



COMMUNION  
OF SINNERS  
resigned



# 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)

- During the service, Jesus Vibes Sunday School is available for ages 3-8<sup>th</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 BELL

PRELUDE “Sweet Hour of Prayer” - arr. Teresa Wilhelmi

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

*Henry Alford, 1810-1891, alt.*

#### “We Walk By Faith”

SHANTI CM

*Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.*



1., 5. We walk by faith, and not by sight: No  
 2. We may not touch his hands and side, Nor  
 3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief, And  
 4. That when our life of faith is done In



gra - cious words we hear Of him who spoke as  
 fol - low where he trod; Yet in his prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound; To call on you when  
 realms of clear - er light We may be - hold you



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve him near.  
we re - joice, And cry "My Lord and God!"  
you are near, And seek where you are found:  
as you are In full and end - less sight.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come cognizant of our differences.

People: **We come with our labels and realities that divide us from one another.**

Leader: We seek unity with our God and a community in the name of God.

People: **We ask forgiveness for our hesitance and outright denial of community.**

Leader: We are a communion of sinners.

People: **To you we cry in anguish, Lord: listen to our plea and help us.**

Leader: Increase our faith!

People: **We hear you challenge us, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could transplant trees and move mountains." We believe, O Christ, help our unbelief in this hour.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Antiphonal Fanfare" – John F. Wilson

Alleluia Ringers

SCRIPTURES Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 (O.T. pg. 821)  
Luke 17:5-10 (N.T. pg. 75)

Deb Waldron, Liturgist

### WELCOME AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Amos & Kenzie Armbrust, Quinn Behler, Chris & Jeanette Fagan,  
Autumn Keller, Summer Scaggs, Chris Wheeler

Congregation: **We welcome you with joy in the common life of this Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

### 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.

#### Joys and Concerns

#### Pastoral Prayer

REFLECTION SONG

“Please Come” – Nichole Nordeman, sung by Ann Nagy

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**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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** (from *Common Prayer: A liturgy for ordinary radicals*, page 465)

Ignacio Ellacuria, a Jesuit martyr of San Salvador, asked, “What is it to be a companion of Jesus today? It is to engage, under the standard of the cross, in the crucial struggle of our time: the struggle for faith and that struggle for justice which it includes.”

**\*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** (from *Common Prayer: A liturgy for ordinary radicals*, page 465)

**Lord, enable us to live so that others can truly say, “They engaged in the crucial struggle of our time.” Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

I’M SO GLAD Irr

*African American Spiritual; arr. Hezekiah Brinson, Jr. (b. 1958)*

*Arr. © 1990 Hereziak Brinson, Jr. All Rights Reserved.*

1. I'm so glad \_\_\_\_\_ Je- sus lift- ed me \_\_\_\_\_ I'm so glad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Je- sus lift- ed me. \_\_\_\_\_ I'm so glad, \_\_\_\_\_ Je- sus lift- ed me \_\_\_\_\_ sing- ing



2. Satan had me bound (Jesus lifted me).

3. When I was in sin (Jesus lifted me).

## \*ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CLOSING PRAYER** (from *Common Prayer: A liturgy for ordinary radicals*, page 476)

**Lord, help us not shy away from our own transgressions, neither to hold the sins of others against them, but to name sin with confidence that your forgiveness has the power to effect a just reconciliation in our world. Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION** (from *Common Prayer: A liturgy for ordinary radicals*)

**Leader:** May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you:

**People:** **wherever he may send you;**

**Leader:** May he guide you through the wilderness;

**People:** **protect you through the storm;**

**Leader:** May he bring you home rejoicing;

**People:** **at the wonders he has shown you;**

**Leader:** May he bring you home rejoicing;

**People:** **once again into our doors. 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** "O God Beyond All Praising" - Gustav Holst/arr. Anna Laura Page Cathy Fafrak, Organist

## **"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

+++++

Music in this bulletin reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under:  
ONE LICENSE, License #A-605137. All rights reserved and CCLI, License #1637380 & #21333812

**\*\*\*Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service.  
Coffee Hour is hosted this week by the Alber & the White families.**

***PASTORAL STAFF***

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - [luke@uccmedina.org](mailto:luke@uccmedina.org)

