

Faces of Jesus

Images
of our
savior
in art
and
creed



THE SALLMAN HEAD



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

- During the 10:30 service, the nursery is available for newborns to age 2
- During the 10:30 service, Jesus Vibes Sunday School is available for ages 3-8th grade

“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

PRELUDE “This Joyful Eastertide” – arr. Dale Wood

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME

*OPENING HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Ancient Irish; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905,
versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912*

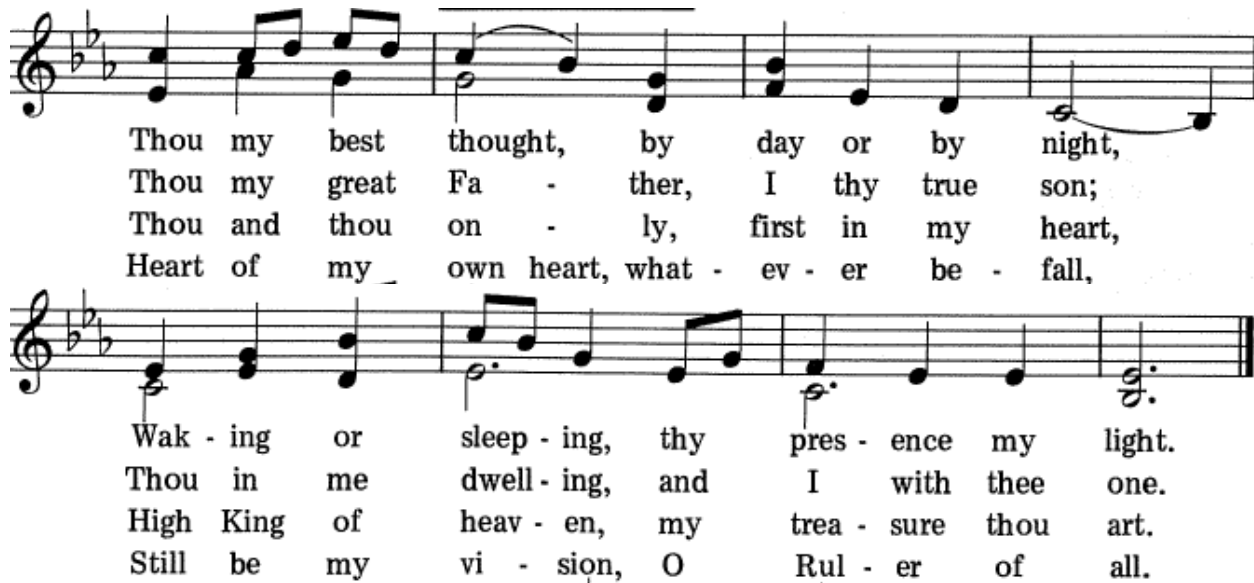
SLANE 10.10.9.10.
Trad. Irish melody; harm. David Evans, 1927



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Nought be all else to me save that thou art.
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 May I reach heav'n's joys, O, bright heav - en's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,
 Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

***CREEDAL CONFESSIONS**

John Kavouras, Liturgist

(Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

Leader: Hear, O Israel:

People: The Lord our God is one Lord;

Leader: And you shall love the Lord your God

People: With all your heart,

Leader: And with all your soul,

People: And with all your might.

(Mark 8:9)

Leader: And he asked them,

People: "But who do you say that I am?"

Leader: And Peter answered him,

People: "You are the Christ."

(1 Corinthians 8:6)

Leader: Yet for us there is one God, the Father,

People: From whom are all things and for whom we exist,

Leader: And one Lord, Jesus Christ,

People: Through whom are all things and through whom we exist. Amen

ANTHEM

"The Heavens are Telling" – Franz Joseph Haydn
 arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Alleluia Ringers

THIRD & FOURTH GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATIONS

Stacie Yates

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns & Pastoral Prayer

HYMN

"Dear God, Embracing Humankind"

REST 8.6.8.8.6.

Frederick C. Maker, 1887

John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872, alt.



