

Miracle
of
Trust





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”

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 Blue Green Hills of Earth” from *Missa Gaia* by Paul Winter Chancel Choir

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Cecil 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,
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** by Henry David Thoreau

"You must live in the present,

launch yourself on every wave, find your eternity in each moment.

Fools stand on their island of opportunities and look toward another land.

There is no other land; there is no other life but this."

SPECIAL MUSIC "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" – arr. Kyle Webber

Alleluia Ringers

POEM OF THE DAY

"Risk"

By Donna Ashworth

Wild Hope: Healing words to find light on dark days.

Mango Publishing Group, Coral Gables, FL, 2023. Page 11

SCRIPTURES Proverbs 3:5-6 (O.T. pg. 553)

James 1:5-6 (N.T. pg. 215)

Pam Branscome, 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

REFLECTION HYMN

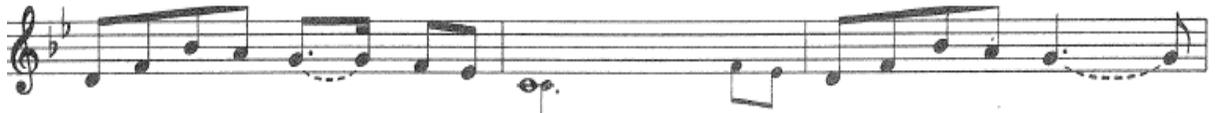
"You Are Mine"

Test & Tune by David Haas, b. 1957

© 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.



- 1. I will come to you in the si - lence, _____
- 2. I am hope for all who are hope - less, _____
- 3. I am strength for all the de - spair - ing, _____
- 4. am the Word that leads all to free - dom, _____ I



- 1. I will lift you from _____ all your fear. You will hear my voice, I
- 2. I am eyes for all who long to see. In the shad - ows of the night, _____
- 3. heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame. All the blind will see, the
- 4. am the peace the world _____ can - not give. I will call your name, em -



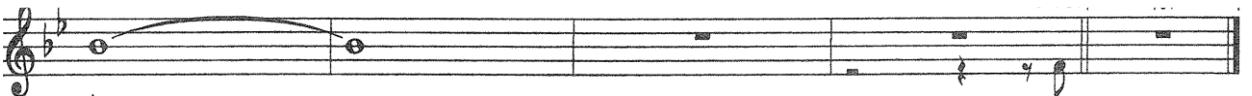
- 1. claim you as my choice, be still and _ know I am here. _____ (to Verse 2)
- 2. I will be your light, _____ come and _ rest in me. _____ (to Refrain)
- 3. lame will all run free, and all will _ know my name. _____ (to Refrain)
- 4. brac - ing all your pain, stand up, now _ walk, and live! _____ (to Refrain)



Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.



Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; _____ I love _ you and you are



mine. _____

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!

Offertory Invitation

Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."

We will trust the Spirit, and ride her currents, to new and amazing places!

***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 the oceans, the skies, the mountains, and the forests, show us your majesty in things great and small. Teach us through awe for the beauty of the Earth, the miracle that is trust, and the faith of jellyfish. Amen.

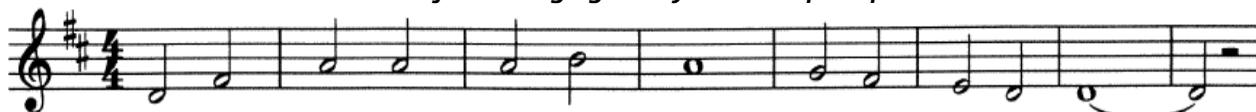
*CLOSING HYMN

"Canticle of Brother Sun" from *Missa Gaia* with "For the Beauty of the Earth"

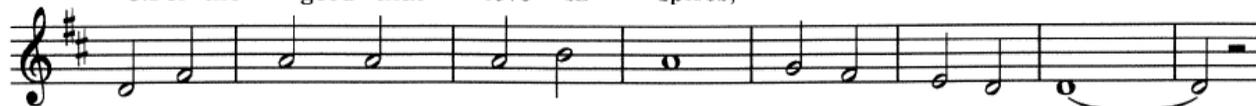
St. Francis of Assisi, the Book of Job & F.S. Pierpont

