

Faces of Jesus

Images
of our
savior
in art
and
creed

THE HARROWING
OF HELL





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 “Our Savior, Our Shepherd: A Meditation” -arr. Gayden Sikes Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836

BRADBURY 8.7.8.7.D
Williams B. Bradbury, 1859



1. Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine; do thou be - friend us; be the guard - ian of our way;
 3. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor; ear - ly let us do thy will;



in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare.
 keep thy flock; from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a - stray.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear thy chil-dren when we pray;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;



bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear thy chil-dren when we pray.
bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

*CREEDAL CONFESSIONS: The Apostle's Creed

Leader: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth;

People: **and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,**

Leader: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

People: **was crucified, died, and was buried.**

Leader: He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;

People: **He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty;**

Leader: from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" – arr. Jack Schrader
Text by William Williams; Tune by John Hughes

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURES Psalm 23 (O.T. pg. 474)
John 10:22-30 (N.T. pg. 98)

Deb Waldron, Liturgist

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

NEW BRITAIN C.M.

John Newton, (1725-1807), alt; vs. 5, anonymous

Virginia Harmony, 1831; adapt. Edwin O. Excell (1851-1921)



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re-lieved;
 3 The Lord has prom-ised good to me, his word my hope se-cures;
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares I have al - read - y come;
 5 When we've been there ten thou-sand years, bright shin - ing as the sun,



I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.
 how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be-lieved!
 he will my shield and por - tion be as long as life en-dures.
 'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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

Forgive our lack of faith, oh God. We give in faith and trust to this church for the benefit of our neighbors in need. Guide our time, talent, and treasure, we humbly ask. Hear your children as we rise and body or spirit and make a joyful noise to you.

*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. Amen.**

*Prayer after Offering

Good Shepherd, you are our comfort in life and death. Yea though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we shall fear no evil. We give not to avoid a hell we cannot see when we die, but to prevent real hells we can see forming here. Guide our offerings we dedicate to you here and now. In the name of Jesus, our teacher and in the guidance of your Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"I Am Yours, O Lord"

I AM YOURS 10.7.10.7. with refrain

William H. Doane, 1874

Fanny Crosby, 1874; alt.



1 I am yours, O Lord, I have heard your voice, and it
 2 O the pure de - light of a sin - gle hour that be -
 3 Con - se - crate me now to your ho - ly work by the
 4 There are depths of love that I can - not know till I



told your love to me; But I long to rise in the
 fore your throne I spend, When I kneel in prayer, and with
 power of grace di - vine; Let my soul look up with a
 cross the nar - row sea; There are heights of joy that I

Refrain



arms of faith, drawn to you e - ter - nal - ly.
 you, my God, I com - mune as friend with friend! Draw me
 stead - fast hope; let your will be done, not mine.
 may not reach till I rest e - ter - nal - ly.



near - er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to the cross where you have died;



Draw me near-er, near-er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to your pre-cious, bleed-ing side.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Know that wherever you go,

People: To the highest heavens or we descend into hell,

Leader: God is there with you, each step of the way;

**People: He descended into Hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,**

Leader: We remember the promise that "Where I am, you shall also be."

People: We have been blessed to be a blessing, we shall go from here with this good news!

Leader: 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 "Trumpet Recessional" - Henry Kihlken**

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

+++++

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

About the bulletin cover...

Christ and St. John from the Last Supper, painted on silk, China 19th-20th Century.

+++++

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - email: luke@uccmedina.org

Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor – email: karen@uccmedina.org

OFFICE STAFF

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - email: office@uccmedina.org

Jeff Miller, Financial Director - email: jeff@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education – stacie@uccmedina.org

Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth – nicole@uccmedina.org

Jim Kiser, Director of Music – jim@uccmedina.org

Cathy Fafrak, Organist – cathy@uccmedina.org

Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – jen@uccmedina.org

Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor

Sharon Perry, Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

MAY 8, 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

May 8, 2022 thru May 15, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun **MOTHER'S DAY
OFFERING TO SUPPORT COSTA RICA**

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Traditional Worship

Mon **1:00 pm Bible Encounter
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

Thurs

Fri

Sat

Sun 8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Bell rehearsal
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:45 am Mission Team Meeting
4:30 pm Men's Group
4:30 pm Youth Group

CRAFTS READY FOR DELIVERY

Spring crafts called 'Showers of Flowers' are ready for delivery. Stop by the display in the Welcome Area to pick up a craft to take to church members who are homebound, shut-in, and in care facilities. Please sign for a craft on the sheet provided and call the recipient ahead of time to make arrangements for visitation delivery.