1 Dear God, em-brac - ing hu - man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be - side the Syr - ian
 3 O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee! O calm of hills a -
 4 Drop your still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
 5 Breathe through the pul - es of de - sire your cool - ness and your



ways; Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind, in
 sea, The gra - cious call - ing of your word, let
 bove! There Je - sus met you prayer - ful - ly: the
 cease; Take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 balm; Let sense be numb, let flesh re - tire; speak



pur - er lives your ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 us, like them, by spir - it stirred, rise up and fol - lowers be.
 si - lence of e - ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love.
 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of your peace.
 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

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 (based on Psalm 34:3)

O magnify the Lord with me! Let us exalt God's name together through what we offer through our time, talent, and treasure, hoping to build the kingdom here, on earth... as it is in heaven. Let us rise in body or spirit and sing out our praise.

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Dedication** (based on Psalm 95:1-2)

We sing for joy to you, our God.
We should joyfully to you, the rock of our salvation!
We come before your presence with thanksgiving
and we raise to you our psalms and intentions for a better, more just world.
In your many Holy Names we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN 8.8.4.4.8.8. with Alleluias

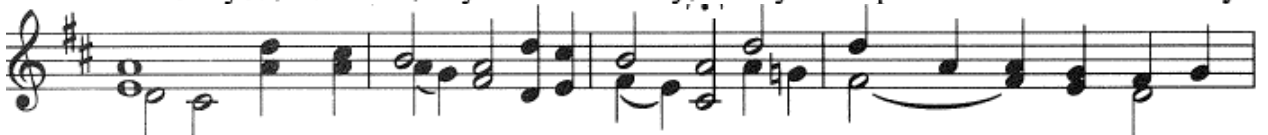
St. Francis of Assisi, 1225; adapt. Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

Geistliche Kirchengesang, Cologne, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Unison



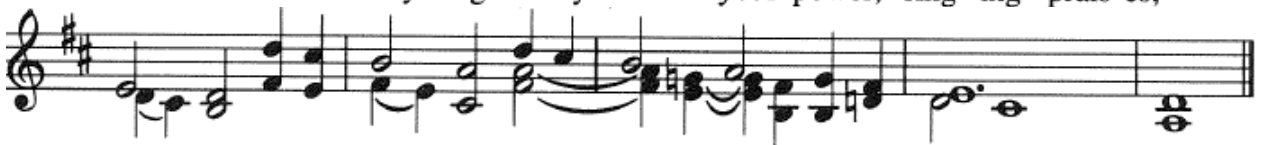
1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery-
2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a-cross the
3 Your flow-ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to
4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery



thing sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your burn-ing sun with gold-en
sky sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your morn-ing ris - es with a
hear, sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti - ful and
way, sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra-grant



beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,
song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al-le -
bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es,
flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais-es,



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION (based on II Cor. 13:14)

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

People: And the love of God,

Leader: and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

People: Be with you all.

Leader: Having been blessed to be a blessing, go from here to bend the world toward blessing.
Go! For this service has ended,

People: And our service now begins. 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 "Christ Hath Triumphed, Alleluia" – arr. Robert J. Hughes Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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THE CHILDREN'S CENTER PINWHEEL WALK IS TODAY

To help prevent child abuse and bring awareness, we have pinwheels spinning in our Church's lawn! Another way to support the Children's Center is **to join us for the Pinwheel walk today, April 24th!** We will meet at the Church at 2pm and walk over to the square together.

During the Pinwheel Walk we will gather as a community to plant 696 pinwheels representing each case of Child Abuse opened by Medina County Job and Family Services during 2021.

The event will be a 3/4 -mile walk from the Square past the Medina Police Department, Medina County Building, and Medina Courthouse to the Medina Library where we will plant the garden of 696 pinwheels along Washington Street. Please sign up on the Mission Bulleting Board in the East Room Hallway! Registration is needed to help the Center with a head count. We hope you can join!

If you would like to donate items, the Center needs: boxes of mini muffins, 24 packs of large water bottles, bags/boxes of snack size chips. Please place items in the box in the Welcome Area labeled "Children's Center." We will be collecting items through April.

