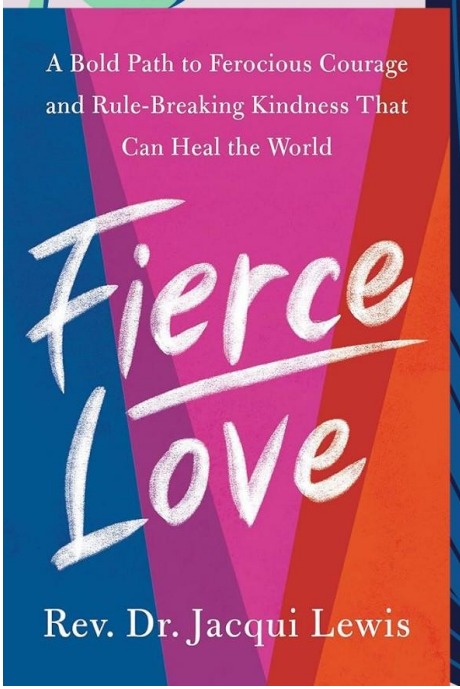
August 4th, 2024
Medina UCC

Think inclusively. They're your people too.



IT'S TIME TO GROW

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, Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3-3rd 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

~ ~ ~

"We are all here, struggling to live up to the values we share, so join the crowd.
Join the band of everyday folks falling down and getting up again, failing, trying,
often shining with compassion and kindness, sometimes backsliding into pettiness and fear.
Welcome to being human. Do your best, right where you are, to love someone into healing."
Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE "The Master Hath Come" – arr. David Lowe Jerry Mason, Guest Organist

