

LIVE MUSIC

SMASH YOUR JUDGEMENTALISM

MARCH 19, 2022

MEDINA UCC, C



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, Jesus Vibes Sunday School is available for ages 3-8th grade

“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS”

* *Those who are able please stand*

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE "Reflection: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" -by Darwin Wolford

Cathy Fafrak, Piano

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE 10.10.9.10

*Irish song; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905;
versified Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.*

*Trad. Irish melody; harm Carlton R. Young, 1963
© 1964 The United Methodist Publishing House*



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



* **YOU'RE THOUGHTS ARE NOT OUR THOUGHTS**

(a prayer from the Iona Community, Stages on the Way, page 23-24)

Glorious God, your thoughts are not our thoughts

Your ways are not our ways.

You look at us and how your glory might be revealed,

While we scan the finest of our neighbors anxious to find the flaw.

You view time in the context of eternity and so find a place for waiting, for yearning,
even for suffering

We demand instant results and look for tomorrow before savoring today.

You know that only one who suffers can ultimately save,
that is why you walk the way of the cross.

We fear that vulnerability which defies our power; so we cry for crucifixion.

Your thoughts are not our thoughts.

Nor your ways our ways.

So we pray:

Forgive in us what has gone wrong.

Repair in us what is wasted.

Reveal in us what is good.

Nourish us with better food than we could ever purchase:

Your word,

your love,

your inspiration,

your daily bread,

in the company of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Chancel Choir

Arr. Lloyd Larson; Jen Vilimonovic, violin

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-12, 26-34 (N.T. pg.96)

Pete Metzloff, 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

“Smash Your Judgementalism”

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

HYMN

“I Love to Tell the Story”

HANKEY 7.6.7.6.D with refrain
William G. Fischer, 1869

Katherine Hankey, 1866; alt.



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.
2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat
4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Of Je - sus' ra - dian't glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.
than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song

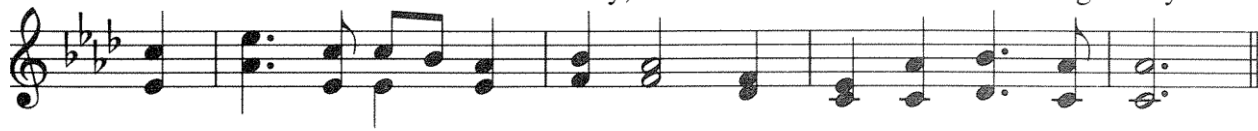


it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry



I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

There is an offering plate if you feel led to deposit your envelope or an offering there. You can also give through our Realm app or get the link to give by texting UCCMEDINA to 73256. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

OFFERING

For the words that still weigh on us.

For the harm and wounds and scars.

For the inner voice which turns unkind.

To the places that have depicted you as a sin-miser, Oh God

and given us images we are still trying to shake

We offer them to you as we rise in body or spirit to sing our praise to you.

*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

Jesus, you accept us. You don't look at our sin. You don't look at the ways we mess up. You look at the ways your glory can shine in us. Give us the courage to shine! To burn! To blaze with your glory and light! Keep our egos in check as we love you with everything we have, and our neighbor as ourselves. Thanks be to you, our God, our Christ, our Spirit. One God forever and ever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

CRUCIFER 10.10. with refrain

George William Kitchin (1827-1912),
revised Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916
© 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Refrain, in unison

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff continues the melody and includes the instruction 'Last time, end' at the end. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff contains the lyrics for the first verse. The fifth staff contains the lyrics for the second verse and includes the instruction 'to Refrain' at the end.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim; Let
Last time, end
all a - dore and praise that sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, the
2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de - spair may cease, be -
5 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

to Refrain
Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
neath the shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION (much of this blessing is straight up stolen from the song "Television" by Idles)

May you be healed by Christ so much that "they" throw you out!

