

true
worship

MEDINA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



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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 “10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)” – Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman 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

“Community of Christ”



1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
 2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church’s door
 3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
 4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God’s will be done,



live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
 and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
 cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world ’round:
 the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;



The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,



whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.

Shirley Erena Murray, 1985; © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

Traditional Hebrew melody, adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (inspired by Psalm 103:1-11)

Leader: Bless the Lord,

People: Oh my soul,

Leader: May all that is within in us,

People: bless God's holy name.

Leader: The God who blesses us

People: who forgives us when we can't forgive ourselves.

Leader: Who heals us from our disease,

People: even though with might still have the diagnosis.

Leader: Who redeems us from the pit,

People: who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

Leader: The Lord works for justice for the oppressed.

People: May this worship set our compass for the same destination. Thank you, Holy One for leading us to this place and time with our neighbor. Hear us as we sing your praise this morning!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"His Eye Is On the Sparrow"

Colleen Rice, voice

Words by Civilla Martin and Music by Charles H. Gabriel

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 58:9-14 (O.T. pg. 647)

Brad Rice, Liturgist

Luke 13:10-17 (N.T. pg. 71)

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD & BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

Stacie Yates

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (Pastoral prayer by Christine Longhurst, re: Worship)

Leader: God, like the Israelites in the wilderness,
we too have known Your love, and experienced Your care and provision.

**People: You invite us to extend that love to the world around us—to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves.
And so we bring the needs of our world before You now.**

Leader: In Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the many who do not have enough:

**People: enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm;
enough employment, or money to pay their bills;
enough medicine or medical care.**

Leader: In Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We also pray for those who have more than enough,

People: but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life; who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities to dull their pain or loneliness.

Leader: In Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: God, Your grace reaches out to all of us.

You call us to live as citizens of heaven, working together with one heart and mind.

**People: Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of the Good News we have received,
offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,
where the last are first, and the first are last,
and there is grace enough for all.**

Leader: In Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray saying,

People: 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.

SERMON "True Worship"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

HYMN "Christian, Rise, and Act Your Creed"

Francis Albert Rollo Russell, 1893; alt.

INNOCENTS 7-7-7.
The Parish Choir, 1850



1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your
2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can
3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's



prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the
help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing
wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble



true, raise your work and life a - new.
light, strength - en them to do the right.
zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.

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 (Isaiah 58:6)

Leader: This is the fast that we choose:

People: to loose the bonds of injustice,

Leader: to undo the thongs of the yoke,

People: to let the oppressed go free.

Leader: Let rise in body or spirit and sing praise to our chain breaking 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 (Isaiah 58:7-8)

May what we offer give bread to the hungry, bring the homeless poor into shelter, to cover the naked, and let our light break forth like the dawn. May this further healing in our land in within ourselves. Mend us and bind us together, O God, O Christ, our Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

William Williams, 1745, transl. st. 2-3, 1772; alt. St. 1, trans. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

John Hughes, 1907

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION** (Hebrews 12:28-29)

Leader: Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,

People: Let us be thankful and worship God with reverence and awe.

Leader: Not just today,

People: But each day until we again gather together.

Leader: Whether that be tomorrow, next week,

People: Or in the fullness of God’s kingdom.

Leader: May you go from here blessed to be a blessing,

People: Unleashed on the unsuspecting world to bend it to blessing.

Leader: And may you come again to our doors rejoicing,

People: at the wonders God has shown us.

Leader: Go! For this service has ended

People: And our service now begins! Amen!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “God Be with You”**

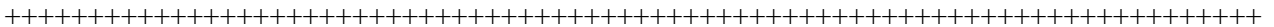
God be with you ‘til we meet again; By His counsels guide uphold you;

With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you ‘til we meet again.

***POSTLUDE “God of Grace” – setting, Paul Manz**

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”



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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

AUGUST 21, 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

August 21, 2022 thru August 28, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun BLESSING OF THE BACK PACKS

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:30 am Caring Team
11:45 am Mission Team
4:30 pm Men's Group

Mon

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

Wed 9:30 am AED/CPR Testing
10:30 am Quilters
7:00 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal

Thurs 7:00 pm Congregational Council

Fri

Sat 6:00 pm ORMACO (Rain Site)

Sun 10:00 am ALIVE ON THE SQUARE
ONE SERVICE ONLY

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE WORSHIP ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AUGUST 28TH @ 10 A.M.

Come one, come all, and bring a friend to "Alive on the Square" for worship **Sunday, August 28th at 10 am!** Not only will Kiwanis be serving a picnic lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans) after the service, but you will get to hear our new choir director, Jennifer Cochran, and her band "Gateway". Rev. Luke has an activity for all to participate in called the "Mess Fest" so come in clothes you don't mind getting dirty. And lastly, **don't forget to bring your lawn chair.**

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

Scripture: Isaiah 58:9-14 and Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: "True Worship"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Arnold and Cheri Ingraham in honor of their anniversary.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS TODAY!

This Sunday, August 21st, your child/children can bring their backpacks to church **at the 10:30 service.** We will bless them for a fun and safe school year with lots of learning, growing and friendships! If you can't make it to church, stop by during the week.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR OPERATION HOMES

Our first day to have guests at our Church is September 5th so we need your help! We are looking for gently used...

Towels, Wash cloths, Hand Towels, Sheets (queen size or larger), Fitted sheets (queen size or larger) and standard pillowcases

We also needed...

