



**WORSHIP**  
DESIGN STUDIO  
WDS



**Drawn In:**  
Living the  
Creative Life  
with God

**Sunday, September 19, 2021**

**8am and 10:30am**

**Drawn In: Living Out the Creative Life with God  
Week 2: Hover**

**We spend too much time being “driven” rather than “drawn in.” We focus on what we “should” do rather than what we feel excited and compelled to do in our lives, in this world. During this series, we will connect with our inherent creativity and nurture this foundational aspect of being human, giving us renewed energy for passionate work, delightful play, and creative problem solving to make this world a better place for all.**

**What has this time during COVID taught us?**

**What is it still teaching us about how we live and love?**

**How are we being driven? How are we being drawn in?**

**May this time of worship help you be nourished for the journey.**

**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)**

***One of our core values as a church is extravagant welcome and hospitality. We believe in God’s inclusive love. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.***

## UPDATE:

**Please continue to visit the welcome tables to receive your bulletin (and communion) and to share your offering.**

### **Sanctuary Guidelines Worship Fall 2021**

We will open the church at 7am, with worship services at 8am and 10:30am.

Please go to the welcome tables at each door for your bulletin and to share your offering (and to pick up Communion) before entering the sanctuary.

**Masks are required for worship on Sundays, church group meetings, and all events and gatherings inside the building for everyone over the age of 3 regardless of vaccination status.**

Pews will be marked to allow for 3 feet of distancing.

Please sit in open areas only.

The balcony will be open.

On Communion Sundays, we will continue to use the prefilled communion cups of grape juice and a gluten free cracker. Please use the ziploc bag to take your garbage with you.

For now, there will not be congregational singing.

Music will be provided by soloists and instrumentalists.

Please gather with others for conversation outside of the building.

The pastors will greet you outside on the porches.

We hope to evaluate and edit these precautions when vaccination rates continue to increase, COVID (and variant) numbers continue to decrease, and guidelines are updated for churches and our region. There is no guarantee of complete

safety from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, but we will continue to do our best to keep our members, friends, and families as safe as possible.

We are grateful for the love of this church family and for God's love which sustains and carries us during this challenging time.

~ The Pastors and Consistory of Union UCC

**If you are staying in your car, turn your FM Radio to 102.3 FM to listen to the service.**

Lay Reader: 8am: Carol Pope,10:30am Donna Christman  
Ushers: 8am: Brad Hackett, Connie Gioielli, Dixie Gross  
10:30am: Donna Christman, Brian Horwith, Deb Wenner, Dan Haftl,  
Maryann Puia, Eric Minnich  
Sound: Pat Sorg

*A reminder that we will not have congregational singing at this time. Music will be provided by soloists, small groups, and instrumentalists.*

## **PRELUDE**

Come, Christians Join to Sing

Tune: Madrid

**10:30 Worship- Children and Families: Did you get your activity bag at the door?**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Opening Music**

Morning Has Broken

Tune: Bunessan

### **Call to Worship Solo: Julie Wehr**

Solo/Choir:

In the world of the driven

Let us be drawn in

Let your love be a given

Let us be drawn in

To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem

For the sake of the livin'

Let us be drawn in

Leader: Hovering is the creative posture of taking a moment to see the “big picture.” In a world of quick fixes and instant gratification, we sometimes want to skip the step of paying quiet attention to this question: “what one thing do we need to focus on now?” Clearing the decks in order to give ourselves space and time to think, to ruminate, to consider what is necessary, feels like a luxury but in fact both creativity experts and Jesus point to the importance of taking reflective time. The “project” of

our lives and work in the world as Christians depends upon this as well. If you didn't feel that you have to do or fix *EVERYTHING*, what *ONE* thing would you work on at this point in your life? What do you feel drawn to?

