



COULD
BE
BEAUTIFUL

US EWA0272CS15



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

- *Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3 through those entering 3rd 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 “The Beauty of My Father’s World” – Bill Wolaver

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

WELCOME

Leader: Good morning, Church! We are Medina, United Church of Christ, Congregational, and no matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey

People: **You are welcome here.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

*Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.
Refrain*

ROYAL OAK 7.6.7.6. with refrain
English melody, adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "All Things Bright and Beautiful". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics "All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small," are written below the treble staff. The score includes a refrain section.

Last time, end

All things wise and won - der - ful, our dear God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,

to Refrain

God made their glow-ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
The sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
The ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Make a joyful sound to the Holy One. Let the earth rejoice.

People: **How awesome are your works, O Sovereign!**

Leader: Creation groans under the pressure of war, environmental abuse, and communal disconnection.

People: **We cry out to you, Present God, and you hear and respond.**

Leader: You turn our mourning into movement and stir our souls to action and to rest.

People: **Everlasting God, we will give thanks and praise you for you clothe us in joy and peace.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Enchanted City" – lesson book authors, Palmer, Manus, & Lethco

Sam Lindon, piano

"This Little Light of Mine" – Harry Dixon Loes/arr. Randa Kirshbaum

Eve Lindon, voice

SCRIPTURES

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 (N.T. pg. 66)

Deb Waldron, Liturgist

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD

Pastor Luke

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.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Spirit of the Living God, temptation surrounds us. Self-preservation lures us to indifference. Fear of confrontation coaxes us to keep silent about things that matter. The desire to be right entices us to ignore the cries of our neighbors. Too often we ignore the call to go and to be in favor of staying stuck in our attitudes and behaviors. Too often, we are the ones who refuse to welcome you into our intimate space, who resist the work of transformation, and who remain unresponsive to the burdens of our siblings in creation. Spirit of Gentleness, redirect us back to the path of life, the way of justice, and the hope of peace. Hear our private prayers as we turn to you in silence...

Leader: And the church says,

People: Amen.

SERMON

"Could Be Beautiful"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

***HYMN**

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Fred Kaan, 1975; alt. ©1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD L.M. with refrain
Jamaican Folk Song, adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!



Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

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

Distribution of the Elements

Thanksgiving and Offering

Leader: The generous life responds to the call to mutuality and burden sharing. The generous life recognizes the abundance of creation and trusts the generosity of the Giver of every good and perfect gift. The generous life follows the steps of Jesus in meeting needs, spreading hope, and sharing love.

People: We will rise in body or spirit and sing praise to you, our God.

**Doxology (words, Ruth Duck, ©2005, GIA Publications)*

Praise God, the Source of life and birth; Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame; All glory, honor to God's Name! Amen.

*Dedication

Creator, bless these gifts that we bring to this community and the world. May our time be used preciously, our treasure shared faithfully, and our talents demonstrated gloriously in your name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

Katharine Lee Bates, 1895

MATERNA C.M.D.
Samuel A. Ward, 1882

A musical score for the hymn "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies". It features a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom, both in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains the bass line. Below the treble staff, there are four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a different verse of the hymn. The lyrics are: 1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain, 2. O beau-ti-ful for pil-grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress 3. O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved In lib-er-at-ing strife, 4. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream That sees be-yond the years. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

For pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit-ed plain!
 A thor-ough-fare for free-dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!
 Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer-cy more than life!
 Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea.
 Con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law.
 Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine.
 And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION** (First line is from *Good Bones* by Maggie Smith)

Leader: Life is short and the world is at least half terrible,

People: **Christ sends us out in pairs to bend the world toward blessing.**

Leader: In whatever way you can, however God calls you, in whatever small way

People: **May we cast out evil, receive and give gracious hospitality, and let justice roll like might waters.**

Leader: Go! And be about this work! And may you return rejoicing to our doors with the wonders God has shown you! Go, for this service has ended.

People: **And our service 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 "God of the Ages" – arr. Steven Scott**

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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How you can give to Medina, UCC, Congregational

There is an offering plate by the East Toom 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!

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. 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

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PROGRAM STAFF

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

Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth – nicole@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

JULY 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

July 3, 2022 thru July 10, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
	4:30 pm	Men's Group
Mon	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED TODAY Cook for Cups	
Tues	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	7:00 pm	Evangelism Team
	7:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
Thurs		
Fri		
Sat	6-9 pm	ORMACO (Rain Site)
Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship

OPERATION HOMES WANTS YOU!

We need help getting Operation Homes up and running at our Church! This has been in the works for a long time.

How can you help?

- Sign up to be a greeter
- Spend the night in the church
- Help prepare and serve a hot dinner
- Donate breakfast and lunch items

If you are interested, please sign up on the Mission Board in the East Room Hallway so we can get this program up and running this summer! Questions? Please contact Maureen Walker or Pastor Luke about this exciting mission!

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

Scripture: Luke 10:1-11,16-20

Sermon: "Could Be Nice" - Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by John & Joan Walschon in memory of John's mother, Bette Robertson.

EVANGELISM NEEDS YOUR HELP!

