



~ Welcome Visitors! ~

Guide to the bulletin: An asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal next to your pew chair.

Children: Children are always welcome here. We know youth grow – in the love of God and the love of others – when they have opportunities to worship in community. Today, children are invited to participate in a scavenger hunt race with Maddie Planton. If the youth in your family would like to stay in worship, there are a variety of quiet activities and fidgets the youth (and adults!) can do available by the sanctuary doors. There is also a [Prayer Ground](#) set up at the front of the sanctuary. There are several quiet activities prepared for children. We know many of us need to wiggle a bit to be comfortable. Kids do too!!! Adults are welcome to sit in this area as well! #ChildofGod. You and/or your children are welcome to get up during the service to select something to do. If you want to have your younger children (ages 0-4) taken care of during the service, we have a nursery available at 9:30 am.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome and Community Connections

*Introit

***Call to Worship¹** (Inspired by Psalm 71)

One: In the Holy One, we take refuge; let us never be put to shame.
Our praise is continually of you.

Many: **In your righteousness deliver us and hear our cries for justice and peace.**

One: In the Holy One, we draw strength; let us never be put to shame.
Our praise is continually of you.

Many: **Be a rock of refuge for the vulnerable, a strong fortress to save creation, for you are our rock and fortress.**

One: In the Holy One, we receive courage; let us never be put to shame.
Our praise is continually of you.

Many: **Rescue us, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel, for you, Holy One, are our hope and trust.**

* Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God Who Knows Us, we pray that you form and shape us anew. Remind us who we are and draw us back to you. Transform us in love, correct us with compassion, and lead us with clarity into the paths of righteousness, truth, and peace. Forgive us for the ways that we reject your presence, your guidance, and your will. Redeem and restore us as your beloved creation and active citizens of your kingdom. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn

This is My Father's World

Chalice 59, all verses

Installation of Church Council Members

New members: Mark Hansen, Cindy Rosch, Barb Stransky

¹ *Through the Midst:* Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

Continuing members: Ada Aeschliman, Marcy Brant, Laura Mengar, Kim Thoresen, Jennifer Williams

Congregational Covenant

Pastor Kris: People of faith, will you pledge your support to the work of God in this congregation under the leadership of these with whom you share ministry in this body of Christ, and pray God's blessing on them as together we seek to support one another in selfless service?

All: We do.

Pastor Kris: Members and friends of Memorial UCC, let us pray...

All: Wondrous God, we rejoice that you have called us to be your people in this time and place. Help us to fulfill the mission to which you call us. Strengthen the resolves that have here been made and uphold your leaders with hope and encouragement that they may endure every challenge. Fill this congregation with your loving Spirit so that all members may work together for the common good. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

First Bible Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Special Music

The Good News

Luke 4:21-30

Reflection

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People

During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Or you can text prayers to Pastor Kris at 608-438-6307 or Pastor Peter at 608-338-2268. They 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 and/or pastorpeter@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.

SHARING A MEAL²

Come to God's Extravagant Table—wherever you are. Those who are blessing and receiving the sacrament at home, please prepare a slice or small loaf of bread, corn tortilla, or rice cake to share and a cup or small cups of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol.

Invitation to the Table

Pastor Peter: God be with you,

Many: And also with you.

Pastor Peter: Open wide your hearts!

Many: We open them up to God.

Pastor Peter: Let us give thanks for this time and space,

Many: Giving praise to God for this meal we will share.

Words of Remembering and Prayer of Consecration

*** Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

Please come forward. Those serving communion will place a piece of bread in your hand. You may eat the bread right away or pick up one of the cups and eat the bread with juice or wine. The bread is gluten free. The grape juice is white; the wine is red. If you are worshiping at home, you may serve yourself. Or, if you are with others, consider serving each other. All are welcome at this meal.

² Michelle L. Torigian, accessed January 27, 2025,
<https://michelletorigian.com/?s=communion&search=Go>

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We celebrate our gratitude, Divine Companion. As this spiritual meal has nourished us, inspire us to feed our neighbors and journey with the lonely. Through our co-creation together, may we spread love throughout our world and extend your hospitality to people in need. Amen.

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

*Song for Going Out *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* NCH 286 vss 1, 2, & 4

*Benediction

*Postlude

Worship Leaders: Jonathan Schroerlucke (Dir. of Music), Jeff Darwin (Pianist), Betsy Robbins (Bell Choir Dir.), Pastor Kris Gorton, and Pastor Peter Morris

Readers: Jan Klawitter and John Rosch

Ushers: Jay Johnson and Nancy Potter

Communion Preparation: Linda Brant, Sonjia Short, and Janine Bessemer

Media Room: Jeffrey Lipford

Youth Programming Leader: Mo Foster

Fellowship: Janine Bessemer

Memorial UCC uses photographs and video for social media communication with our members and friends. If someone does not wish to be photographed or in a video, ushers will help them find a seat out of camera view.

Memorial UCC's ONE LICENSE for streaming: #A-711042



Hearing Loop and Listening Devices: For those who have hearing aids, Memorial UCC has a t-coil compatible hearing loop. Listening devices are also available for people who are hard of hearing. See an usher if you need assistance.

Bathrooms: There are two bathrooms near the main entrance of the church. A third Gender Neutral and Accessible bathroom is in the hallway by the nursery. If you need assistance finding the restrooms, an usher will gladly help you



Giving Options—Ever-Widening Opportunities: Checks can be mailed directly to the church or dropped off during office hours. Please indicate any special designation in the memo line. You can give securely via PayPal with your credit card, debit card, or direct withdrawals. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure, and you do not need a PayPal account to make one-time or recurring donations. Visit memorialucc.org and click the "giving" link in the upper right-hand corner or scan the QR code here. If you are interested in monthly automatic withdrawals, please email Cathy Halpin at halpincjo@gmail.com, and she will get you signed up.

Want to Know More About Us? Co-pastors Kris and Peter would be happy to set up a time to chat further. Feel free to contact either of them at pastorkris@memorialucc.org or pastorpeter@memorialucc.org. You don't need to be a formal member to get involved here. There is a lot of information on our website at www.memorialucc.org. You can also follow us on Facebook (@FitchburgMemorialUCC), Twitter (@MemUCC), or join our Facebook group Memorial UCC: Ever-Widening Circles.

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE: MAKE VALENTINE'S CARDS for Memorial's members and friends. Grab some food and a beverage in Fellowship Hall and have a seat. There will be supplies available to make cards we will be sending to people in the congregation

VOICES OF MEMORIAL SURVEY. If you are curious about the results, gather with the Membership Committee in the Youth Room as we will be taking a deeper look at the results

LOVE of NEIGHBOR. The Outreach Committee will be meeting in the library and via Zoom.

SAVE THE DATE(S)

- * **Sunday, February 23, 9:30 am:** Ms Joyce will be preaching
 - * **Saturday, March 1, 9 am-noon:** Annual Meeting of the Southwest Wisconsin Association UCC, at the McFarland UCC
 - * **Sunday March 2, 3 pm:** Pastor Peter will be installed as co-pastor of Memorial UCC
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