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

APRIL 24, 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

April 24, 2022 thru May 1, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun BIBLE SUNDAY – 3rd & 4th graders
Receive their bibles
8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Bell choir rehearsal
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:45 am Caring Team Meeting
5:00 pm Confirmation Dinner & rehearsal

Mon 1:00 pm Bible Encounter
7:00 pm Bible Encounter

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

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

Thurs

Fri

Sat

Sun CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir rehearsal
10:30 am Traditional Worship &
Confirmation
4:30 pm Youth Group
4:30 pm Men’s Group

ENCOUNTER – BIBLE STUDY

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

Final dates are: 4/25, 5/2, 5/9 & 5/16

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

Sermon: “The Sallman Head”
-Rev. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Craig & Beth Hari in honor of their parents.

ANNUAL REPORT TIME!

Teams, Committees and Leadership of the church are being asked to write up **their Annual Reports** to be presented at the **May 22nd Annual Meeting immediately following ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP at 10:00 am.** **The due date for your report will be no later than May 2nd.**

Please email or drop off your reports to me in the church office. Please inform me as to any changes on your team. I appreciate all your efforts in **getting these to me on time.** Please email to: office@uccmedina.org

SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

Candidates’ resumes are coming in! We are meeting with our conference contact about the “UCC Interview way” and will be setting up interviews very soon. Thank you for your support during this thoughtful process.

COFFEE HOUR RESUMES

Sunday, May 1st

Do you want to get to know other church members? Have great fellowship? Come One, Come All to Coffee Hour! The **Caring Team** will be hosting Coffee Hour Sunday, May 1st after the 10:30 am service. May 1st is also Confirmation Sunday, so come celebrate with our confirmands! For the month of May, the Caring Team will host each week.

COSTA RICA HOUSE 198!!

After a Covid hiatus, we are returning to Costa Rica to work with Mercy Home Missions. We will be building house number 198. This year's trip is going to be different in many ways. First, we are not building in Nosara. We will be building in the Sarapiquí area. This is a valley in the mountains about 2 hours from San Jose. Second, we are a very small group this year. There are only 8 of us and we would welcome any help. **If you have some time and a last-minute desire please feel free to join us!** Third, we are building for an immigrant family from Nicaragua. They are Julio, Louisa and their two children Gabriel (10) and David (3). In addition to needing clean and safe housing, they were robbed of what little belongs they had. We are asking for financial donations from the Congregation both to support the Mission Trip as well as to purchase some needed items for the family.

Jeff Miller has set up a direct online payment option to make donating easier. We will be leaving on May 7th and returning May 15th, any financial assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please keep our small but mighty team in your prayers. If you are able to donate muscles or money it would be wonderfully appreciated!

Our MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING this year will be to help the young family in Costa Rica who are in need of everything! Please consider your generous gift this Mother's Day.

COME JOIN THE CARING TEAM

Do you want to know your church members better? Do you like to cook, entertain, or plan events that people enjoy? Then join our Caring Team. Each year the Caring Team hosts many events such as the Ice Cream and Pie Social on the Square, the 50+ Luncheon, Chili Cook Off, Coffee Hour and this year we will be serving food for the Great Vintage Race on the Square. Meetings are held every 3rd Sunday, after the 10:30 am service. If you would like to know more contact Sue Dean at 330-952-1840 or Darlene Fazekas at 330-241-5840.

AMANDA FUND & FRIENDS IN NEED

Every Mother's Day we take up a collection for **Friends in Need or the Amanda Fund**. The Friends in Need account provides financial assistance to a Medina UCC member who might need a helping hand with basic living needs. The Amanda Fund is available to families with medical bills and other related costs that arise during extended hospitalizations of their child. This Mother's Day no funds will be collected for these accounts! Instead of collecting funds, the Mission Team would like to offer these funds to a Church friend! Several years have gone by and these funds haven't been used! **The totals in the accounts are plentiful! We want to give back to our Church Family! So, if you know of a Church family who might need assistance, please reach out** to a Mission Team Member or the office for information.