WELCOME

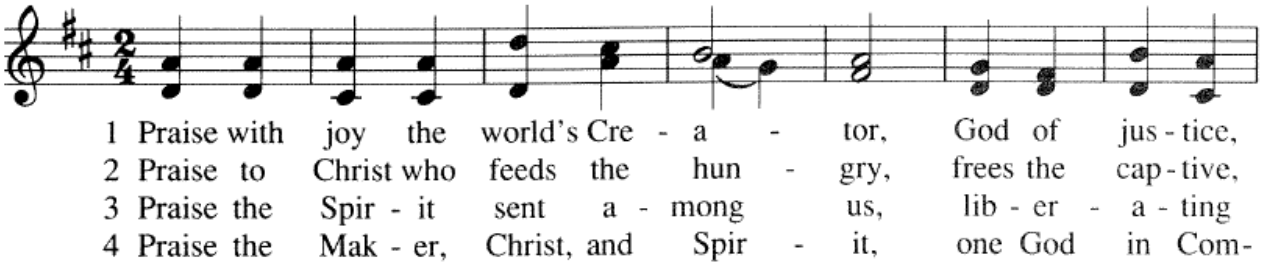
PASSING OF THE PEACE

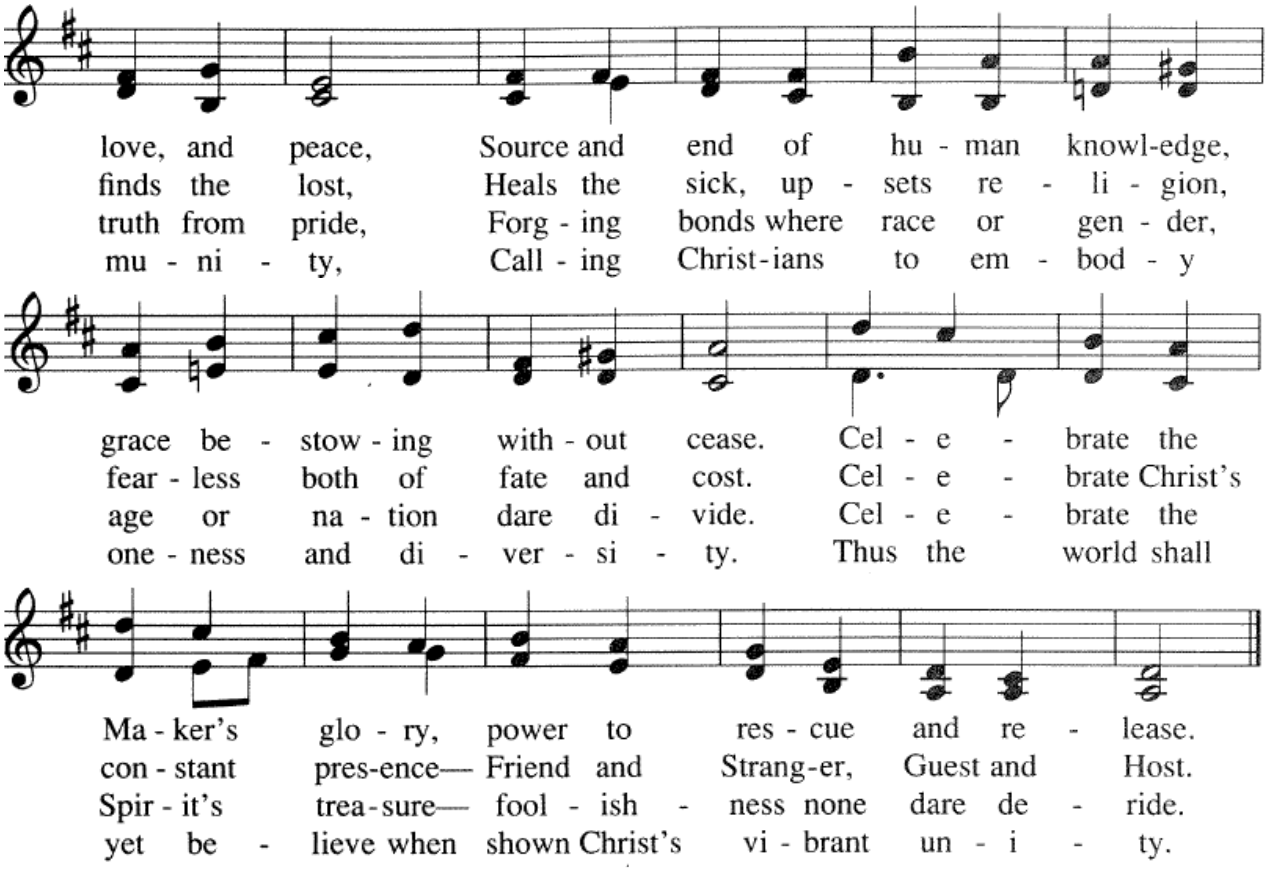
***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Did you know that God calls you holy and dearly loved?
Let the music of our gratitude rise to God in heaven!
You don't need to be perfect to clothe yourselves with compassion.
As we sing imperfectly, let us bring heaven to Earth.

***GATHERING HYMN** **"Praise With Joy the World's Creator"** LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7.

The Iona Community, 1985; alt.. *John Goss, 1869*





SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:12-17 (N.T. pg. 190) Deb Waldron, Liturgist

SPECIAL MUSIC "How Can I Keep From Singing" – arr. by H.D. Buch Harry Buch, soloist