**May we hear the voice of God affirming us, claiming us,
and sending us out to welcome, love, and serve.**

And if you need a reminder and defense against self-doubt

Here's our moment of punk rock:

If someone talked to you

The way you do to you

I'd put their teeth through

Love yourself!

And that's what they do

They deal in doubt so

You feel worthless and bow to their control

so to all you weirdos;

Love yourself

Love yourself

Love yourself

As Christ loved us first! Go in Jesus name! For this service has ended;

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** "Lift High the Cross" -arr. Larry Shackley Cathy Fafrak, Piano

“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”

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****Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service****

Coffee Hour is hosted this week by Kathi & John Kavouras.

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

MARCH 19, 2023

**“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

March 19, 2023 thru March 26, 2023

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:30 am 3rd Grade Bible Class
9:45 am Children's Choir
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
3:00 pm Confirmation Class
4:30 pm Men's Group
4:30 pm Youth Group

Mon 1:00 pm Breadmakers

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

Wed 10:30 am Quilters
6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thurs 12:00 pm Ladies Lenten Luncheon
7:00 pm **Congregational Council**

Fri 7:00 pm **Lenten Bowling**

Sat 11:00 am Elizabeth Mason Memorial Service

Sun FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:45 am Children's Choir
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship

WOMEN'S LENTEN LUNCHEON

Do you want great fellowship? A time for spiritual reflection? Then come join us in Fellowship Hall for the Women's Lenten Luncheon on **Thursday, March 23rd from Noon - 2 pm**. All you need to do is sign up in the East Room or use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2p97f6tz> (so we can plan seating arrangements) and bring a side dish to share for lunch. Following lunch, join us in the sanctuary for some spiritual moving music by Jenny Cochran and Cathy Fafrak.

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

Scriptures: John 9:1-12, 26-34

Sermon: "Smash Your Judgementalism"
Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The flowers are given by Dorothea Edinger in memory of David Edinger.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING TODAY



One Great Hour of Sharing

OGHS

**OFFERING DATE:
MARCH 19, 2023**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development

ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs, and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. **Please consider a generous donation today!**

EASTER FLOWERS

It's time to order your Easter Flower! You may donate a flower in honor or memory of someone to decorate the Chapel, Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary for Easter and claim it afterward, or have it delivered to a shut-in by the Flower Committee. **This year there will once again be an assortment of different flowers. There is no way to specify what type you can order, but they will be first come, first serve as to which type of flower you can take.** The cost is \$10.00 for any one of them. Deadline for ordering is **March 27th**. Please fill out a yellow order sheet (available from the ushers) and turn it in to the church office OR you can purchase directly through REALM. <https://tinyurl.com/4twpex2k>

EASTER BAGS

Easter is Coming! That means it is time for our annual Easter Bag outreach that benefits the children of incarcerated people in Medina County. Stop by the Easter Table to sign up to fill a bag with Easter Basket items for a child. There will also be a form to sign up for drivers to deliver the bags the morning of April 8th. These bags get adopted very quickly but if there are any left after this Sunday the table will remain up for services on Sunday the 26th.

EASTER CANDY NEEDED

The DELTs will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at church after the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday. We are asking for **individually wrapped** Easter candy donations to fit in the little eggs. There will be a container outside the church office to put your donations in. Thank you in advance!

EASTER EGG HUNT

After the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday, we will once again have a quick Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The kids should bring their Easter Basket or a bag so they can add a few more eggs to their collection!

DONATION OF THE MONTH

The Mission Team's item for the month is **granola bars/ breakfast bars**. We heard there is a need for the snacks at the middle schools and Cups! Thank you all!

JUNK DRIVE FOR YOUTH MISSION

Recycle your old, broken, unused tech to support the youth summer mission trip! Bins will be out on the upstairs landing from March 5th to April 2nd. We can take your unused/broken computers, phones, tablets, cables, monitors, radios, video game consoles, small appliances and old power tools. Questions? Reach out to Logan Malone at 740-975-8558. Pickups can be arranged.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

The Evangelism team is looking for new ideas for spirit wear. If you feel creative, please submit your artwork or T-shirt design idea to Jen Cockrell at Jenn27@zoominternet.net. If your idea is selected, it will be on the new spirit wear. Plus, you will win a \$10 gift card to Courthouse Pizzeria. Deadline is March 31st. Good luck, everyone!