Minister Meghan Malone, Associate Pastor of Youth & Mission - [meghan@uccmedina.org](mailto:meghan@uccmedina.org)

Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor – [karen@uccmedina.org](mailto:karen@uccmedina.org)

Ryan Collins, Ministerial Intern - [ryan@uccmedina.org](mailto:ryan@uccmedina.org)

***OFFICE STAFF***

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)

Jeff Miller, Financial Director - [jeff@uccmedina.org](mailto:jeff@uccmedina.org)

***PROGRAM STAFF***

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education – [stacie@uccmedina.org](mailto:stacie@uccmedina.org)

Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth – [nicole@uccmedina.org](mailto:nicole@uccmedina.org)

Jennifer Cochran, Director of Music - [jenny@uccmedina.org](mailto:jenny@uccmedina.org)

Cathy Fafrak, Organist – [cathy@uccmedina.org](mailto:cathy@uccmedina.org)

Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – [jen@uccmedina.org](mailto:jen@uccmedina.org)

Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor

Sharon Perry, Custodian

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## OCTOBER 2, 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)

October 2, 2022 thru October 9, 2022

### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sun** NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

**New Members Join**  
8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:45 am Children's & Youth Choir  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship  
4:30 pm Youth Group  
4:30 pm Men's Group

**Mon** 7:00 pm **Book Study “Blessed  
Are the Crazy”**

**Tues** 8:00 am Men's Breakfast  
7:00 pm Bible Study

**Wed** 10:30 am Quilters  
6:15 pm Bell Choir rehearsal  
6:30 pm Gathering Band rehearsal  
7:00 pm Evangelism Team  
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal

**Thurs**

**Fri**

**Sat**

**Sun** 8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:45 am Children's & Youth Choir  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship  
**11:45 am Mission Team**  
3:00 pm Confirmation Class

### **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 still have spots remaining in October & November.

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

Scriptures: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 & Luke 17:5-10

Sermon: “Communion of Sinners: Resigned”  
Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table:** The flowers are given by the Johns Family in honor of Katherine's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **NEIGHBORS IN NEED SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING**

The Neighbors in Need offering supports efforts to create a just and compassionate United States and beyond. One-third of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support justice throughout our communities. Neighbors in Need also offers grants to UCC churches. The grant money offered through Neighbors in Need funds projects that advocate for others and promotes a just world for all. Please consider a donation on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **BOOK STUDY**

#### **“BLESSED ARE THE CRAZY”**

Are you interested in conversations about mental health? The mental health WISE team will be hosting a book study lead by Ryan Collins on "Blessed are the Crazy" by the national UCC's Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund. We will be meeting every Monday night at 7 pm beginning Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> and ending Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> followed by a Q&A session with Rev. Lund via Zoom at a date to be determined. You can purchase this book online or get an electronic copy through the library. Please RSVP at [ryan@uccmedina.org](mailto:ryan@uccmedina.org) or with the office (330) 725-4559.

## CHILI COOK-OFF

---

We are celebrating Fall in the best way with fellowship, chili and family fun! Save the date for the Chili Cook-Off, **Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> in Fellowship Hall following one service at 10 am.** Bring your favorite Crock Pot of WARM chili enough for 10 servings. Chili not your specialty? Feel free to bring a dessert to share. All are welcome (kids and adults) to join and vote on your favorite chili. Children will be painting gourds with Stacie. RSVP at the sign-up table in the East Room. **The last day to sign up will be Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.** Not only will prizes be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place chili, but entertainment will be a short skit to start off the event called, "Man Gets Selected to Be a Judge at a Chili Cook-off".

## SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

---

**October 30, 2022  
ALL SAINTS DAY**

On this Sunday we will remember those persons who have passed away this past year. By having the time of remembrance during a worship service, we encourage family members and others to come and share this time together. During the worship service, the names of the members of Medina UCC who have passed away during 2022 will be read. For each member a candle will be lit and a chime will ring. We would also like to read the names of family members and loved ones who have passed away during this past year. **If you have a loved one that you would like remembered, please call the Church Office no later than October 24<sup>th</sup> with the full name of the loved one, their relationship to you, and the date of their passing.**

## SONSHINE MEALS

---

Did you know we have a ministry that provides meals for members in need? If you're ill, expecting, or have fallen on hard times, please let us help! If you have a need, know of a need, or would like to help fulfill a need, please contact Becky at [beckybauer@zoominternet.net](mailto:beckybauer@zoominternet.net)

## JOIN US FOR YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT

---

**Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30-6 pm**

We will have a snack and then will help create "welcome home baskets" for our newly christened owners receiving keys to their Habitat for Humanity home. Thank to for all who have donated items for this!

