

Sunday, October 18, 2020
10:30 Online Worship/ Worship in the Grove
Prophecies and Pottery: Journey with Jeremiah

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 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

NEW MEMBERS: Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to the gathering on November 22. We meet during the 9:15 hour in the Memory Room (Room 200) on the second floor if we are in person, or we will meet virtually by zoom. This is a time to get to know each other and ask questions. You will be welcomed as members in worship on November 29th. Attendance is not required to join. For more information email Pastor Kris.
pastorkris@unionucc.org

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: Donna Christman, Phil Wehr

Sound: Karl Klinger, Doug Albert

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

Fanny J. Crosby, Phoebe P. Knapp

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

① No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey
and faith's journey

② **You are welcome here.**

*GOLD HYMNAL #107 Amazing Grace

1. **Amazing grace**
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost
But now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

2. 'Twas grace that taught
My heart to fear
And grace my Fears relieved
How precious did
That grace appear
The hour I first believed

3. **Through many dangers**
Toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas grace hath brought
Us safe thus far
And grace will lead us home

CALL TO WORSHIP

① God, we are reminded of Your grace-filled and creative
hands on us—

② and how Your hands work through our hands in our world.
You are the potter; we are the clay

① Hands on: God's hands on the universe,
God's hands on us, molding, creating

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay

☾ Hands on: God's hands on the universe, God's hands on us, sheltering, healing, holding, blessing

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay

☾ Hands on: our hands molding, creating, playing, and still

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay

☾ Hands on: our hands keyboarding, drawing, writing, painting, and still

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay

☾ Hands on: our hands, praying, blessing, healing, receiving, and still

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay

☾ Hands on: God's hands on the universe, working with our hands on a day to day basis in our world. And always...

☉ You are the potter; we are the clay. Amen.

~ posted on the Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada website.

A STORY

"Raised in Clay: Musings of a Potter's Daughter"

This piece by Hannah Marshall was originally published in *Ceramics Monthly*, September 2010.

In the fall of 1990, Dad, Mom, and my brother lugged cardboard boxes full of equipment, a kiln, dry clay materials, carts, and plaster molds across town to a drab but hopeful building. I was three when we moved into the three-room studio, which would house my dad's slip-cast creations.

The studio is always frigid in winter and sweltering in summer. The glaze smells like rotten Chinese take-out, and a bucket of clay water wafts the smell of mold through the air. This place wakes me up.

I am connected to my father's work: his daughter, part of his DNA and his thought process. My family together worked the slip and dried pots; it never felt individual, like the work was our father's only. Dad glazing pots; Mom sat in the office, shuffling through W2 forms and craft fair applications. My brothers lifted the 40 lb. molds and trimmed the edges of wet pots. The place and the processes feel organic and cyclical. As for me, I can fettle bone-dry clay as well as any potter, holding the knife's round handle and scraping the blade fastidiously around thin, sharp rims.

My dad makes buckets of slip from recycled and newly-mixed clay to form his cleanlined pots. The pots dry and are finished and fired, or they break and are recycled, and we rework the clay again and again until it is perfected. I watch this process of birth and death, destruction and rebirth: it is my life simplified.

Craft is not romantic; creation is not mysterious. I could breathe eloquent words into the pottery studio and make you believe it was a dusty Garden of Eden, but it really is made of stone, brick, clay, sweat. It reminds me of every day I live: wake up, go for a run, eat breakfast, work. Creating pottery is creating a life where each day makes up profound and meaningful years.

The work is deep in us; my family is the clay. We will be worked and reworked until we can finally find the shape for which we were intended.

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Rev. Glenna T. Shepherd

I. Unformed

ONE: Skilled Potter God, I am your living clay.

ALL: I am your soft, unformed, and being-shaped mass of earth.

ONE: I am your in-process vessel, well-kneaded by your warm earth hands.

ALL: I am clay...becoming.

MUSIC: Softening My Way Bobby Jo Valentine

Commissioned by Glenna Shepherd

8 ^{8x}

15

22 ^G

28 ^C

34 ^C

40 ^{Begin interlude}

I am a small lump of clay Here on this large
 and love - ly earth, And yet be - fore I knew my name
 You knew my form, you knew my worth. Long I re - sist -
 ed my shape; Long I in - sist - ted on my own plans.
 Now I am soft - en - ing my ways, I'm go - ing back to the pot -
 - ter's hands.

MONOLOGUES FROM THE POTTER'S HOUSE

Rev. Glenna T. Shepherd

MUSIC: Softening My Way Bobby Jo Valentine

CHILDREN'S TIME

In the Grove with Mrs. Maryann Puia

Online - Watch for Mrs. Puia on Facebook and our YouTube Channel during the week.

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into

another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.

Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

MESSAGE

The Potter's Wheel: Reworked, Not Thrown Away
Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuels

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.**

SONG: The Potter's Hand Darlene Zschech



mp

2. You gent-ly call me in-to Your pres - ence Guid-ing me by Your Ho-ly Spir - it.

Teach me, dear Lord, To live all of my life through Your eyes.

mf

I'm cap-tured by Your ho-ly call-ing; Set me a-part, I know You're draw-ing me

mf-f

to Your-self. Lead me, Lord, I pray. Take me,

mold me, use me, fill me. I give my life to the Pot - ter's hand.

Hold me, guide me, lead me, walk be - side me. I

give my life to the Pot - ter's hand.

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!

MUSIC OFFERING

God and God Alone

Phil McHugh

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

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**

① As clay takes form in a potter's hand
So do we in Yours.
Mold us into human form.
You are the potter; we are but clay.
As words are shaped by a poet's hand
So are we by Yours.
Make us Your song.
You are the singer; we are Your work
As threads are patterned by a weaver's hand
So are we by Yours.
Weave us into Your plan, O God.
We are Your people; You are our [God].

~ traditional Jewish prayer, recited on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah.

ALL (Sung):

Take me, Mold me

Use me, Fill me

I give my life to the Potter's hands

Hold me, Guide me

Lead me, Walk beside me

I give my life to the Potter's hand.

POSTLUDE

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

George C. Stebbins

Worship Theme - Prophecies and Pottery: Journey with
Jeremiah c. Worship Design Studio

Altar Design: Claire Kern, Deb Topp and Pastor Kris

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$6,378.00
Calendar 2020 (Jan.-Sept.)	\$270,948.00
Calendar 2019 (Jan.-Sun.)	\$276,311.00
Change from Last Year	-1.9%
Budget (July-Sept.)	\$85,600.
Actual (July-Sept.)	\$88,160.
Giving vs. Budget	+3.0%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

2020 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food	
Last Week:	\$20
Total YTD:	6,743 lbs, \$2,365

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS SPONSORS:

In memory of son, Chris Bingell

Your support is especially important now as we work to provide spiritual care and connection for members and the community 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.