

**Sunday, September 13, 2020**  
**10:30 Online Worship/ Worship in the Grove**

**Thank you for wearing a mask and practicing 6 feet of social distancing.**

**As you arrive, please visit the welcome tables to:**

- 1. Sign In – we will verify your name and phone number.**
- 2. Get a bulletin of the service or you can view it on your phone at :**



- 3. Share your offerings.**

**GUESTS,** Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/unionneffs](https://www.facebook.com/unionneffs) . If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

**NEW MEMBERS:** Our next new member information session will be held on **September 13** at 9:15-10am. This will be a virtual meeting on Zoom where you can log in online or call in by phone. Please contact Pastor Kris or Marissa in the office if you'd like to join us. Pastor Kris is also glad to schedule a phone call or zoom session individually with you to get to know you and answer your questions. You will be welcomed as members in worship on **Sunday, September 27.**

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

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**Ushers:** Todd McCoy, Carol James

**Sound:** Karl Klinger, Doug Albert

## PRELUDE

Abide With Me

Henry Francis Lyte

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**C** You are welcome here.

## \*HYMN

GOLD HYMNAL #118 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**L** Word of encouragement came from prophet to people;

**C** Live a life that is full – build, plant, eat, love, multiply--

**L** Pray for your communities

**C** Keep God in the center of all that is.

**L** We enter into worship today with hope in our hearts

**C** For something happens here  
that reminds us that we can live as God desires

**L** God has made a promise of faithfulness to us

## © And we can trust the promise.

~ written by Henrietta Stith Andrews

### PRAYER

🕯️ God of strength and courage, when we catch ourselves fretting or worrying help us to shape these worries into prayers and conversations with you. When we struggle to trust and hope, show us the way back to our arms. As we turn to you time and time again, may our worry be displaced with your peace and joy. Amen.

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP- CHILDREN'S TIME Tina Jarrett  
Or Watch for Mrs. Bonsell on Facebook and our YouTube  
Channel During the Week**

### SCRIPTURE

#### **Jeremiah 29:11**

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

#### **Phillipians 4: 6-7**

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

#### **Jeremiah 17: 7-8**

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

### MESSAGE

**Guest Speaker: Vicki Mayk, Union UCC Member and Author**

***Growing Up On The Gridiron: Football, Friendship and the Tragic Life of Owen Thomas***, chronicles the short but extraordinary life of a young man who grew up attending Union UCC. Owen was the son of our late pastor emeritus, the Rev. Thomas N. Thomas, and his wife, the Rev. Kathy Brearley. After his death by suicide in 2010, Owen's case became a significant part of the research that linked playing football with the traumatic brain condition CTE. The book tells the story of Owen, his family, teammates, friends, and coaches and explores the health concern he helped to illuminate. The book is also about the intoxicating nature of football culture in the United States, where the sport is a gift passed down from generations, fathers to sons, brother to brother. Few leave the game behind. Vicki Mayk has been a member of Union UCC since 2010. A former reporter for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, she has enjoyed a 35-year career in journalism and public relations. She has reported for newspapers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and her work has appeared in national and regional magazines. She's been the editor of three university magazines, most recently at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. She worked closely with the Thomas family and Owen's friends to write her book, which being published Sept. 1 by Beacon Press. Visit Amazon.com (and choose Union UCC as your charity on Amazon Smile) or your favorite bookstore to purchase her book.

**Vicki will also be leading a discussion on *Growing Up On The Gridiron: Football, Friendship and the Tragic Life of Owen Thomas* on October 18 and 25 at 9:15am at Union UCC. This will be a zoom gathering.**

**Contact Pastor Kris for the log in information to join us online or by phone.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE 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.**

## **OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

**Outside Worship Offering** – we will not be collecting your offerings during the service. Please plan to share them at the welcome table as you arrive or as you leave worship. Thank you for being the church with us!

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms                      Elisha A. Hoffman,  
Anthony J. Showalter

## **Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC**

**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 <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office. [financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)

## **DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card**

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

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

## \*BLESSING

**D** We often bless our backpacks at this time of year. Since this is such a weird September, let's seek God's blessing on everyone and everything.

Respond to each line and when you do, look for a neighbor around you or a friend across the grove, or look at the camera for your church family in live worship or at home online worship and bless them.

We miss handshakes and hugs and greeting each other more closely. Send out the I Love You sign from Sign Language or the peace sign, or make a first bump or air high five, or bow to each other or do a Kung Fu Salute which represents balance and harmony.

**D** Bless us, O God, as we seek to love you and others with our whole heart, soul, strength and mind.

**C** **Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)**

**D** Bless our backpacks, lunch bags, laptops, WiFi, virtual gatherings, and all the new learning we experience in school, at home, at church, and in life.

**C** **Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)**

**D** Bless our family and friends, our neighbors and community, our church and schools, our nation, world and our earth.

**C** **Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)**

**D** Bless our masks and our social distancing that we hope will help us get through this time. Help us to see each other behind the masks, help us to see you behind the masks, help us to see love and kindness behind the masks.

**C** **Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)**

**D** Bless our thoughts, emotions and spirits during this pandemic. May we know your courage, strength, patience,

grace and spirit, we pray.

☉ Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)

☪ Bless us, O God, as we seek to love you and others with our whole heart, soul, strength and mind.

☉ Bless us and all for whom we pray, O God. (with hand motion blessing)

### \*HYMN

BLACK HYMNAL #423 Great Is Your Faithfulness

1. Great is Your faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning we see;  
You do not change, your compassions, they fail not  
All of your goodness forever will be.

#### CHORUS

Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided—  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

#### CHORUS

Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided—  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me

### POSTLUDE

He Giveth More Grace/ No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus  
Arr. Mark Hayes

# **EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY**

<b>Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)</b>	
Last Week	\$11,490
Calendar 2020 (Jan-Aug)	\$238,364
Calendar 2019 (Jan-Aug)	\$247,941
Change from Last Year	-3.9%
Budget (July-Aug)	\$56,360
Actual (July-Aug)	\$54,827
Giving vs. Budget	+2.7%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

<b>2020 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food</b>	
Last Week:	95lbs, \$30
Total YTD:	6,035 lbs, \$2,325

## **SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS SPONSORS:**

In Memory of Owen Thomas and Rev. Thomas Thomas from Pastor Kris.

*Your support is especially important now as we work provide spiritual care and connection for members and the community online through Facebook posts, ads, and online worship.*

*Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News.*

*Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.*