

WE ARE FRAGILE

Good Enough



MEDINA

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. CONGREGATIONAL

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

MUSIC FOR GATHERING “Wonderful, Merciful Savior” – arr. Bruce Inman Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME

SONG

“Good Enough”

Marsha Moors-Charles & Chuck Bell, © 2021

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

1 What in our lives do we dream a - bout for to - mor - row, void of sor - row? __

2 Time spent re - grett - ing de - ci - sions of our yes - ter - days, mi - stakes we made?

3 Some - times we get what we get, life dis - ap - points us and yet, _____

4 God is still here and some - how, this faith is good _____ e - nough.

CALLING ON GOD (Based on Psalm 126)

Leader: Let us pray together:

People: Holy One, Lover of Souls, we call out to you. You know our tears and sorrows, and you bear the seeds of grief with us. Open us this day to your comfort that nurtures these seeds into sheaves of joy—the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

THE CHILDREN LEAD US

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.

*OPENING HYMN

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2019

"The Lord Went to a Dinner"

ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6.D

Arthur Henry Mann, 1888

The Lord went to a dinner, and Mary took perfume.
As she anointed Jesus, the fragrance filled the room.
She'd sat as a disciple, she'd been a faithful friend,
and now, with costly fragrance, she honored Christ again.

Soon Judas was complaining, "This gift could have been sold;
We could have helped the poor here — the young ones and the old.
Yet Jesus said, "My people will always help the poor,
but Mary chose to give this — to me, her dying Lord."

Her gift was her expression of thankfulness and praise,
and so it makes us wonder, in these long Lenten days:
What would we give to Jesus if he sat at our meal?
What gift would be our kindness and what would it reveal?

O Lord, today we offer the best that we can bring —
our worship as a fragrance, our love, an offering.
And now, as we're reminded the poor are with us still,
we pray that we may serve them — to honor you, as well.

HONEST QUESTIONS, COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Leader: Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the need to avoid suffering at the cost of denying the fullness of life. We are invited into the knowledge that Christ's vulnerability in life, death, and resurrection shows us the sacred nature of the heights and depths of sorrow and joy in our own saga.
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 "All My Trials" – Bahamian melody, arr. Russell Robinson Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE John 12:1-8 (N.T. pg. 100) 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

"We are fragile" Rev. Laura Fitt-Baird, Guest Minister

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Song

"That's Enough for Me"

Barney E. Warren, 1893; Marcia McFee, 2022

WARNER 10.10.10.9.6.6.10.7
Daniel S. Warner, 1893; Chuck Bell, 2022



1. Though all a-long our dail-y pil-grim race our treas-ures small and ve-ry few may be,
2. When food and rai-ment are not ev-er sure, and sim-ple fare is hard to get for some,



our souls are blest with God's un-end-ing grace, and that is e-nough, e-nough for me.
we work to share our goods with one and all, and that is e-nough, e-nough for me.



Oh that's _____ e-nough for me, _____ God's
Oh, that's _____ e-nough for me, _____ God's



truth _____ has set me free; _____ The love _____ of Christ has
truth _____ has set me free; _____ A love _____ like Christ's is



sanc-ti-fied my soul, And _____ that _____ is e-nough for _____ me.
meant for ev-'ry soul, And _____ that _____ is e-nough for _____ me.

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

In honor of our wounds and tender places, we give. We give not counting the cost. We give so that the hurt of others are lessened. Let us rise in body or spirit and sing to our God.

*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. All bread served is gluten free.

Invitation to the Table

The Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*CLOSING HYMN

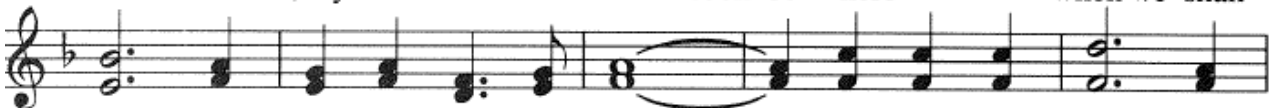
"Be Still, My Soul"

Katharina von Schlegel, 1752, trans. Jane L. Borthwick, 1855; alt.

FINLANDIA 11.10.11.10.11.10.
Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. The Hymnal, 1933



1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-
2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in
3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to
fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-
be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment

or - der and pro - vide; in ev - ery change God
 dence let noth - ing shake; all now mys - te - rious
 gone, no grief nor fear, sor - row re - placed with
 faith-ful will re - main. Be still, my soul: your best e - ter - nal
 shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 joy for - ev - er - more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are
 friend through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 know how Je - sus' pow - er ruled them long a - go.
 past, all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

A BLESSING FOR WHEN YOU'RE IN GRIEF (from Good Enough by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie)

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: And now, may the God who loves all of creation,
People: especially the grief-stricken parts,
 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** "Postlude on a Pedal Theme" – Allen James Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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 of when vulnerability turned out to be...



**Good
Enough**

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“Good Enough” theme song by Marsha Charles, Marcia McFee, Chuck Bell.
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“A Blessing for when you’re in grief” 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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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

APRIL 3, 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 3, 2022 thru April 10, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 5th 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 EASTER LILY ORDERS DUE!!!