Travel size toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, travel size shampoo, socks

Please place items in the bin across from the elevator.

We are still looking for volunteers! If you are interested and haven't received an informational packet, please reach out to Nick North at 330-421-7163.

COOKING FOR CUPS CAFÉ

There are still 2 open slots on **Monday, November 7th and Monday, December 5th.**

You can cook individually or get a few people from your circle of friends to split the workload. The meals should serve 60 people. They can be delivered hot or cold (to be reheated) at 10:00 am on the day. Cups politely requests no soup as they already get plenty of soup donations. The church will reimburse you if you bring in your receipts. If you would like to cook for one of the open days or need help getting the food to Cups Café on the drop off date, contact Dan Daubner.

BLESSING BAGS

Looking at the Christian community, we strive to love and serve everyone around us. To provide support for our community, we are going to be creating Blessing Bags as a church. Have you ever driven past a person in need and wondered what you could do to help? A Blessing Bag is a small assortment of basic toiletries, socks, and snacks in a bag that can be kept in the car, purse, etc. to hand to those you come across who might be in need. Items for the bags might include socks, toothbrushes/toothpaste, feminine products, tissues, band-aids, gift cards, hand warmers, granola bars, etc. We will start collecting items for these in September. More details to come!

SUNFLOWERS AND PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

Our thoughts and prayers with Ukraine – Love is grown where seeds are sown...

The Caring team distributed sunflower seed packets in early Spring. We are interested how they turned out? If you planted your seeds, please consider posting a photo on Facebook or send them into the office to be shared on the kiosks!

AED/CPR TESTING

If you signed up for the AED/CPR class, you must have your online portion of the class finished by Wednesday, August 24th for our in-person testing at 9:30 a.m. If you didn't receive an email with instructions to connect to the online class, please contact the office.

BELL CHOIR & ADULT CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN

Calling all ringers and potential hand-bell enthusiasts! We'll have our first rehearsal on **Wednesday evening, August 31st at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary!** I'm looking for a few folks to meet me at 6:00 to help set up the tables and the bells!

Calling singers 18 and above! We will have our first choir rehearsal on **Wednesday evening, August 31st from 7:30-8:30 PM in the Chapel!** I'm looking for a few choir members who are not bell-ringers to help empty the folders from last year, while I work with the hand-bell choir. Our first musical offering at the 10:30 service will be on Sunday, September 18th.

Please email me at jenniferhcochran1@gmail.com (that will change in September to a UCC Medina email address) if you can help set up bell tables and/or clean out choir folders.

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIR INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Calling all children, teenagers, and parents! We will have an informational meeting on **September 18th at 9:45 am** so we can talk about the plan for the Children & Youth Choir. I'm excited to see the talent of our young people at UCC Medina! We'll have some donuts and juice on hand for all, we'll talk a bit, sing a bit, and get energized about bringing some great music to our services from the kids and teens of the church! The Children & Youth choir will meet regularly on Sundays and sing bi-monthly to start out, building up to a musical offering once a month! Please email me with any questions at jenniferhcochran1@gmail.com.

WELCOME BAGS

The Evangelism Team would like to welcome first time visitors to our church! We're so glad you are here. Please be sure to grab a welcome bag before you leave which is our gift to you. The white handled welcome bags are located near the tower doors in the sanctuary, located near Fellowship Hall and in the East Room. Thank you for visiting Medina UCC today where we are welcoming, loving, and serving.

MEET OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR, JENNIFER COCHRAN

Jennifer Cochran received her BM and MM degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University. As soprano soloist, conductor, and cantor at Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland, she performed many classical, gospel and jazz works. She was most recently the Director of the *Mostly Jazz Mass* at the Cathedral. She has performed as a soloist in New York City, Cape Cod, Edinburgh, Scotland and numerous churches in the Greater Cleveland area as a classical musician and with her jazz band, *Gateway*. Jennifer recently retired from her post as a Director of Performing Arts at Trinity High School, where she taught for 11 years. She was a finalist and prize winner in the Savannah "American Traditions" vocal competition in 2012. Her vocal quartet *A Note of Class* performed in the greater Cleveland area and was invited to perform at the White House. She performed on the soundtrack to a special arts video that premiered on National PBS. She currently directs the *MusiGals*, an adult women's choir on Cleveland's east side and "gigs" with *Gateway Band*. Jennifer is excited to start her tenure at UCC Medina!

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

Luke 13:10-17

Healing Reign

For eighteen years the woman in today's story suffered an ailment that kept her bent over and in pain. Jesus knew how to bring healing to the woman who suffered, but those around him wanted him to wait until after the sabbath. Jesus knew that suffering could not wait. If healing was available and ready at once, then it should be enacted.

Look around. What kind of suffering do you see in your region or neighborhood? Is there suffering that has been allowed to linger because it seems that it is never the right time to heal? What kind of healing can you and your congregation bring to those broken places?

Pray this prayer as you open your heart and mind to the suffering in your midst and the healing that might be available to alleviate that suffering.

Jesus, our friend and brother,
We breathe in and we breathe out.

With each breath in,
we receive the suffering of our neighbors.

With each breath out,
we exhale your healing power.

With each breath in,
we pray for courage and insight

With each breath out,
we become more like you.

With each breath in,
we feel your strength and clarity

With each breath out,
we step forward, reach toward.

Jesus, our friend and brother,
Guide us, we pray, as we breathe, pray, become, feel, step, reach, heal. Amen.