



GUESTS, Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at *www.unionucc.org* or like us on Facebook at *www.facebook.com/unionneffs*

If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, pastorkris@unionucc.org

Our next new member information session will be held on September 13 and 20 You will be welcomed as members in worship on Sunday, September 27. If you are interested in attending classes for new members let us know and we'd be glad to send you more information. Please contact Pastor Kris with any questions.

We believe in extravagant welcome. We believe in God's inclusive love. We start worship with a greeting that reflects that welcome and love.

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and on faith's journey

ALL: you are welcome here.

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C = Congregation **L** = Leader **P** = Pastor

Holy Communion

Directions for Communion: Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.

Since we are worshipping virtually we invite you to take communion virtually.

Please find a cracker, piece of bread or something to represent the body of Christ. And please find some juice, wine or water to represent the blood of Christ. When we get to that part of the service, the pastors will bless the elements and bless us as we share in this meal together.

PRELUDE

Come, Christians Join to Sing, Tune: Madrid Arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

•No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and faith's journey

•You are welcome here.

WE GATHER

THRESHOLD MOMENT

PRAYER

Divine Goodness, Holy One, Pause us for this moment, bear us up in this time, hold us for eternity. We offer ourselves in connection with you. We allow ourselves this love from you. We release ourselves into your presence. And all the people say, "**Amen.**" Hymn

BLACK HYMNAL **#28** For the Beauty of the Earth

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,

For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,

Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

3. For the good that love inspires, for a world where none exclude,

For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed. God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

WE PROCLAIM

SEARCHING FOR BEAUTY: A TIME FOR CHILDREN WITH MRS. BONSELL

LECTIO DEVINA

Deauty occurs in many ways through our rituals. *Divina* is of Latin and Italian origin, meaning "divine or heavenly." It is also a variant of *Davina* (Hebrew), meaning "loved one." In this series we will encounter the Divine Loved One through "Lectio Divina" with scripture, through "Sermo Divina"—the Latin origin of the word "sermon"—and through "Visio Divina" images, music, and poetry. All of these are portals into a sensate experience of the holy. Some forms will pique your cognitive mind, but you can also allow some to simply wash over you, infusing your psyche and soul with a mysterious sense of wonder.

Ezekiel 31: 3-7 (Inclusive Bible)

SERMO DIVINA (Message) Pastor Kris

VISIO DIVINA

WE RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

"Look Around" Jason Klinger, vocalist *Original song for the series by Marsha Jean Moors-Charles, arr. Caleb Collins*

Our prayers in this series will invite us to an open-eyed experience of "looking around." I invite you to look around and find something to focus on. It may be a detail that you rarely see, or something that you see frequently but you can see it more deeply. Or you may let your gaze wander during prayers as a way of giving thanks for these surroundings. "Looking around"—whether we do that with our eyes or other senses—is how we notice the beauty in the world and in the people we encounter, but also how we notice the suffering and are called to intercede in prayer for the healing of all.

Music: Verse 1: When you're tired and feel you can't get through Uncertainty comes over you Just Look Around When your problems seem too much to bear Unsure if there's someone who cares Just Look Around Whether stranger, neighbor, family, or a friend On each other in tough times we can depend

Chorus: Look Around – kindness, love is ours to share We can see it everywhere Though it might seem like forever Look Around—for even in the darkest night Things are gonna be alright We'll get through this together Just Look Around!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

Music:

Verse 2: Sometimes it can be hard to see Life is full of possibilities So Look Around Each new day is such a gift Embrace it and the life you live And Look Around Outstretched arms and many helping hands Don't give up on all your dreams and all your plans

Chorus: Look Around – kindness, love is ours to share We can see it everywhere Though it might seem like forever Look Around—for even in our darkest night Things are gonna be alright We'll get through this together Just Look Around! Look Around! Just Look Around.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

• As the song says, "we'll get through this together"... "with outstretched arms and many helping hands."

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OFFERING ENVELOPES you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

ELECTRONIC GIVING This is a great time to try e-giving!

Choose a weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <u>http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf</u> and return it to the church office. <u>financialmanager@unionucc.org</u>

DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card

Go to <u>http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-</u><u>sponsorship/ways-to-give/</u> and click **GIVE ONLINE**.

<u>AMAZON SMILE</u> Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop at Amazon. <u>https://smile.amazon.com</u>.

COMMUNION

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elements and bless us as we share in this meal together.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Divine Goodness and Love is with you!

• And also with you!

• Lift up your hearts

•We lift them up to our God.

• Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

OIt is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ut is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Beguiled Creator of heaven and earth, your love so desired a response that you formed us in your image and breathed into us your breath of life, filling us with your essence of goodness. We sometimes lose sight of this connection to you, yet still your love remains steadfast and compassionate. You deliver us from the captivity of our forgetfulness, reminding us of your eternal covenant of presence, and you continue to speak to us through prophetic voices of hope.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy , holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

●Your Spirit anointed Jesus to love in the form of preaching good news to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives recovering of sight to the blind, setting at liberty those who are oppressed, and announcing that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with those cut off from fullness of life and love. By his life and ministry you gave birth to a new way of life for us.

When Jesus breathed Spirit upon his beloveds, he promised to be with us always. Each breath we take, each movement of breeze, reminds us of this beautiful truth, that by the power of your Word and Holy Spirit, we are not alone. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the beauty of life through Christ, so that we may be for the world the heart of Christ, offering the life of compassion.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. Amen

SHARING THE BREAD and CUP

• Take and eat, take and drink.

BEAUTIFUL SIGNS OF LOVE

Please continue to send us pictures of you and your friends or family with their hands in the heart position. We'd like to show them each week so that we can see each other, give thanks for each other, and pray for each other.

MUSIC OFFERING

Amazing Grace Jillian Krempasky, vocalist

BENEDICTION

This series invites us to integrate contemplative practices into our daily lives as a way of opening to the Divine in deeper ways, thereby training our spirits for compassion in all things. This week's ritual action is a time of meditative "watering." Set a reminder to pour yourself and drink a glass of water and then refill that same glass and water some other living thing... offering a glass of water to someone else or to a plant, tree, garden, etc. As you do so, allow your mind to slow, your heart to open, your eyes to drink in your surroundings. You may want to put a note nearby, "Water is life. Water your life so you can water other life... for the beauty of the earth."

The world is so varied and beautiful. Seek wisdom wherever it is to be found.* And may the goodness of the Creator, the companionship of the Christ, and the insight of the Spirit, infuse your life now and always. Amen.

BENEDICTION SONG REPRISE

God of all to you, we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise!

WE GO FORTH

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy, Tune: Nicaea (Arr. Mark Hayes) John B. Dykes

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