



**Rich**  
*to World*  
**God**



**MEDINA**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559 [www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org)

**\*\*\*Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher\*\*\***

LIVE STREAMING OF THE SANCTUARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT [UCCMEDINA.ORG](http://UCCMEDINA.ORG)

- *Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3 through those entering 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 CHURCH BELL

**PRELUDE**      “How Can I Keep from Singing?” – arr. Barbara Boertje      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

#### “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

*Ruth Duck, 1984; rev. 1989;*

*words ©1983, rev. 1992 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.*

ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.

*Attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School, New York, 1869*

1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers  
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for  
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -

grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -  
 morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and  
 a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's

in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -  
 war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -  
 good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons

ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that  
 ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that  
 from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that

all may have a - bun - dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.  
 all may have a - bun - dant life in one - ness with their neigh - bor.  
 all may have a - bun - dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Mother Teresa stated "The material poverty of my world pales in comparison...

**People: To the Spiritual poverty of the Western World."**

Leader: Jesus, we are rich in things, but not in the things that matter.

**People: Spirit among and between us, strengthen the ties that bind through our prayers**

Leader: the meditation of our hearts and minds

**People: and the actions that shall flow from here and into an unsuspecting world to bend it to blessing.**

Leader: Be with us and indict and convict us.

**People: We humbly ask you, our Beloved. Amen.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

"In Jesus Name (God of Possible)"

Logan Yates, soloist

by *Katy Nichole, Jeff Pardo, Ethan Hulse & David Spencer*

*CCLI #718326*

*©2022 Centricity Songs (BMI)/Brenthood Music (BMI)/Meaux Mercy (BMI)/Be Essential Songs (BMI)/Spence Money Music. All Rights Reserved*

## SCRIPTURES

Psalm 49:1-12 (O.T. pg. 491) & Luke 12:13-21 (N.T. pg. 70) Cheri Ingraham, 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**

## SERMON

"Rich Toward God"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

## HYMN

"Awake, Awake to Love and Work"

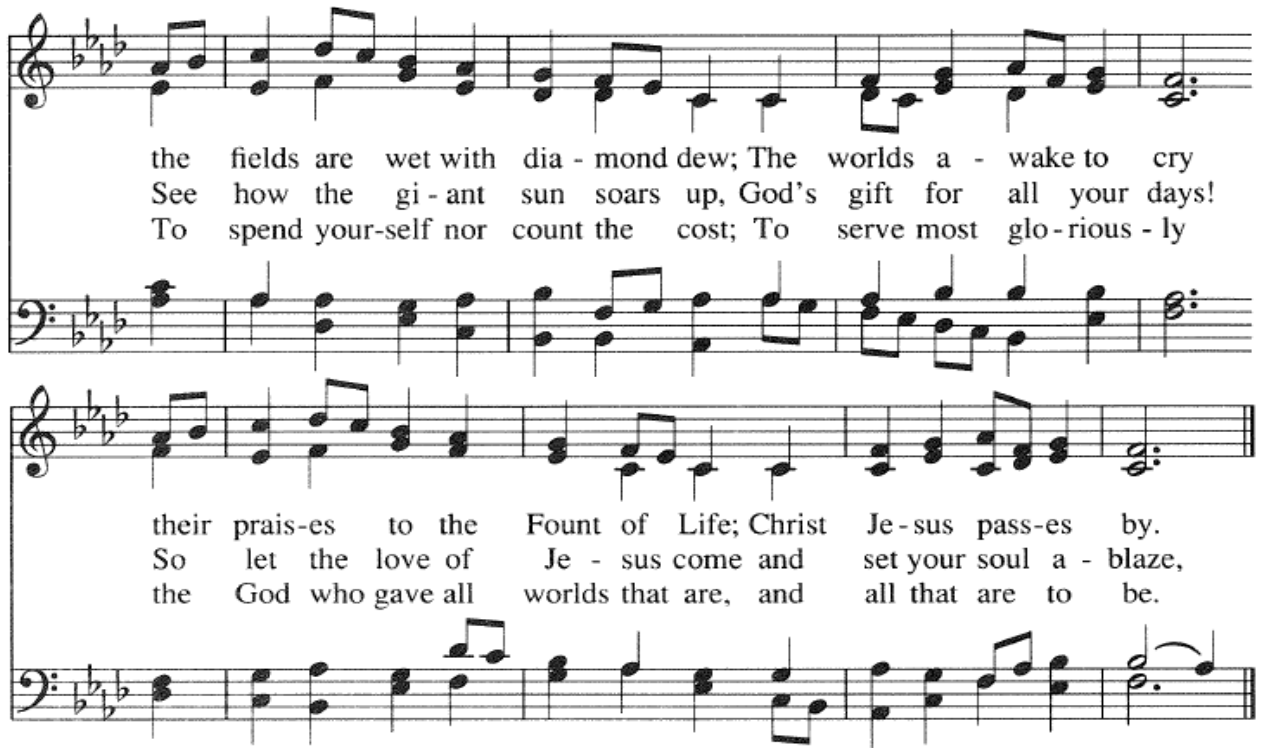
MORNING SONG 8.6.8.6.8.6.

*Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1921; alt.*

*Kentucky Harmony, 1816; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940*

1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;  
2 Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;  
3 To give and give, and give a - gain, as God's own grace is free;

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. There are three lines of lyrics corresponding to the three measures of the melody. The lyrics are: '1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;', '2 Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;', and '3 To give and give, and give a - gain, as God's own grace is free;'. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.



the fields are wet with dia - mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry  
See how the gi - ant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!  
To spend your-self nor count the cost; To serve most glo - rious - ly

their prais-es to the Fount of Life; Christ Je - sus pass-es by.  
So let the love of Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze,  
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

## 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

Leader: Gracious God, we have heard you today

People: **We have plenty of grain laid up for many years. We shall give part of it so that others can take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.**

Leader: Guide our time, talent, and treasure to where it is needed to build and sustain your beloved community.

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.**

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

**God of Creation, we know the best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is today. May what we offer today, one day provide shade for those who come after. May these offerings cover and bless our neighbors. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

"Take My Gifts"

HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7.D.

Shirley Elena Murray, 1991; ©1992 Hope Publishing Company

William Moore, 1825

1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,  
2 Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
3 Take whatever I can offer— gifts that I have yet to find,  
gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,  
harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,  
now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,  
spiced with humor, laced with laughter— flavor of the Jesus life,  
things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:  
now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!  
tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.  
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*BENEDICTION

Leader: My future dead people you have been blessed  
People: **We have been blessed to be a blessing.**  
Leader: Get to do, for the wise and foolish meet the same end!  
People: **It doesn't have to be perfect, it just has to start.**  
Leader: It has to start somewhere. It has to start some time.  
People: **What better place than here? What better time than now?**  
Leader: The gates of hell will not prevail! 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 "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" – arr. Wilbur Held Cathy Fafrak, Organist

### "MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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#### **OFFICE STAFF**

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Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor  
Sharon Perry, Custodian

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## JULY 31, 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](http://www.uccmedina.org/live)

July 31 2022 thru August 7, 2022

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
<b>Mon</b>	Cook for Cups	
<b>Tues</b>	7:00 pm	Bible Study
<b>Wed</b>	<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR STAFF RETREAT / PLANNING</b>	
	10:30 am	Quilters
	7:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Operation Homes Meeting</b>
<b>Fri</b>		
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Operation Homes Meeting</b>
	6:00 pm	Rain Site for ORMACO
<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
	<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>Mission Team Meeting</b>
	4:30 pm	Men's Group

### OPERATION HOMES JOB DESCRIPTION MEETING

All are welcome to join us on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm or Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am. You will hear Bruce Turner, Operation Homes director, speak about what is expected when you come to serve when Operation Homes clients are staying at our Church. The meeting will take place in room 9-10.

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

Scripture: Luke 12: 13-21

Sermon: "Rich Toward God"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table:** The flowers on the communion table are given by Maureen Walker in honor of her mother, and in memory of her father.