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD

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

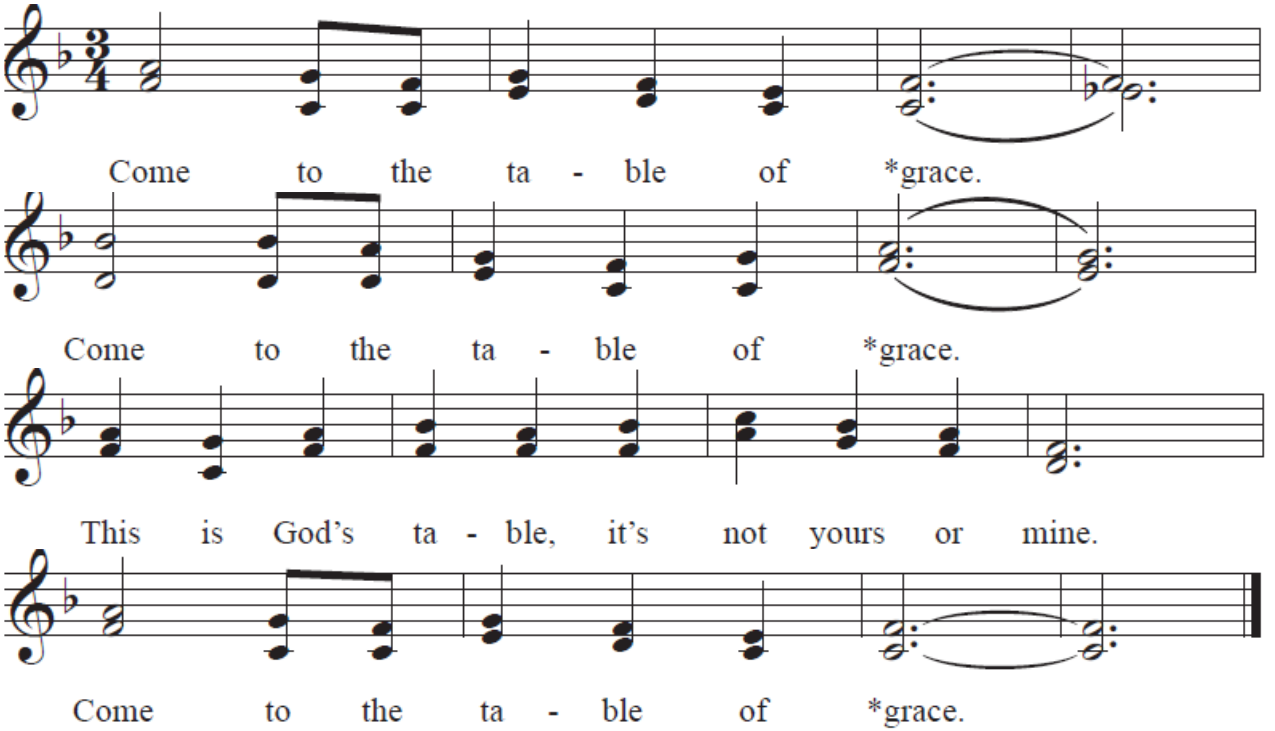
Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

SERMON "Grow By Thinking Inclusively" Rev. Meghan Malone

COMMUNION HYMN **"Come to the Table of Grace"**

Words & Music by Barbara Hamm, © 2008 Hope Publishing Company TABLE OF GRACE



*Additional stanzas:
2 peace; 3 love; 4 joy; 5 hope

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

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

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!

We've been fed and forgiven. Let the message of Christ dwell among us richly as we sing to God with gratitude in our hearts.

***Doxology** *(words, Ruth Duck, ©2005, GIA Publications)*

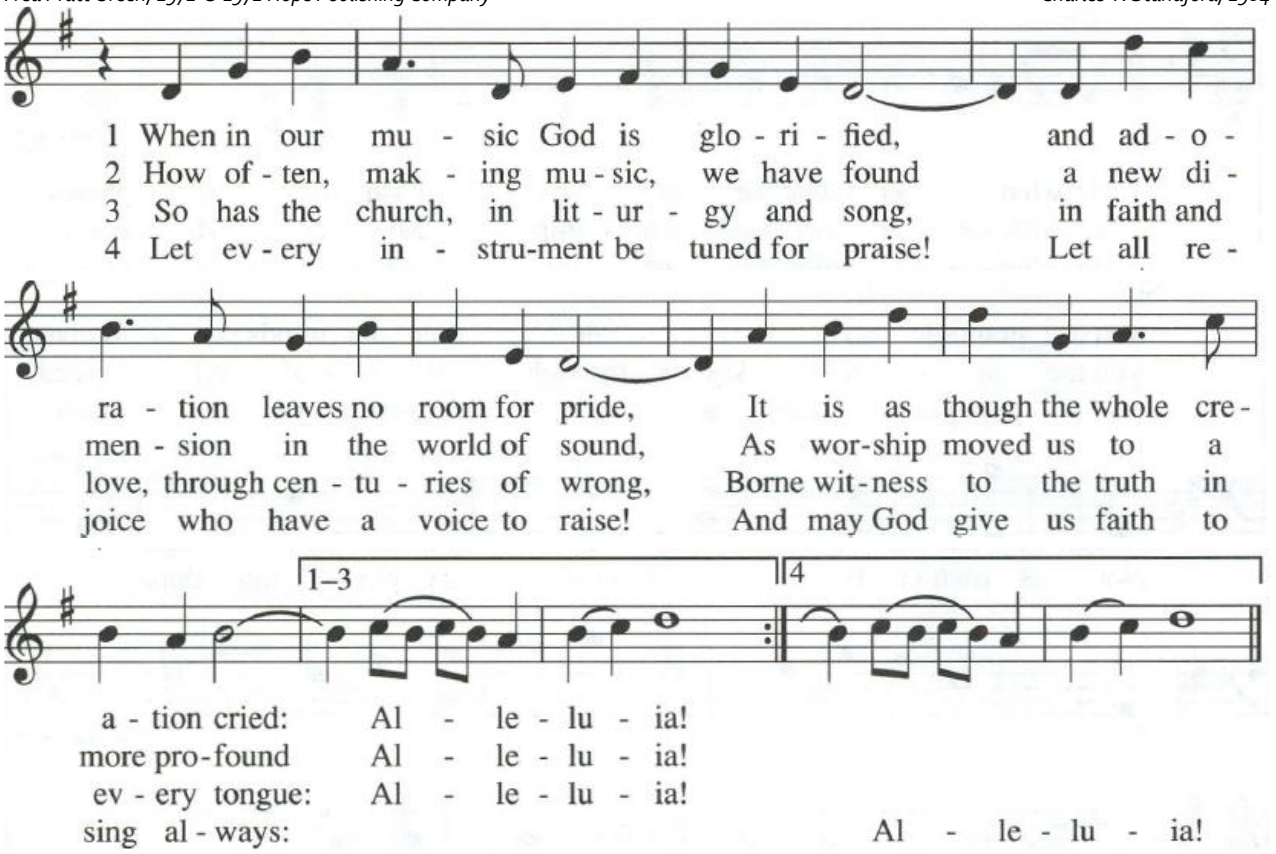
Praise God, the Source of life and birth; Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame; All glory, honor to God's Name! Amen.

