neighbor and distant relative...I loved being around her, swinging on her porch swing with her and sitting on the piano bench while she sang and played the piano. One time she asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I was about five years old at the time. I said a minister. Without hesitation her response was, "That's such a noble profession." She watered the seed God had planted... (Paula Compton)

Peggy Cleveland, a lay Presbyterian woman, who served as a missionary in Zaire and came back fully understanding the intersections of race and gender and colonialism which she infused into her work as Director of the Women's Center at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, when I was a student at Pacific School of Religion in the 70's. (Loey Powell)

Ann Landers, who, when I thought I was too old to enter seminary, advised someone that time would pass whether or not they pursued the degree they wanted. They could be four years older with the degree or without it. I started filling out applications immediately. It was a message from God to me. (Ellen Witko)