

division



*\*Those who are able please stand*

## RINGING OF THE BELL

**PRELUDE** "In Christ There Is No East or West/Breathe on Me, Breath of God" – arr. Mark Albrecht  
Jen Vilimonovic, violin; Cathy Fafarak, piano

## WELCOME

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## \*OPENING HYMN

### "There's Wideness in God's Mercy"

*Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.*

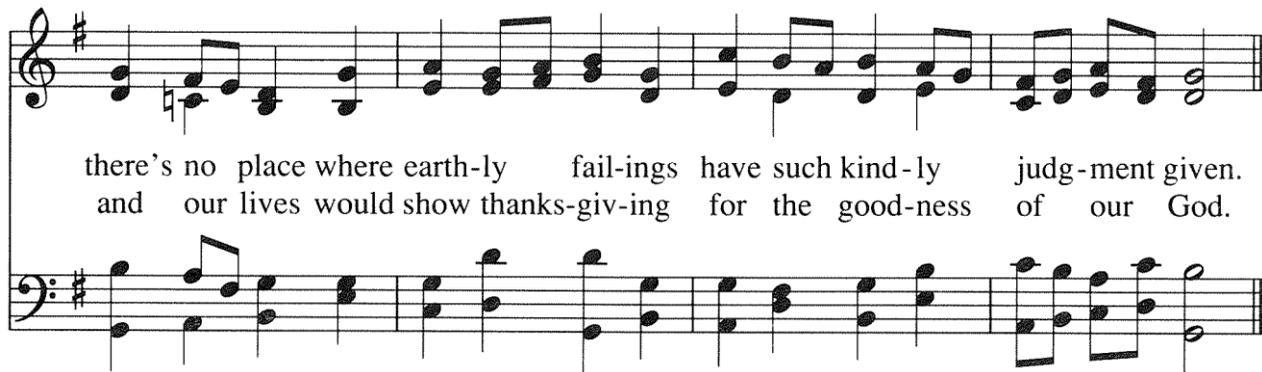
IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7.D  
*Dutch melody, arr. Julius Röntgen, 1906*

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our minds;

there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.  
and the heart of the E - ter-nal is most won-der - ful - ly kind.

There's no place where earth-ly sor-rows are more felt than in God's heaven;  
If our love were but more faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's word;

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a corresponding line of music. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines. The score concludes with a final chord in the bass clef.



there's no place where earth-ly fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.  
and our lives would show thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our God.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

We call you the Prince of Peace,  
**yet today you tell us that you bring division.**  
 Our denomination's motto is from your words,  
**"That they all may be one"**  
 And yet you tell us today that you will divide  
**Father against son,**  
**mother against daughter.**  
 Teacher, we ponder your words and today we humbly ask,  
**that you teach us how to interpret the present time.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Dance of the Butterflies" – Gustav Saenger

Jen Vilimonovic, violin

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 12:49-56 (N.T. pg. 71)

Kimberly Gallagher, 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** "Division"

The Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**HYMN** "When Minds and Bodies Meet As One"

TRINITY CAROL L.M.D.  
 Peter Cutts, 1980

Unison



1 When minds and bod - ies meet as one and  
2 When lead - ers meet with an - gry sound, yet  
3 When team - work serves a com - mon aim, and  
4 When peo - ple feel the lash - ing claws of the  
5 In Christ we come to break and bless the



find their true af - fin - i - ty, we join the dance in  
bri - dle their hos - til - i - ty, to bar - gain for a  
play - ers move in sym - pa - thy, the flow - ing rhy - thm  
greed and in - hu - man - i - ty, yet strug - gle in a  
bread of new so - ci - e - ty, cre - a - ted for to -



God be - gun and move with - in the Trin - i - ty,  
com - mon ground, and end with u - na - nim - i - ty,  
of the game is beau - ty in sim - pli - ci - ty,  
right - ful cause with car - ing sol - i - dar - i - ty,  
geth - er - ness, from in - fi - nite va - ri - e - ty,



so praise the good that's seen and done in  
be glad for all the hope that's won in  
so praise the good that's seen and done in  
be glad for all the hope that's won in  
so praise the good that's seen and done in



lov - ing, giv - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -  
ev - ery gleam of u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -  
swift - ly mov - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -  
free - dom - lov - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -  
Spir - it - giv - en u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -



ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.

## 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. You can also give through VENMO. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

UCC Medina  
@uccmedina



venmo

### Offering Invitation

Disturb us, O Lord.

May we be disturbers for your Beloved Community.

Wake us up, so that we might give the gifts we carry.