Don't forget, Mrs. Rubino needs all your registration forms as well as your annual \$20 Youth Group fee. You can pay your fee through REALM or bring a check made payable to: Medina UCC. Forms will be available at group for anyone who may need them.

## FALL CRAFTS READY FOR DELIVERY

---

Visit the display table in the Welcome Area and sign out a craft to deliver. Please contact the recipient (information is posted) ahead of time to make arrangements for a drop-off or to set up a visit. Thank you for sharing God's love with our church membership who are shut-in, home-bound and in care facilities.

## CIRCLE OF CARING MEETING

---

We will have an informational meeting next Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Come learn about Circle of Caring and how it serves our church membership and plans for the future.

## VETERANS DAY

---

Please join the Mission Team in honoring the Veterans of our church. Take a card form the table in the lobby across from the elevator to write a quick note of thanks to a veteran. Please return the completed card to the basket provided. We will also be writing cards on October 16<sup>th</sup> during coffee hour and will distribute the cards and celebrate our veterans on during the November 6<sup>th</sup> coffee hour. Please join us in thanking the veterans of our church for their service! If you are a veteran or know of a veteran that you would like to send a card to, please sign-up at the table across from the elevator.





# COMMUNION OF SINNERS

**NEW SERMON SERIES!**

---

We've made beautiful art together. We've heard from our association minister for Faith in Action, the Rev. Michael Howard. We marked 9/11 and recommitted to the ways of the Prince of Peace. We've hired Minister Meghan Malone as our associate pastor of Youth and Mission! We are beautiful together!

Sometimes, however... community is a struggle. We get it wrong, and we are wounded by others just as we wound them. I think of the line, "Hell is other people" coined by existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre in his 1944 play, "No Exit." In the play, three people are trapped in Hell, which is a single, small room. The confinement of the characters extends beyond their physical holding room: they are trapped by the judgments of their cellmates causing one of the characters to say, "Hell is other people." The characters are unable to escape the watchful gaze of the other two.

Community can be hard. We struggle to make sense of other people and their judgment of us. We struggle with mental health. We struggle with our apathy and complicity in unjust systems. Yet even though we often get it wrong, the kin-dom of God is still within our midst. Even in the single room, and despite Sartre's best effort: love still breaks out in hell. While confessing their sins, the three people fall in love with one another as they discover compassion for one another. So, while hell is other people... so is heaven. Come join us in our communion of sinners and find heaven among us even now.

---

**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**

---

October 2, 2022  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
*Neighbors in Need Offering*  
*World Communion Sunday*

---

Psalm 137

**Free to Grieve**

The psalm today begins with weeping, as God's people wonder how to sing God's song

And so we hung up our harps,  
there upon the willows.

For there our captors asked us for songs,  
and our tormentors asked for mirth,  
saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"  
How could we sing God's song in a foreign land?

In 1933, in a pause between the last century's world wars, the first World Communion Sunday was celebrated as a way to celebrate the interconnectedness of all Christians in all times and in all places. Today, 99 years later, the need for unity in our diversity is as great, or maybe greater, than it was in those fragile interwar years.

This mid-and-post-pandemic world in which we find ourselves is indeed a strange land, and we might be asking ourselves how we can sing God's songs of justice, love and unity? Hope can be found in *Gifts in Open Hands: More Worship Ideas for the Global Community* by Maren Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy. This book shares multicultural liturgies, prayers, affirmations, blessings, and poetry by people from the global community. Images for reproduction in church bulletins are included, and a new feature is the arrangement of translations so that liturgies in other languages are available to English-speaking as well as bilingual worship planners. You can find that resource, and many more at The Pilgrim Press website, [thepilgrimpress.com](http://thepilgrimpress.com).

Today many UCC congregations receive the Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering. This special mission offering of the United Church of Christ supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities. Find more at the United Church of Christ website, [ucc.org](http://ucc.org).