



November 22, 2020

9:30 am

Transition Sunday: Because We Love

Milestones of Our Lives: Naming - It is important to name the many transitions in our lives as a part of our human journey and to name the reality of grief and loss, joy and celebration. It is also important to name our hope in the resurrection alongside the reality of death and sorrow, and affirm God's love for each of us. Memorial UCC has a long tradition of doing this the last Sunday of the Church's calendar year—which is today! In the many losses and all of the changes we have each experienced in 2020, this ritual becomes even more important.



You may wish to have a candle, or several, with you in worship. During our time of prayer, you will be invited to light a prayer candle signifying a transition that you and/or your family has encountered over the course of the past year.

*Text printed in **BOLD** in the bulletin indicates that everyone is to read and/or sing. However, in our virtual space we ask that all but the readers and musicians remain muted – you can still read aloud and sing at home!*

“The whole earth is at rest and quiet; they break forth into singing.”

Isaiah 14:7-32

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome and Life of the Community (Announcements)

Opening Song

Sounds of Thanksgiving

Richard Blake

Call to Worship¹

One: Come and seek together the salvation of God.

All: Welcome the stranger.

One: Redistribute resources.

All: Tend needs and practice mutual care.

One: Abolish all that imprisons.

¹ Today's order of worship is adapted from "Liturgy That Matters, November 22, 2020." Enflashed, 2020.

All: This is the way of Jesus.

One: Let the old ways be left behind.

All: Love has come to free us.

Opening Prayer

Spirit of God, Holy is your wisdom. You reveal all that has narrowed our imagination, confined our worldviews, and distorted our sense of what's possible. Come and help us create anew. Within and between us, nurture our creativity in the simple and serious work of love. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading **Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34** The Inclusive Bible

Time with Children: A Sunday School Lesson Rebecca Malke

Special Music

Reflection **Beloved, Love: Dream Anew** Pastor Kris

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People: for Transition Sunday

During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. If you have a candle, you may light it at any time.

We will be lifting prayers for:

- *Members, family, and friends who have died in the past year*
- *Transgender Day of Remembrance*
- *Other losses in 2020—physical, memory, and mental health concerns, loss of a job or a decrease in hours, loss of a relationship*
- *The changes which joys has brought us—the birth of a child, a new house, a graduation*
- *Gratitude for the many ways we have found to Be the Church and connect during the pandemic*

Pastor Kris will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: pastorkris@memorialucc.org

Prayer of Jesus

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.

Virtual Offering

Thank you to those who regularly give electronically. We understand that the pandemic impacts each of us in unique ways. Note that Memorial UCC has a NEW opportunity for you to give via PayPal! You can give securely via charge card, debit card, and direct withdrawal donations. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure and you do not even need to have a PayPal account to use the service to make single, one-time donations. [CLICK HERE](#) to give.

Checks can be mailed directly to the church. Indicate in the memo line whether the giving is to Memorial operating costs or help to our community wide nonprofit partners. If you are interested in our monthly automatic withdrawal system, please email John Van Overbeke at jvanoverbe@aol.com and he will get you signed up.

Offertory

Thanksgiving Hymn

Colin Curtis

Prayer of Dedication

Spirit of Love, in this time of Great Change, as we bring our offerings together we do so in acknowledgment of all that needs re-ordering in the world. We grieve the ways resources are hoarded and withheld. We pray that we may be delivered from any temptation to cling to what should be shared with our neighbors. Free us of the lies of individualism and move us ever deeper into solidarity with all life. Amen.

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

Song for Going Out #547

Amazing Grace²

verses 1, 2 & 3

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

² Columbia Harmony, *Cincinnati*, 1829. Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900 *New Century Hymnal* #547

**My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
Benediction**

Postlude

For the Fruit of All Creation

Zach Unke

Worship Leaders:

Jeff Darwin, Rebecca Malke, Jamie Gaffke, Pastor Kris

Readers: Barb Gallogly-Turner and Sue Webb

Virtual Usher: Steve Gorton



Stay for Virtual Coffee Hour!

Following the service, you are invited to stay for conversation. Bring your own coffee, milk and/or donuts! All you need to do is to stay "in" Zoom as the service ends (don't click "leave meeting").

We will break into small groups that will last about 15 minutes. At the beginning of the breakout, introduce yourself, share how you are doing, and/or share where you have seen the Spirit move in your life this week. At the end of the 15 minutes we will gather again in a larger group and share our experiences.

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