Cook for Cups Café

1:00 pm Bible Encounter CANCELLED

7:00 pm Bible Encounter CANCELLED

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

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

Fri

Sat

Sun PALM SUNDAY

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir rehearsal
9:30 am 3rd & 4th Grades Bible Class
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:30 pm Bible Class Bible Project
Presentations
3:00 pm Confirmation Make Up Class

ENCOUNTER – BIBLE STUDY

Please join us as we read through the Sacred Stories. Mondays at 1pm and 7pm. **Note: we will not meet on 4/4.**

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

Scriptures: John 12:1-8

Sermon: “We Are Fragile”

Rev. Laura Fitt-Baird, Guest Minister

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Chuck and Nancy Masi in honor of their 65th Wedding Anniversary.

PASTOR LUKE’S SCHEDULE

Pastor Luke will be out of the office Monday April 4th.

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER EASTER LILIES

It’s time to order your Easter Lily! You may donate a lily in honor or memory of someone to decorate the Chapel, Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary for Easter and claim it afterward, or have it delivered to a shut-in by the Flower Committee. The cost is \$10.00. **Deadline for ordering is April 4th** Please fill out a yellow lily order sheet (available from the ushers) and turn it in to the church office OR you can purchase directly through REALM. [Click Here](#) for REALM.

COOK 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 or help? 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 or (330) 283-2742 if you would like to help.

EASTER CANDY NEEDED

The DELTs will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at church after the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday. We are asking for Easter candy donations to stuff the Easter Eggs with. Please make sure the candy fits in the little eggs. There will be a container in the Welcoming Area to put your donations in. Thank you in advance! The kids appreciate it!

EASTER EGG HUNT AT UCC!

Sunday April 17th after the 10:30 service

We are going to try something new this year. On Easter Sunday, after the 10:30 service, we will have a quick Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The children should bring their Easter Basket or a bag so they can add a few more eggs to their collection. We will have the hunt in the grass by the pergola. Hope to see you then!

EASTER BAG UPDATE

Thank you for enthusiastically supporting our Easter Bag ministry! Please bring the bags back to the church no later than Friday, April 8th so they may be ready to be blessed by the church and Pastor Luke on Palm Sunday. Look for a designated area outside of the library.

BIBLE SUNDAY

Bible Sunday will be April 24th. On this day, 11 very special 3rd and 4th graders will be presented their very own bible. We hope you can join us for their special day and help us celebrate them.

COME JOIN THE CARE 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 Care Team. Each year the Care 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.

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday will be in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. on April 14th and will be livestreamed.

Good Friday will be held in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. on April 15th and will also be livestreamed.

Easter Sunday! We'll have our 4 services! The sunrise at Spring Grove Chapel at 7 a.m., then our 8:15, 9 and 10:30 celebrations!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be held June 13-16 and registration will begin on Easter Sunday. Mark your calendars and plan to be part of the fun! If you are willing to help and volunteer in any way, please see Stacie Yates.

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

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

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 **Care 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 Care Team will host each week. Coffee hour will come to an end for the summer months but will resume in mid-August. In the Fall, we will be looking for volunteers to host Coffee Hour.

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH

On Palm Sunday, April 10th after church services, the **Care Team** will be distributing sunflower seed packets to thank you for any donation towards Ukraine's aid. Why sunflowers? **The sunflower (or "soniashnyk") is Ukraine's national flower** and has been grown on its central and eastern grasslands since the middle of the 18th century, cultivated for its seeds, which are eaten as a snack, or crushed into oil, a key ingredient in cooking and an export product of vital importance. Plant your seeds this Spring. Once your sunflowers bloom, take a picture and send them to the church. *"Love is grown where seeds are sown."*

OPERATION HOMES

... is looking for some help from our Church! Operation Homes is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the homeless of Medina County by providing food and shelter. Local churches are providing individual meals to those in the program. **Our Church was asked to provide meals April 4th-11th!** You will be asked to provide a meal for several clients on one of these days and drop the food off. More details will be provided when you reach out. This is a great way to give back this Lenten season! If you would like to help please contact Maureen Walker at [330-321-1192](tel:330-321-1192) or at rini72@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 3, 2022
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Ramadan begins

Isaiah 43:16-21

Something New

On this day, the prophet Isaiah boldly declares God's plan to do a new thing. It is one of the blessings of the scheduled lectionary readings that this is also the first day of Ramadan for our Muslim brothers and sisters. This month of fasting marks the month that the words of the Qur'an were revealed to the prophet Muhammad and is a time of growing closer to the Holy One.

As people of the Word, we are siblings with our Muslim neighbors. Yet, historically, the relationship between Christians and Muslims has been fraught with misunderstanding and even violence.

How might your church or conference be part of a new thing done in God's name, as we begin to rewrite that history by building bridges where traditionally there have been walls?

The New York Conference of the United Church of Christ has built a bridge by providing resources for education and inspiration. The conference has added a web page about supporting Muslim neighbors to their website. Besides personal narratives, it provides quotes and helpful resources for those wanting to learn and read more. You can read them here: <http://uccny.org/resources/resources-to-support-muslim-neighbors/>

Some churches have taken the next step, from education to action. The United Church of Christ Pacific Northwest Conference encourages churches to do a new thing by honoring their Muslim neighbors very tangibly during Ramadan. These churches were invited to do one or more of these actions:

- 1) Hang a banner or change their message boards in a way that honors our Muslim neighbors.
- 2) Take time to make an appointment to visit a local mosque or Islamic center to bring greetings from their local congregation.
- 3) Consider hosting an event to learn more about Islam and make a special effort to speak up against anti-Muslim rhetoric.

You can read more about the Pacific Northwest Conference's outreach to the Muslim community during Ramadan here:

https://www.ucc.org/honoring_sacred_time_uniting_ucc_muslim_faith_community_in_pacific_northwest/