Solo/Choir:

In the world of the driven

Let us be drawn in

Let your love be a given

Let us be drawn in

To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem

For the sake of the livin'

Let us be drawn in

Leader: Let us pray together:

**ALL: Hovering God,**

**you are as close as the air we walk through and breathe.**

**Open us to stop and feel your presence this day**

**so that we might learn what *you* would have us do in the midst of so *much* to do.**

**Draw us into your quiet patience.**

**Give us the courage to wait.**

**Amen.**

### **Affirming and Connecting: Passing God's Love and Peace**

Leader: What holds us back from connecting with the Presence of our Creator?

Artist Pablo Picasso said, "Every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction."

That means that whenever God leads us into new territory in our lives, "the way we've always done" life will change, something will be different. Sometimes what holds us back is our fear that if we don't just plow forward in the same old ways, we won't be able to handle the change.

Hear the Good News!

You CAN handle changes. Why? Because God is always with us!

As our greeting and passing of the peace today, I invite you to turn to your neighbor and greet them with this assurance, "You've got this!" We don't need to know what it is that each of us is struggling to change in our lives in order to create more goodness and freedom, we just need to remind each other that we are not alone and we are supporting one another! Would you greet one another now? "You've got this!"

We'll take a little bit longer for our Passing of the Peace in this series so feel free to have some conversation with your neighbor about this.

**(We are not encouraging hand shaking at this time. Please smile and wave at those around you as well have conversation.)**

### **10:30 Worship**

#### **Children's Time**

**Children are invited to come forward for a gift from Ms. Tiffany and the church. If you brought your backpack bring it forward. Wear your mask, please.**

### **8 and 10:30**

#### **BLESSING**

Will all students of all ages, educators, and anyone working in schools or in education please stand?

Leader: Scripture tells us that Jesus was a learner. As a child, he grew just as we grow, gaining years and gaining wisdom. As he learned, he won God's approval and made friends. As we begin a new school year, we remember that God has given us the ability to learn many things.

**All: Learning is a gift from God. We are meant to love God with our whole selves: body, heart, spirit, and mind.**

Leader: Scripture also tells us that Jesus was a teacher. When he saw the crowds that followed him, his compassionate response was to teach them and walk with them through life.

**All: Teaching is a calling from God. We give God thanks for those who teach, guide, and lead our children and all of us.**

Leader: We ask God to bless our schools and teachers. We ask God to bless our classmates. We ask God to bless our principals, administrators, aides, counselors, and school staffs. We ask God to bless those who prepare our meals, those who drive us to school, and those who keep our schools clean. We give thanks to God for books and computers and all the tools that help us learn.

**All: We give thanks to God for the gift of learning! May all of us be blessed as we grow in our faith and discipleship.**

We're collecting school supplies and backpacks through September 26<sup>th</sup> for local families and agencies. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Children return to sit with their families.

**Education Hour for All Ages – Resumes on  
September 26 9:15-10:15am  
Children's Church – Resumes October 3 during 10:30am  
Worship for ages 3-grade 5.**

### **An Imaginative Word**

Bedsread Forts by SARK, Inspiration Sandwich

“Remember the safety of a good fort? Bedsreads draped across chairs, weighted down by giant books, with a tunnel leading under the card table. Maybe there was a hole in one of the bedsreads, put there so you could peer out, unseen. You might pass a stack of comic books and a row of cookies into your fort, and stay there all day in the dull glow of bedsread light. The fort was your refuge, your secret spot. The interior untouched by adult hands or eyes. It was a world you built for yourself.”

What if we could remember to build a world of forts made with blankets? Where we each had time to focus, to hover, in the quiet, dull glow of bedsread light?

## **The Reading of Scripture**

*Luke 4:1-13*

“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.”’ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,” and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.”

## **The Message**

Practice the Pause

Pastor Kris Snyder-Samuelson

## **Pastoral Prayer and the Prayer of Jesus**

Leader: If you are comfortable doing so, close your eyes for just a moment so you can do some visualizing. Breathe in slowly. Let your breath out slowly.

Again: in..... out.....