***Giving Thanks**

Holy Spirit, thank you for the music in our hearts. Forgive us when we struggle, and help us to put on more compassion, kindness, humility, and love. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN "When In Our Music God Is Glorified"**

ENGELBERG 10.10.10.4

Fred Pratt Green, 1972 © 1972 Hope Publishing Company — *Charles V. Standford, 1904*

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION**

Go from this place, prepared to leave no one behind.
We are already exactly who God needs.
Simply say yes to the work of love and listen to God with your whole heart.
We are one human family. Together, we will find our way to peace. 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** "Te Deum" – Marc-Anthoine Charpentier Jerry Mason, Guest 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 & #213338

++
+

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

OFFICE STAFF

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - office@uccmedina.org
Pete Metzloff, Interim Financial Director - pete@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education – stacie@uccmedina.org
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

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

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER
AUGUST 4, 2024

"Welcoming, Loving, Serving, Where God Has No Limits.
More Than Church On Sunday!"

Live streaming of the 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary service is available at www.uccmedina.org/live

August 4 thru August 11, 2024
WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
Mon	Cook for Cups	
	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
Tues	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Community Engagement Team
Thurs	7:00 pm	Hobby Horse Team
Fri		
Sat		
Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
	11:30 am	Mission Team Meeting

Pastor Luke is on sabbatical
May 27th – September 2nd
He will return on September 3rd

AUGUST MONTHLY DONATION

The Mission Team is collecting laundry detergent for this month's donation. Please place items in the donation box next to the mission table, across from the elevator!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Mark your calendars for the next Men's Breakfast on Monday, August 5th at Buehler's River Styx at 8:00 am. **All men of the church are invited.** No reservations required. We hope to see you there!

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

Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon: "Grow by Thinking Inclusively"
Rev. Meghan Malone

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Deb Waldron in honor of Betty Zarney's 102nd birthday.

SONshine MEALS

Did you know we have a ministry that provides for members in need? If you're ill, expecting or have fallen on hard times, please let us help! If you know of a need or would like to help fulfill a need, please contact Becky at beckybauer@zoominternet.net or 216-288-6877. We will be refreshing our list of volunteers so if you'd like to be (or continue to be) on the list of people we call to possibly provide meals, please text or email Becky.

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE! SAVE THE DATE

Our annual church service on the square will begin at 10:30am around the gazebo on the square. Bring a friend and your own lawn chairs and come hungry! Lunch will be served by our neighbors from Medina Creative Housing. They're bringing a variety of sandwiches and side salads to show off the food from their Grande Café, featuring ingredients grown in the Creative Living Produce greenhouse. Donations towards the cost of the meal are appreciated, and the suggested amount is $10 per plate. We hope you will join us for this unique outdoor worship experience and fellowship!

