



~ 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. After the Message for All, children are welcome to attend Sunday Funday with Maddie, sit with their families, or at the prayer ground. 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.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Jesus, I Am Resting

Tracey Craig McKibben

Welcome and Community Connections

Introit *Healer of My Soul* John Michael Talbot, arr. Carol Browning

***Call to Worship¹**

One: Tell me something good!

All: God loves you more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

All: God loves *all* of creation more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

All: God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

One: This is good news indeed!

All: Let us worship our compassionate God.

*** Opening Prayer**

Good news God, speak louder than the news updates. Speak louder than our mental distractions. Speak louder than our anger and louder than our fear. God, speak loudly to us today, because we long to hear your good news once more. With hope we pray, amen.

***Hymn**

Build a Longer Table

(see insert)

HEARING THE WORD

First Gospel Reading

Luke 7:36-50

Anthem

Abide with Me

Moses Hogan

Second Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:35-40

Message for All

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

¹ Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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.

After the Message for All, children are invited to participate in Sunday Funday, sit by their family in the sanctuary, or at the Prayer Ground

Call to Confession

Prayer of confession

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go. Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

Words of forgiveness

Pastor Kris: People of God, even when we act with judgment, even when we are guided by fear, even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need, God does not turn God's back on us. So join me in this good-news declaration:

All: We are seen. We are forgiven.

We are invited to try again.

Thanks be to God for this unending love.

Reflection

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer

Benediction

Dave Lindorff

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. We 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

AT THIS TABLE: A SERVICE of COMMUNION

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.

Invitation² and Words of Institution

***Sharing the Bread and Cup**

Please come forward and take a piece of bread, which you may dip into one of the cups. All the bread is gluten free. The brown cup has wine; the blue cup has white grape juice. All are welcome at this meal. If you are worshipping at home, you may serve yourself. Or, if you are with others consider serving each other.

All are welcome at this meal.

Communion Hymn

Bread of the World

NCH 346

Communion Meditation

Partake the Bread of the World

Ruth Elaine Schram

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. By the power of your Spirit, unite us with all whom Christ welcomes, that we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

***Song for Going Out**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

NCH 77

***Benediction**

² Adapted from Rev Julia Burkley, Orchard Ridge UCC, "Communion Liturgy for Lent 2," Facebook post, March 24, 2026, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1528206394153076>.

Worship Leaders: Jeff Darwin (Music Director), Bríghín Kane-Grade (Choral Director), Pastor Kris Gorton, and Pastor Peter Morris

Readers: Marty Smith and Jan Klawitter

Usher: Roger Elver

Media Room: Jeffrey Lipford

Fellowship: Dean and Nancy Baumgardner

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. Visit 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 Ulrika Swanson at ulrikaswanson@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.

TODAY

Today is the final day to place your order for Easter flowers. All pertinent information and the sign-up sheet are in the narthex niche.

AFTER WORSHIP...

both the GREEN TEAM and the 3&Me community will be meeting.

YOUTH GROUP GATHERING: 5:30 - 7:00 pm at the McFarland UCC: Taco Bar Time!

COMING SOON

A memorial service for Carl Pfeiffer will be held on Saturday, March 7, at 2 pm at Memorial UCC. Visitation will be held from 1 pm until the time of the service. A reception in Fellowship will follow the memorial. You can [view the obituary by clicking here](#).

ENGAGING WISDOM

Wednesday, March 11, Memorial UCC will be hosting *Engaging Wisdom* in the Youth Room. You may attend either session:

- * The morning gathering runs from 9:30 – 11 am.
- * The afternoon group meets from 4 – 5:30 pm.

Anyone who considers themselves a senior... or nearing "that age" ... or has a loved one of "that age" ... and is interested in connecting with others around the serious—and sometimes humorous—realities of getting older is welcome to participate.

MUCC BOOK GROUP

The next book is the Wisconsin Reads book, *STILL TRUE*, by Maggie Ginsberg, a Wisconsin author and 2023 Wisconsin Library Association Literary Award for fiction. The book is available for free download (with a library card) until March 14. Go to WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium) website to get the download.

The next meeting will be Monday, April 13, 8:30 AM at the Rolling Pin Bakery. All are welcome!

MUCC Work Day on March 14

The Buildings and Grounds Committee has organized the first of two spring work days. The first work day on March 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. will focus on cutting/removing invasive species, especially honeysuckle and buckthorn in a portion of the woods. This work will focus on parts of the first hillside behind the church building as well as a couple of small areas further in. We have chosen an early date before woodland flowers emerge.

What to bring? If you have one, bring chainsaws and hand bow saws. Bring sturdy work clothes, gloves, and boots, eye protection, and hearing protection. We'll have simple ear plugs on site. We will need people for cutting, hauling brush to a few brush piles, and treating stumps with safe chemicals as advised by Holy Wisdom Monastery staff. Coffee, fruit, and carbs will be provided. Come for all or part of the time as you are able.

A second Work Day for other indoor and outdoor work will be scheduled in May. See Mark Hanson (hanson1915@gmail.com) for more information.

Build a Longer Table

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Build a Longer Table". It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The vocal line has four lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is written in treble and bass clefs. Chord symbols are placed below the piano part.

1. Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2. Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3. Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4. When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,

Em A Em A Bm Em

feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.

F#m Em Am D Em

Feast - ing to - geth - er, stran - ger turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - ble wel - come those who roam.

Am D Bm Em Am Bm B/D#

Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Em A Bm Em F#m Bm Em