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

Scripture: Psalm 23 & John 10:22-30

Sermon: "The Harrowing of Hell"
-Rev. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Matt & Stacie Yates in honor of their wedding anniversary.

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Every Mother's Day we take up a collection for **Friends in Need or the Amanda Fund**. 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. **The offering this year will help a young family in Costa Rica who are in desperate need!** Please consider your generous gift this Mother's Day.

ANNUAL MEETING

ONE SERVICE-10 AM ON MAY 22ND

We'll vote on new moderators, review the miles traveled this past year, ask good questions and discern together the direction of the church. Please c'mon out as we're also going to celebrate Jim's retirement and his 15 years of music service with us!

ENCOUNTER – BIBLE STUDY

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

Final dates are: 5/9 & 5/16

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.**

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

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.

NEW MEN'S GROUP 1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS

All men are invited to join in a new men's group facilitated by Chuck Rihm, one of our new members who is utilizing the Way of Council, 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. Our next meeting is May 15th. Contact Chuck at rihm@compuserve.com or 440-503-8021 for questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Come enjoy a week at **Compassion Camp VBS** where we'll 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. [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 Vilimonovic at (330-722-1445).

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

The Caring Team will continue to host Coffee Hour during the month of May. Come on out for fellowship after the 10:30 service!

COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP

Please keep members of the Costa Rica mission trip in your prayers this week as they are building a house in the Sarapiquí area, a valley in the mountains about 2 hours from San Jose. The family is an immigrant family from Nicaragua with two children. In addition to needing clean and safe housing, they were robbed of what little belongs they had. **Our Mother's Day Offering this year will be to help this young family in Costa Rica** who are in need of everything!

Jeff Miller has set up a direct online payment option in REALM under the Mother's Day Fund to make donating easier. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

THANK YOU!!!

The Lenten Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser raised \$2,835! Thank you for your generosity, support and help to meet our goal.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Ice Cream Social on the square is coming up on Friday, June 10th! Mark your calendars to listen to the wonderful band concert on the square and enjoy ice cream and pie too! Stay tuned for more details next Sunday, May 15th.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Lori & Dave Glover are new grandparents! Nora Claire Ciulla was born on May 3rd weighing in at 5 lbs.! Congratulations to the proud parents, Ally & Vince!

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

With Jim Kiser's retirement in a few weeks, a search team has been constituted to take on the task of finding a new Music Director. Led by Pete Metzloff, other members include Tracy Gabrielsen, Harry Buch, Pam Branscome, and our organist, Cathy Fafrak. We have formulated a Job Description, published it on several professional job-seeking internet websites, and have already received a number of inquiries from interested applicants. The task of sorting through these inquiries and separating the wheat from chaff has started, and we hope to identify a new Music Director before Summer's end. The Job Description can be found on Medina UCCC's website. Please feel free to share news of this search with folks you might know: those individuals who know the immense spiritual power of music, and who possess the necessary professional qualifications to lead all of us into experiencing that power. And, of course, we invite to share your hopes and comments about this enterprise with members of the Search Team. We're in the church directory, and we, your Search Team, will keep you posted on our progress. Stay tuned.

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

Acts 9:36-43

Life-giving Acts

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time, she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so, when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the LORD. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon. (NRSV)

This story of the healing of Tabitha/Dorcas is populated with lively and fascinating characters. Take a moment to step into the shoes of each of these people, imagining what they must have seen, heard, smelled, tasted, and touched, not only as part of this story but before and especially afterwards.

Imagine yourself first as Peter. How do you feel when you are summoned to help this woman who you have never met? What gives you the courage and the authority to know what to do in this seemingly hopeless situation? What leads to your decision to stay in the area of Joppa after this initial healing?

Imagine yourself as Tabitha. Imagine being willing to give all that you have and are in service to others. What would be your reaction to learning you are ill? What changes might you feel in your body and mind when you are called from the precipice of death back into health and wellness?

Imagine yourself as one of the widows or disciples. How do you react to this rollercoaster of events from serious illness back to life? How will being witness to this situation change you going forward?

Imagine yourself as Simon the Tanner. Tanning is difficult, dangerous, and smelly work. How does it feel to welcome one of Jesus' followers into your home? How might it change you?