NEW MEN'S GROUP

All men are invited to join in a new men's group facilitated by Chuck Rihm, one of our new members from last fall. He will be utilizing the Way of Council. The Way of Council is a communal contemplative practice that fosters a heart-centered way of listening, speaking and being with others. **We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 4:30-6:00 pm in the new library** while the Youth Group is in session. We will begin May 1st. Contact Chuck at rihm@compuerve.com or 440-503-8021 for questions.

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during the 10:30 Sanctuary service. We still have open dates in May and June.

PASTOR'S CORNER – APRIL 2022

Spring is hypothetically here, although as I write this the snow is coming down on this Tuesday morning following Easter. We've closed the books on the Good Enough series, where we learned how to set the bar a little lower and give ourselves permission to rest. We've asked God for guidance in fixing the things we can, accepting the things we can't fix, and the wisdom to know the difference. It was a powerful series and I want to thank you all for coming out for the Wednesday book studies, for the worship team for picking this series, and for everyone being flexible in the changes in the liturgy and realizing that many changes were just for this series. I know personally, singing *God Be With You* on Easter after a Lenten fast for the song was especially meaningful.



We'll be heading into our new series **Faces of Jesus**. This new worship series will explore depictions of Jesus in art and the Christian creeds and how they shape our lives. Sunday worship April 24-June 5, at 8:15, 9:00, and 10:30, with the 10:30 service livestreamed on our website and on Facebook!

Our first Sunday, April 24th will feature our **3rd and 4th graders** receiving their very own bibles today upon the completion of their bible study and projects at the 10:30 service! We'll examine a few creeds found in our sacred stories as well in all three services.

Our **Confirmation Sunday is May 1st**! Please join us during worship as seven of our young 7th and 8th graders make their confirmation. Two of them come from the 9:00 Gathering worship and five of them come from the 10:30 worship. It's a big

deal! I'm so proud of this group of young men and women. Just a fantastic bunch!

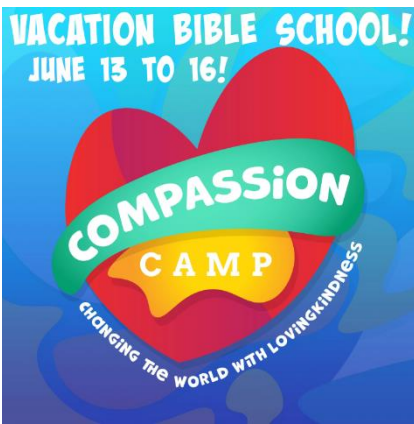
Our **Annual Meeting is ONE SERVICE at 10 a.m. on May 22nd**. We'll vote on a new moderators and review the miles traveled this past year. Teams, please get your reports into the office ASAP. Some folks have asked why we're not using the phone voting system like we did in 2020-2021. It was not cost effective to continue using this service for just two Sundays a year. Plus, sometimes the old ways are the best ways. We have to show up and give of our time and ask good questions and discern together the direction of the church. That is best done in real time, together, at the annual meeting. Please c'mon out as we're also going to celebrate Jim's retirement and his years of music service with us!

Would you like to join our church family!? Join us for our next **New Member Classes!** The next classes will be held **Mondays, May 16th & 23rd. Classes will be held from 7 pm – 9 pm** in the New Library. New members will join the church on **Pentecost Sunday, June 5th**. Childcare is provided if needed during class. Please Register here in [REALM](#) or contact the Church Office at 330-725-4559 if you are interested and let us know if you will need childcare.



S P R I N G N E W M E M B E R S C L A S S

May 16 and 23 at 7p.m. New Library
New Member Sunday, June 5



Come enjoy a week at **Compassion Camp VBS** where we learn how we can change the world with loving kindness. We will have fun learning bible stories, playing games, making crafts and so much more. Registration ends on May 30th. [You may register here in REALM](#). Please, complete the registration form (one per child) and return it plus the **\$10.00 registration fee** for each child or **\$25 family maximum** to the church office or Hobby Horse office by **Monday, May 30th**. Please make checks payable to Medina UCC with VBS in the memo. If you have any questions, or would like to help please call Stacie Yates (330-304-7877) or Jen Villmonivic at (330-722-1445)

And finally a **doctoral update**. I need to do a few revisions and resubmit to my two readers. Once the readers okay the draft, I will present to the seminary sometime in early May. The plan will be to graduate on May 21 with my Doctorate of Ministry in Adaptive Leadership. It's not a PhD, but a D.Min. (Wait, wasn't Jesus casting those out in the gospels?!) Both degrees are intended to create experts in their own respects – the PhD for the academy and for the church more indirectly, the D.Min more directly for churches and other ministry settings with the academy secondary.