Try to imagine that your stresses, your anxieties, your deadlines, are rolling off your head, down your shoulders, down your arms,

and falling away to the floor.

Last week we visualized a blue sky above us. Now imagine that you are in that blue sky, hovering over this community. Imagine that something that was broken in the scene below has been healed, has been fixed. What do you see? What one thing do you imagine would make this world, your life, the lives of your family and community, so much better?

### **I Dream of A Church (vs. 2) by Mark Miller**

**ALL: (SPOKEN)**

**O God, fill our hearts to reach out in welcome,  
make us to see your vision once more.**

**Let's dream of a world where our hands are your  
hands, we offer yourselves, O God, make it so.**

**Make it so, make it so!**

**We pray for the day, make it so.**

**We dream of a world where Love reigns among us  
and your will is done, O God, make it so.**

**ALL: (spoken)**

**Make it so, make it so!**

**We pray for the day, make it so.**

**We dream of a world where Love reigns among us  
and your will is done, O God, make it so.**

**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, for ever. Amen.**



## **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 form at <http://www.unionucc.org/eqive.pdf> and send to [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>.

**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!

Leader: "This is my creative spirit in the world,  
this is my offering.

May you see the things you do, no matter how  
small or mundane,

as the way that you contribute goodness to the world,  
creating more life, more joy, more love."

**ALL: Praise be to God, the Creator of all that is!**

### **Music Offering          Climbing Ev'ry Mountain**

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II    Music by Richard Rodgers  
Julie Wehr with Blake Hoppes

### ***The Installation and Ordination of Those Newly Elected to the Consistory***

**Janice Metzger, Eric Minnich**

Ⓛ Sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called

to the ministry of Consistory leadership. Listen to some responsibilities of this particular calling: Be frequent in worship and diligent in study; Be an example of faithful living and generous stewardship; with order and wisdom, conduct the business of the congregation; And encourage and support others in their service to Christ and his church.

In our stating our mission we remember God's call to us:

## **THE AFFIRMATION OF MISSION**

“Mission Statement of Union UCC”

**ALL: Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring a dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.**

Ⓛ Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with God's help?

**Response:** I am.

Ⓛ Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing the love of Christ?

**Response:** I do, relying on God's grace.

Ⓛ Our tradition is to ordain those called to serve on the Consistory, so that God may set them apart and fill them for this unique service. Ordination is a one-time symbolic act of the church inviting the Holy Spirit to confer upon those called the gifts of Consistory ministry.

Ⓛ May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for Consistory service and equip you with everything good to do God's will. Receive the authority to execute your ministry in the name of Christ.

Ⓛ You have heard the promises made by our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

© **We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

Ⓛ Let us pray.

© **Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in the household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties, so that the church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name. Amen**

Ⓛ In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Union United Church of Christ, I rejoice to announce that you are installed as members of the Consistory.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **The Blessing**

Leader: May you see the unfolding of each day, as an opportunity to be a Co-Creator with God.

As a Jesus-Follower, may you feel his company leading you toward creating more kindness, justice and mercy.

May you know the nudge of the Creative Spirit within, "making belief" in all you are and do.

## **Postlude**

There is a Fountain      Tune: Cleansing Fountain, Early American Melody

# **EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY**

<b>Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)</b>	
Last Week	
Calendar 2021 (Jan.- July)	\$212,392.00
Calendar 2020 (Jan.- July)	\$212,064.00
Change from Last Year	+.2%
Budget (July)	\$29,540.00
Actual (July)	\$25,546.00
Giving vs. Budget	-13.5%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

<b>2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b>	
Last Week:	150lbs
Total YTD:	3,296 lbs, \$502

## **Presentations to the Glory of God**

**Spread the good news: In honor of our Consistory members from Maria Beltz**

**Children’s Bulletin: In honor of Cub Scout Pack 57 from Krista Maxwell**

*Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or \$8 for Children’s Bulletin.*

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

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