### \*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.

### \*Give Thanks

O Lord, we thank you for the generosity of your people. For all the ways that we give. A kind word of hope or consolation. Unbidden phone calls, texts, and emails. Prayers to you on behalf of others in the middle of the night. For marching, crying out, and trying to tell the stories of others. For all the ways your people give to you and one another, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

### \*SENDING HYMN

### "In Christ There Is No East or West"

McKee C.M.

John Oxenham, 1908; alt. St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987

African-American melody, arr. Henry T. Burleigh, 1939

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;  
4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.  
One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

## \*ANNOUNCEMENTS

\***BENEDICTION** (lines 2 through 4 from The Rev. Truman Witaker’s sermon *The Disturbers* from May 29, 1960)

Jesus our Christ, you have blessed us today

**This stern word pictures one of the greatest services of Jesus to society–**

being a disturber of loyalties,

**detaching loyalties from small objects and attaching them to larger ones.**

May we go from here seeking your will,

**building your kingdom,**

And attaching to the fruits of the Spirit! Go in blessing and to bless, 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**    “In Christ There Is No East or West” – based on *McKee*, arr. Gilbert M. Martin

Cathy Fafrak, Organ

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### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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Jack Sharpe, Maintenance & Custodian

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## AUGUST 17, 2025

**“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](http://www.uccmedina.org/live)

### August 17 thru August 24, 2025 WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Sun** 8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship  
10:30 am Summer Jesus Vibes  
11:30 am Confirmand & Parent Meeting  
4:30 pm **BABY SHOWER**  
**FOR PASTOR MEGHAN & LOGAN**

**Mon** 1:00 pm Breadmakers

#### **Tues**

**Wed** 10:30 am Quilters  
6:30 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal

**Thurs** 6:30 pm Bible Study

#### **Fri** **Sat**

**Sun** 10:30 am **ALIVE ON THE SQUARE  
WORSHIP AND PICNIC**  
**ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP ONLY**

### TEEN CHURCH

On Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, teens in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up can head to the youth room during the 10:30 service for quality time, snacks, and conversation that are just for them. This year we will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, with a few exceptions. Watch the church calendar for details.

### YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

Youth group begins again on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>! We'll be meeting at Brunswick Skate Station for roller skating from 5:00-7:00pm. Admission and skates will be paid for by the church, and we'll have pizza for a snack as well. Parents are welcome to hang out, but do not have to stay.

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

Scripture: Luke 12: 49-56

Sermon: "Division"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table:** The flowers on the communion table are given by Dick & Dorie Christy in honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### ALIVE ON THE SQUARE

**Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.**  
On the Square at the Gazebo

#### **Worship & Photo Scavenger Hunt**

**Picnic on the square to follow**

Lunch will once again be catered by  
Medina Creative Housing

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!

Bring a friend and a lawn chair!

### CONFIRMATION INFO MEETING TODAY

Calling all teens who are entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade and their parents! You are invited to an informational meeting about our confirmation classes for 2025! We will meet in the youth room on Sunday, **August 17<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30am** worship service.

### JESUS VIBES

Regular Sunday Jesus Vibes will resume on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

## AUGUST MONTHLY DONATION

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This month, the Mission Team is collecting items for the Next Step-Up Emergency Housing Shelter. These are the most-requested items that they collect to prepare baskets for their Guests as they transition into new homes!

Laundry baskets	Laundry detergent
Disinfectant wipes	Multipurpose cleaner
Broom and dustpan	Garbage bags
Drying rack	Dish soap
Hand soap	Dish sponges

Please place your donations in the marked bins across from the elevator by the Mission table. Thank you!

## SIGN-UPS POSTED

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Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during the 10:30 Sanctuary service or to host a Coffee Hour. The new sign-up sheets are for September through November.

## ATTENTION SINGERS!

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Be on the lookout for an email from Tracy Gabrielsen about the choir **kickoff gathering to be held on Thursday, August 21st.**

Interested in joining the choir? We would love to have you sing with us!

Email Tracy - [Tracy@uccmedina.org](mailto:Tracy@uccmedina.org) for the details

## NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK!

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"Irpin's Big Adventure" by Brad Rice is a story about a family of mice family escaping a war-torn region, relying on faith that there are good people to help. Books are on sale in the East Room. Scan the QR code to pay \$20 on your phone and take your copy. You can also pick up your copy in the church office.



## ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR JESUS VIBES & YOUTH GROUP

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Time to fill out youth registration forms! Please use the QR code to complete the youth registration form for each of your children (ages preschool - 12th grade) by September 7th, 2025. If you have never set up your Realm login for yourself, please contact the church office for an invite, then proceed with youth registration once your initial profile is set up in Realm. Completing the youth registration form will allow us to best serve all of our youth at church programming and events throughout the year. Youth registration is also required for the new Sunday morning check-in process that will be implemented this year. Please contact Stacie Yates ([stacie@uccmedina.org](mailto:stacie@uccmedina.org)) or Meghan Malone



([meghan@uccmedina.org](mailto:meghan@uccmedina.org)) with any questions. Here is a direct link as well: <https://onrealm.org/uccmedina/PublicRegistrations/Event>

## HABITAT DONATIONS

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Are you purchasing a new couch, love seat, washer & dryer or bedroom set? Consider donating your gently used items to the ReStore. Habitat for Humanity offers a FREE donation pick-up service. Sales from the ReStore help build safe, decent, and affordable homes with families here in Medina County. Call to schedule your pick-up today – 330-722-4494.

Habitat for Humanity will also be accepting applications for their homeownership program from Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>–Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. More information on how to apply will be added to their website ([medinacountyhabitat.org](http://medinacountyhabitat.org)) in September.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

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Hello Church! Mrs. V here wanting everyone to know that Children's Choir will start practicing at 10:00 in the Chapel on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. All children grade Pre-K through 8th grade are welcome! For more information, feel free to email me at [jen@uccmedina.org](mailto:jen@uccmedina.org). I look forward to all the fun and music making!

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# BOOK STUDY



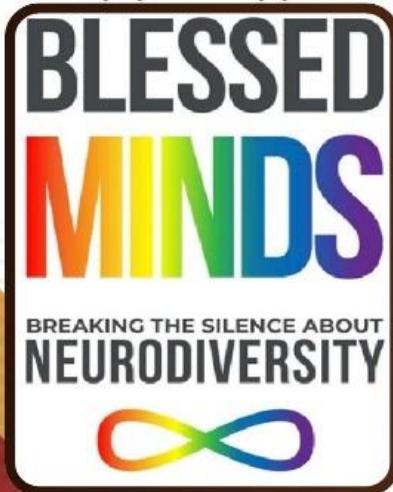
Tuesday  
SEPT 23, 2025



From  
7 to 8 p.m.

MEDINA UCC

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund visited us in the Spring. We will be reviewing her book Blessed Minds! Pick up your copy in the office for \$15.



☎ 330-725-4559 🌐 [www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org) ✉ [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)

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 am – 3 pm MONDAY THRU THURSDAY; FRIDAY 9 am – 12 pm



# SERMON

## *Prep Study*

Join us each week as we gather around the Scripture for the upcoming Sunday's worship.

We'll read together, ask questions, share insights, and wrestle with how this ancient story speaks into our world today. This isn't about having all the answers — it's about curiosity, conversation, and community.



**MONDAYS**  
Weekly starting  
September 15



**TIME**  
2 p.m.

**NEW LIBRARY**

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

### Restore Us

There comes a time in life when you wake up one morning and stare into the mirror wondering who that person is staring back at you.

Perhaps it is a few more gray hairs or a new wrinkle that makes the reflection unrecognizable. Or maybe it's not your physical appearance, but rather a hollow feeling in your gut reminding you that somewhere on the road of life you took a wrong turn and don't know the way back to who you were or who you wanted to be.

If this was the morning that such reality splashed your face, take heart. You are not alone as each of us, one day or another, stand in the need of God's restoration.

Luckily, God is in the business of restoring what is lost — be it our dreams, our hopes or our trust in goodness in the world. We just need to cry out to God, asking for help.

Psalm 80 is such a cry. In this often overlooked plea for restoration and salvation, the psalmist brings to us a soaring and emotional song, complete with the refrain, "Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved."

The setting to the psalm is the aftermath of a crisis where the nation of Israel, described as a vineyard, recognizes that they had a part to play in the destruction of the vines. And in the aftermath of everything that went wrong, Israel remembers once again that the only hope they have is in God. Three times they sing the refrain, "Restore us, God Almighty ..."

Yes, there comes a time in our lives when we wake up and don't recognize the person staring back at us. Somewhere along the way something went awry — a wrong decision, a wrong turn, a bad choice or a sorrowful mistake.

It is then we sing with faith the refrain sang by the helpless and the hopeless, "Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved."

And as we do, know that God hears, God sees and God is at work, restoring us once again.

May today we commit to memory Psalm 80's refrain, turning to it always in our times of need.

*Merciful God, we are sorry for forgetting Your ways are always the best for us. Forgive us for the decisions we have made that have created chaos and confusion in our lives. Restore us now and may Your face shine upon us this day and always. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*