ADORO TE DEVOTE, Jim Scott & Paul Winter

Please join in singing the hymn when prompted



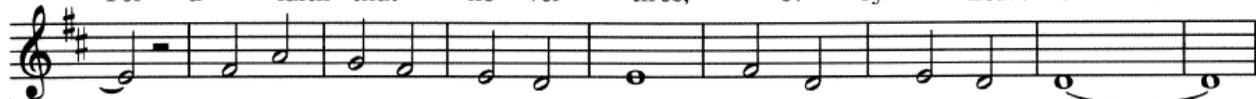
1. For the beau - ty of the Earth, sing oh sing to - day. -
2. For the won - der of each hour,
3. For the good that love in - spires,



Of the sky and of our birth, sing oh sing al - ways. -
Of the day and of the night,
For a world where none ex - clude,



Na - ture, hu - man and di - vine, all a - round us lies. -
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun, moon, stars of light -
For a faith that ne - ver tires, ev' - ry heart re - newed



- God of all, to you we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION**

Beloveds, trust in God.

Don't be afraid of what life has to show you.

Experience your moments fully. Cherish the sensations of being alive.

Let them wash over you like ocean waves, drenching you in wonder.

Dwell in the present. Let yourself giggle and dance and cry.

Be wherever your feet are. Go wherever the Spirit calls.

Surrender yourself and find eternity.

Go in peace.

***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 "For the Beauty of the Earth" – arr. Michael R. Keller**

Alleluia Ringers

"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 Lorna Lindsley & Jeanette Fagan

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

APRIL 21, 2024

**“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

April 21 thru April 28, 2024

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:00 am	Children’s Choir
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship (livestreamed)
	11:45 am	Hospitality Team Meeting
	4:30 pm	Youth Group
Mon	2:00 pm	Miracle of the Moment Book Study- New Members
	7:00 pm	Miracle of the Moment Book Study – New Members
Tues	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	6:15 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Finance & Stewardship Team Meeting
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thurs		
Fri		
Sat	12:00 pm	Ladies & Girls Tea
Sun		NEW MEMBERS JOIN
	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:00 am	Children’s Choir
	10:30 am	Teen Church
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship (livestreamed)
	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	3:00 pm	Confirmation Class
	5:00 pm	Confirmation Rehearsal Dinner

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

Scriptures: Proverbs 3:5-6 and James 1:5-6

Sermon: “The Miracle of Trust”
Rev. Meghan Malone

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Carol & Terry Rhodes in honor of their 50th anniversary.

NEW BIBLE STUDY

The Miracle of the Moment Bible Study continues on **Mondays at 2 and 7 pm, April 21st - May 20th**. No need to read ahead, but you are welcome to! We’ll present the books. We’ll read a few together. For all ages and abilities.

April 22: How to Be Here as Church, meet our new members and talk church.

April 29: Children’s Books in the Present

May 6: How to Be Here by Rob Bell

May 13: Be Here Now by Ram Dass

May 20: Wild Hope by Donna Ashworth

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Are you considering joining the church? Are you a seasoned member who might need a refresher, have questions, or **just want to welcome those considering membership?** On Monday, April 22nd at 2 and 7 pm, we’ll have a membership class where the moderators and Pastor Luke will meet with you and talk life and church and give a tour of our grounds. So come on out and talk church. Sharing life, unscripted. Whether brand new or a 50-year member, all are invited.

ANNUAL REPORT TIME!

Teams, Committees and Leadership of the church are being asked to write up their Annual Reports to be presented at the May 19th Annual Meeting immediately following ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP at 10:30 am. The due date for your report will be no later than Monday, April 29th. Please email or drop off your reports to me in the church office. Please try to limit your reports to one page for the purpose of space limitations. **Also, please inform me as to any changes on your team.** I appreciate all your efforts in getting these to me on time. Please email to: office@uccmedina.org

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

There are still open spots on the 2024 Flower Chart in the East Room hallway. This is a wonderful way to honor or remember someone, or to celebrate a special occasion. Please fill in your name and **write "Church" or "Self"** to let us know if you would like the church to order the flowers for you or if you will be ordering them yourself. **The cost of the flowers** ordered through the church office is **\$25.00**, which is due prior to the date you sponsor. **Also, please write what you would like printed in the Messenger and if you want to claim your flowers** after the 10:30 service.

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. There are still remaining spots in June.