It's not too late to join the fun and volunteer at the UCC table on the Square during the Medina Fest on **Saturday, July 16!** You are the Church, and this is a way to be part of the festivities and show our UCC love for community. We will be having a craft activity (Froot Loop edible necklaces!) along with corn hole. It is **ONLY** a two-hour commitment. Time slots available are from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (10-12, 12-2). It's a great way to hang out, bring a friend/family member to volunteer. You will be asked to assist at corn hole and with the craft (probably one hour each task). You may sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/UCCFest>

Have questions? Contact Sari Allen 330-725-2869 or sari.allen@zoominternet.net

MUSICAL SUPPORT TEAM

The Worship Committee is in the process of forming a small group of volunteers who would be interested in reinstating a "Musical support team". This team would support the musical program at our church. Members would not need to have musical talent, simply an interest in supporting the music program at UCC Medina. If you are interested in learning more about this effort, please notify the church office at 330-725-4559.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Our recent 5-for-5 campaign for Strengthen the Church concluded on June 5th, which we received \$200 in gifts. The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

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. The new sign-up sheets are up for July thru August.

THANK YOU!

The church would like to give special thanks to our Caring Team for the outstanding job they did serving lunches to the racers and the city volunteers on the day of the Great Race!

It was a busy day, and it was fun to meet the racers. Thank you to: Darlene Fazekas, Sandy Behler, Bonnie Shuman, Carol & John Sandora, Myra Fabian, Diane Howard, Becky Weber, Sari Allen, and Sue & Ken Dean. You all did a fantastic job!

TIME TO CELEBRATE YOU!

50 + YEAR MEMBERS SAVE THE DATE!

If you've been a member of our church for 50 years or more, please save

Saturday, October 8, 2022
From 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

for a celebration luncheon. Invitations will be mailed out early in September.

If you haven't yet been here for 50 years and want to help with the luncheon, put this date on your calendar and contact the church office or Sue Dean @ 330-952-1840.

YOU CAN STILL SPONSOR A BIBLE!

To show our gratefulness for the inspired word, the Endowment Fund, the Worship Team and the Caring Team are sponsoring an 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. 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 use the REALM app and go to "Registration Events" and fill in the information and pay there. What better way celebrate the month of hearts than by making a gift of \$25.00 to lift up the living word. Won't you make your donation this week? You can also [click here](#) to sponsor your bible.

SERVE ONE ANOTHER HUMBLLY IN LOVE

We are excited to bring you this opportunity to serve. We have partnered with Church World Service to assemble Clean-Up Kits. These kits will be distributed to areas hit by hurricanes, floods



and other natural disasters to assist in clean up and restorative efforts. Scan the QR code for the link to sign up to donate specific items needed to assemble the kits. All donations will be due to the church by 3 p.m. Friday, July 15th. We will gather our youth group for the sorting and assembling process on July 16th at 10 a.m.

You may also find the sign up at this address: <http://tinyurl.com/CWSCleanup>

YOUR MISSION FUNDS

Our Mission Team has been busy thanks to your giving! Here is a brief recap on how our Mission Fund gifts are being spent to help our community!

- YTD giving is spot on! We budgeted \$38,470.77 in income and we have received \$38,515.42, so \$44.65 over budgeted income.
- We have sent OCWM \$7,500, with a remaining \$22,500 to give for the year. Another \$7,500 will be sent at end of June.
- We have sent Habitat \$11,000. \$8,414.17 out of annual budget + \$2,585.83 from restricted funds. The restricted funds are from gifts through our recent Habitat for Humanity drive.
- We have spent the budgeted \$8,000 for our annual Costa Rica Mission Trip.
- We have spent \$2,935 from the Mission Projects Budget, with a balance remaining of \$16,256.40
 - \$2,735 to the Children's Center
 - \$200 to Maureen Walker for the Pinwheels project for the Children's Center.
- We have provided \$2,085.76 in local assistance, through the Shepherd's Fund (Utilities, Rent Assistance, Motel)
- We have spent \$1,500 towards the Aldi Gift Cards, out of the Community Outreach fund.

Overall, income and budget look awesome. The Mission Team is doing a great job in managing your Mission Fund gifts!

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

2 Kings 5:1-14

Surprising Prophets

*This is my song, O God of all the nations
A song of peace for lands afar and mine
This is my home, the country where my heart is
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

Of all the interesting characters we find in the busy book of Kings, Naaman is perhaps the most relatable to modern people. Mostly, his life is pretty good. He is successful at his career. He's well-regarded by his peers. He has enough money to be more or less comfortable. He just has this one irritating problem - a skin ailment that will not leave him be.

When he finds out that a healer in a neighboring country might be able to help him, he's able to wield his influence and power to find a way there. When he reaches the healer's house, he is not welcomed in, as he would have expected after a long journey. Instead, he's instructed by a servant to go bathe in the nearby Jordan River.

Insulted, he stomps off. Again, relatable. You can just imagine him fuming that he had paid the guy, and he didn't even get a meeting. And what kind of river was the Jordan anyway? The rivers in Naaman's own country were much more impressive.

When Naaman decides to fill the healer's frustrating prescription, he is cured of more than his physical ailment. Perhaps even more importantly, he is relieved of his prideful nationalism, the belief that they do things best back where he's from.

Today is the day before American Independence Day, and many of us will raise our voices in songs of praise for our own nation's majesty and beauty. Today might also be a day to turn to page 591 in *The New Century Hymnal*, to give voice to the humility, curiosity, and generosity that is the path to knowing, like Naaman, that unthinking nationalism is never going to be what heals. What heals is curiosity and respect for all people.

*Stone, Lloyd. "This is my song." *The Hymnal* © 1933, *The New Century Hymnal* © 1993, p. 591