40 DAYS OF GIVING

During the 40 Days of Lent the Caring Team is collecting various nonperishable food items and would like to challenge other teams and members of the church to do the same. Collection bins are located beneath the monitor in the Welcome Area along with lists of food items needed. Just look for the "40 Days of Giving" sign. The food will be donated to local food pantries in Medina.

PINWHEEL WALK TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

On Sunday April 16th from 1-3pm, let's head out to the Medina Square to support the Children's Center of Medina County as they plant 595 pinwheels representing each case of Child Abuse or Neglect investigated by Medina County Job and Family Services during 2022. Participants are encouraged to wear blue, the designated color for child abuse prevention awareness.

BIRTHDAY BAG DONATIONS DUE TODAY

Our Youth Group will be assembling birthday bags on March 19th that will be distributed to kids in our Garfield families and two local food pantries. The bags will contain a variety of items to help with celebration and a few small treats for the birthday kid. Most donation items cost \$1.25 at Dollar Tree. If you would like to help a local kid celebrate, we invite you to look at the list, sign up, and **bring your donations back to church this Sunday**. Look for the cubbies with signs on our beautiful wood shelves in the mission area to leave your donations. **Specified items** are listed on the UCC Families facebook page or you may click here: <https://tinyurl.com/mrybc87n>

FINAL LENTEN GATHERING

Friday, March 24th

If you didn't get a chance to go duck-pin bowling at the Foundry Social, here is your opportunity to do some regular sized bowling with friends from church! We have three lanes reserved at AMF Medina Lanes from 7-9pm on Friday, March 24th. We can have up to 18 people bowling on our lanes. If you would like to join in, we are asking that you register through Realm and pay \$20 per participant to help us cover the cost. See you there! Registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y55ez732>

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - luke@uccmedina.org
Rev. Meghan Malone, Associate Pastor of Youth & Mission - meghan@uccmedina.org
Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor - karen@uccmedina.org
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Cathy Fafrak, Organist - cathy@uccmedina.org
Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool - jen@uccmedina.org
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance
Sharon Perry, Custodian

March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

John 9:1-41

Restored

For many churches, generations of givers have placed their tithe to the church in a basket or plate that is passed during worship. Usually taking place toward the end of the worship service, the receiving of the offering in this way was both practical and also symbolic of the gifts that each congregation member has to offer. In the past couple of years, spurred by pandemic changes, many congregations have made a shift from receiving the offering in person to receiving it online or virtually. This shift in giving is the tip of the iceberg, a symbol of all the changes that have visited all churches in these unprecedented times.

In today's story, Jesus' healing of a man blind from birth is met with skepticism and uncertainty by those who have known the man. They are not prepared for this change and may feel ill equipped to handle it. Like the townspeople, you may feel unready for change. And yet, you have been living with and adapting through change as it happens both without and within.

In your lifetime, there has been nearly unfathomable change in the world. Borders have opened and closed, names of countries have changed, allies have banded together to make war on other nations, and then turned on one another, and the English language has added hundreds of new words to the dictionary. (Before 2020, had you ever heard or used the word "superspreader" before?)

And that doesn't even count the individual changes that you have adapted to in your lifetime. You have weathered and even thrived through changes in self-understanding, knowledge, relationships, emotional landscape, climate, education, fortune, health, travels, travails, employment status, living arrangements, and multiple television remotes with their array of mysterious black on black buttons.

You may push back against change or wish it would not come so fast, but in fact your whole life has been preparing you for the changes we are experiencing now. Whether your giving is the "old" way in a passed plate, or a "new" way through a computer terminal, you have everything you need to weather the changes around you.

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.