AED/CPR TESTING

If you signed up for the AED/CPR class, **you must have your online portion of the class finished by Thursday, August 15th for our in-person testing at 10:00 a.m.** If you didn't receive an email with instructions to connect to the online class, please contact the office.

PODCAST - Rev'd Up!

New episodes every Wednesday

Join hosts Meghan and Luke as they take you on a transformative journey through the world of faith, spirituality, and social justice. Each episode, Meghan and Luke, both ordained ministers in the UCC, bring their depth of knowledge, experience, and contagious energy to deliver an enlightening show that will leave you charged. So, whether you're a Christian seeking inspiration, questioning traditional beliefs, or simply interested in exploring a more inclusive spirituality, this is your place for transformative conversations.

Podcast Link: https://open.spotify.com/Revdup

TIME & TALENT TREASURES

A large part of supporting the church includes the gifts of Time and Talent. This is an opportunity to reinforce our foundation as we anticipate the return of our fearless leader, Pastor Luke!

Contact one of our moderators for more options: Scott Ockunzzi (scott.ockunzzi@gmai.com), Alyson Alber (alysonalber@gmail.com), Ellen Nolan (ellenknolan@gmail.com), or the church office (office@uccmedina.org) if interested in serving on the following:

Community Engagement Team–Engage and welcome all

Hospitality Team – Bringing our congregation together in fellowship, support events in the life of our church

ART EXHIBIT

Historical Figures in Medina Library

Church member Brad Rice's latest exhibition, "Icons," will be hosted by the B. Smith Gallery on the 3rd floor of the Medina County District Library. From now through August 24th, you can explore 30 impressive portraits of significant people and participate in a trivia challenge to match the names of the icons with their portraits, making the viewing experience both fun and educational.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Sabbaticals aren't just for Pastors. How will you grow in fierce love this summer?

8/4 – Think Inclusively.
They're Your People Too!

8/11 – Live Justly.
Choose Fairness and Equality Every Day.

8/18 – Find Joy Purposefully.
It Is The Water Of Life.

8/25 – **Alive on the Square** Believe Assiduously.
Have Faith in Love.

During this series we'll decorate with houseplants! Bring a plant from your home to decorate the altar.

READY OR NOT… HERE COMES AUGUST!

It's time to get ready for our students to head back to school! On **August 11th** we will celebrate last year's high school graduates and bless them as they head off to college. Then on **August 18th** we will bless our backpacks, and any kind of bag that may be headed into a school building this year! Bring yours for a special Medina UCC tag and blessing.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADS

If you have a child who has graduated from High School this past year, please email the office with where they graduated from, what their immediate future plans are, (which college, trade school, or job they will attend) and a photo. We will include this in the bulletin on August 11th for Senior Recognition Day! Please send to the office; office@uccmedina.org no later than August 5th!

August 4, 2024
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

John 6:24–35

"Bread of Life"

A Communion litany based on John 6:24-35

One voice: In the beginning, the Holy Three danced in the chaos just before creation. Out of their dance was formed All-That-Is, and they looked at it and blessed it, calling it very, very good.

Many voices: One of the parts of that creation was humanity. That's all of us! Created in God's image, we sometimes believed that we, alone, were All-That-Is, and our arrogance drove us from the beauty and peace that The Holy Three wished for us.

One voice: Many voices called throughout time, for humanity to return to our place in All-That-Is. But we did not always listen. When the time was right, one part of the Holy Three, that part called Christ Jesus, came to speak so we could hear.

Many voices: Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. And the people replied, Teacher, give us this bread always.

One voice: And so, on the night before Jesus was killed by those who were threatened by his message of love and care for All-That-Is, he gathered with his closest friends and chosen family, and he gave them bread, saying "This is my body, the living bread that gives life to the world." After they ate, he passed them a cup and said "This is the cup of new life, that you might believe in the one whom the Holy Three has sent." Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Many voices: And so they ate and drank. And so we eat and drink and remember and rejoice.

One voice: Let us pray. Brother Jesus, we thank you that you have given us the bread that is your body, the cup that is the source of life. We eat and drink today in the strong name of the Holy Three - Creator, the Christ and the Redeemer. Amen.