SAFETY TEAM

Interested in joining the Medina UCC Safety Team? Please consider joining us for our first meeting back together since the pandemic on Sunday, June 9th at 11:30 am in the new library (downstairs by the entry way off the parking lot). If you have questions, please text (or call) Julie Gilliland at 216-990-5767 or Ken Zuehlke at 216-990-3368. We look forward to reigniting this team and bringing some new members into the group.

DONATIONS FOR APRIL

April's donation of the month is laundry detergent. Many friends in the community struggle to get their clothes clean because of the time and financial burden of going to the local laundromats. Many outreach locations have a washer and dryer but keeping detergent available is difficult because the need is great! One of the most popular items to ask for at the local food pantries is detergent. If you can help, please place a detergent jug or pods in the donation of the month bin. Thank you for considering!

LAST DAY FOR TICKETS!

Tickets to the Ladies and Girls Tea will be **sold April 7th- April 21st after the services** in the East Room or you may purchase here through [REALM](#) beginning April 7th. The price is \$15 for ladies and \$10 for girls under 10. **BETTER BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY as it has been sold out in the past.....**and we have an exciting program this year. The Tea will be held on Saturday, April 27th from 12:00 - 2:00pm in our Fellowship Hall. The menu will include scones, soup, tea sandwiches, fruit, fancy sweets, and of course tea. It is truly a full lunch. The program will be "First Ladies Tea" presented by Women In History from Lakewood, Ohio. Think of what will happen when First Ladies of the United States have tea together and share their stories. You won't want to miss this... Once again, we are in need of teacups and teapots. Please let us know if you can share your items and how many of each are available, if you have questions please contact Beth Hari, Darlene Fazekas, or Becky Weber.

MAY 4TH IS SERVICE SATURDAY

On Saturday, May 4th youth and their families are invited to a day of service at the Domestic Violence Shelter of Richland County, located in Mansfield, Ohio. Hours will be from 10 am-2 pm with pizza for lunch. Please sign up through this google form to receive the address which is not public knowledge.
<https://forms.gle/AzkFSKSaMZ8MZbLo7>

ENDOWMENT FUND PRINTS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder that the Endowment Fund is offering a Fred Graff print of our blessed UCC church free for a donation of \$30 to the "30 4 30" campaign, honoring 30 years of fund history for a \$30 contribution to the Endowment Fund. See the East Room table for details.

PINWHEEL GARDEN MAINTENANCE

There are 544 Pinwheels at the Medina Library, put there by the Children's Center of Medina County during the Pinwheel Walk on Sunday April 14th. They've asked if our church can help to maintain the garden through May 3rd, by checking on it every day, and setting upright the pinwheels that fall over. There will be chopsticks available in the library and church office which you can ask for to stabilize the pinwheels that don't want to stand up! You can check on the garden any time during your day that works best for your schedule.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFA628ABFB6-48909924-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 am – 3 pm MONDAY THRU THURSDAY; FRIDAY 9 am – 12 pm

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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Pete Metzloff, Interim Financial Director - pete@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

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Jennifer Cochran, Director of Music - jenny@uccmedina.org

Cathy Fafrak, Organist & Office Assistant – cathy@uccmedina.org

Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – jen@uccmedina.org

Jack Sharpe, Maintenance & Custodian

April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 10:11-18

“Enfolded by Love”

Today is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday. In an increasingly urban culture, Shepherd can be a difficult metaphor to grasp. But, for some ministers, the metaphor of shepherd is very powerful, precisely because their work with livestock helps inform their ministry.

When she was asked what about ministry and shepherding crosses over, Catherine Foote (who describes herself as retired from ministry, but still shepherding) checked in from England, where she had traveled to participate in sheep dog trials.

“Ha!” she wrote, “Well, that would be just about everything! But I would say it has kept me aware of the everyday, ordinary diligence and joy of ministry. Sheep need to be fed, every day. Watered, every day. Tended, every day. And if I stop to notice, the work brings me joy, every day.”

Although she’s not a shepherd, Jackie Hibbard of Dancing Spirit Equine Facilitated Learning and Coaching and associate pastor at community UCC Boulder works extensively with animals and their connections to humans. She checked in about her work with horses. “Horses have helped me learn so much about myself and my leadership style. I could talk about this for paragraphs, but Two simple learnings are: they help me know when I’m not being clear and when I’m not fully present. I am a better minister and listener, because of what horses have taught me.”

Think about the relationships you have had with animals. How have those relationships deepened your relationship with God and with your sense of calling and vocation?