### 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 are still in need of liturgists for August & September.

### YOU CAN STILL SPONSOR A BIBLE!

To show our gratefulness for the inspired word, the Endowment Fund, the Worship Team and the Caring Team have been sponsoring an initiative to replace the Bibles in the pews, many of which were torn, faded and damaged. We are seeking a \$25.00 donation for each bible. \$5.00 of that amount will be allocated to the Endowment Fund. We still have about 76 bibles left to be sponsored. **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 to celebrate someone 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.



## **STAFF RETREAT**

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Your church staff will be once again meeting for the day on Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> to regroup and plan for the upcoming church calendar year!

**Please note that the church office will be closed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **CALLING ALL FOOD HELPERS!**

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Just in case you've never prepared a dish for Cup's Cafe, **NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!** Evangelism Team is preparing a meal for Cup's Cafe on Monday, August 1, 2022.

Pulled Pork, slaw, and Ambrosia fruit salad are being prepared, recipes will be provided. If you don't want to do food preparation, we will need 50 hamburger buns.

If interested in helping, please call 330-421-9336 and leave a message if there is no answer. You may also text the above number or email: [sari.allen@zoominternet.net](mailto:sari.allen@zoominternet.net). Have a great summer!

## **YES! WE DO HAVE A LIBRARY!**

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Recently, Pastor Luke made a video and posted it to facebook, regarding our church library.

We have a library off the Welcome Area in the new section of the church. The library has been recently cleaned up and many new books have been added to our collection! You are welcome to borrow any of these books any time you would like! Simply sign your name and write down the book you are borrowing, and that is all there is to it! Just a side note... Pastor Luke uses many of these books when preparing for sermons. "The Orthodox Heretic" is one he will reference in next week's sermon. Check it out!

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL DAY!**

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Our church has the honor of hosting the **Ordination of Leila Jindra** on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend and mark the date on your calendar! Details to follow soon.

## **MUSICAL SUPPORT TEAM**

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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.

## **AED/CPR CLASSES UPDATE**

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For those of you who have signed up to take the AED/CPR Classes and update your certification, you should be receiving an email soon from AIR Childcare Training Solutions.

In this email there should be a link to take your online portion of the classes. Please don't forget that you need to complete this prior to the in-person testing date here at the church, which will be on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, or have not received the email by Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, please contact me in the church office.

Thank you! Cindy Korecky

# SAVE THE DATE!

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Mark your calendars now for  
the 15<sup>th</sup> annual

## ALIVE ON THE SQUARE

Worship & Picnic

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.**

Plan to join us and bring your family and friends! All are welcome!

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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](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)  
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Luke 12:13-21

### Soul Investment

*Then (Jesus) told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So, it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."*

*Luke 12:16-21 NRSV*

This parable reminds us that it is human nature to plan and build newer and larger structures in abundant times. This parable ends with the advice to give to God rather than to the glory and false security for the self. How do we give to God? Many other places in scripture act as reminders that the surest way to give to God is to give to those who have need here and now.

For some congregations, their structures enhance and support their giving to others. For others, the building itself - its care and maintenance - has become their ministry. Prayerful discernment about the role of the building in congregational life can be energizing and lead to new vision and purpose.

During the first half of 2022, the national staff of the United Church of Christ moved from the space that had been home for more than thirty years into new office space. Over the years, the national staff has continued to be reduced. With COVID on the scene, many of the staff began to work from home. The combination of a smaller staff and a greater percentage of those working from home meant that that large space of the old offices was no longer needed. After a period of discernment, it was decided that that building was no longer serving its purpose - to serve the mission and ministry of the church. So, the staff moved their official offices a mile away. The new space at 1300 E. 9th Street in Cleveland, is smaller and more flexible, with an open floor plan that encourages collaboration and innovation.

It will not be the right decision for every church to sell its building and move to smaller quarters. However, every church with a physical plant can ask whether the congregation is serving the building and grounds more than the building and grounds are serving God and neighbor.