The title of the thesis is *Belonging at the End of the Aberrant Time: Adaptive Leadership as discernment for Church*. Gil Rendle defines the Aberrant Time as the post-WWII boom up until the 1970s for churches. The rate of church membership increased to unprecedented levels in this time. This time is ending. What many think of as “normal” is actually a strange time as it has never happened before and it is not likely to repeat. What's the way forward when church membership returns back to normal? My thesis states that churches with high levels of trust and belonging who use Adaptive Leadership methods will be best suited to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this time. Your prayers are coveted that I can finish this and graduate THIS. YEAR. That'll be more than good enough.

Yours in Christ,
Luke

KID SNACK PACK PROJECT

In celebration of Global Youth Service Day on Sunday, May 1, our Sunday School classes and Youth Groups will be learning about hunger and how they can impact food insecure neighbors in the Medina community. The kids will create snack packs that can be distributed by the church to the seven Little Free Food Pantries in town. *Youth group will assemble the packs Sunday, May 1, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the church.

We welcome anyone in the congregation who would like to contribute food items to bring donations to the marked box in the mission area by Sunday, May 1.

Suggested items geared towards kids include:

cheese & cracker packs, peanut butter cracker packs, granola bars, individual cups of peanut butter, fruit & veggie pouches, individual animal cracker packs, instant oatmeal packs, breakfast bars, applesauce/fruit cups, mini muffin packs, yogurt raisins, teddy graham packs, mini cereal boxes, pudding cups, non-refrigerated yogurt packs, mac & cheese cups, & fruit snacks.

Assembled packs and maps to discover the Medina Little Free Food Pantries will be available to the congregation in the mission area for anyone at the church to deliver at their leisure until gone.

Questions? Contact Ellen Nolan 814-282-8493 or Katy Medley

April 24, 2022
Second Sunday of Easter; *Armenian Martyrs' Day*
Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries Sunday/Break the Silence Sunday

Acts 5:27-32

Resurrection Witness

Soothing Spirit, whose gentle winds hovered over the Euphrates, surround our souls with support in these days of remembrance. Strengthen our resolve to never let anyone forget the atrocities of April 24 and beyond –the genocide of the Armenian People.

They wanted to kill all of the aunts and uncles and grandparents and place the very last one in a museum to show their sordid victory. But they did not win. Hate was not victorious. We remember the spirits of our ancestors, of our sisters and brothers in Christ, marching through the mayhem of death, confusion, loss. We remember their steps on the march to Deir-Zor.

Their empty stomachs and heavy hearts. Their lives chipped away as they lost their mom, or baby, or brother, and endured violations of body, mind and soul.

In gratitude, we remember those who defied their people, the Turkish and Kurdish souls who rebelled against the powers-that-be saving the lives of our kin. We are grateful for those who stand against the powers today and refuse to call these events anything but a genocide.

Heal our hearts as the deniers' speeches become louder and louder. Their words will melt into the pool of justice one day. We give voice to the trauma that lingered in survivors' hearts from the days they left their homes in the 'Old Country' to the moment when they saw the face of God. Help all who carry the stories of the past into the future so that we will not forget, and we will not stand by, as more of God's children are massacred. We pray for the survivors of all genocides that burned our earth and stole our siblings-Armenia, the Holocaust, Rwanda, Cambodia, Bosnia, Darfur, and then some...

And then some more...

Knowing that God will give them resurrection from the ashes of yesterday, rising into the winds of tomorrow.

By Rev. Michele Torrigian, whose grandfather was a survivor of the Armenian genocide. Reprinted with permission. <https://michellelorigian.com/tag/prayer-for-armenian-genocide/>

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