



GROOVE IN THE GROVE *MUSIC FOR THE SOUL*

On Sundays we will celebrate music and how music feeds our spirits and connects us with God and each other.

Let Pastor Kris know what some of your favorite songs are and why. They can be hymns and sacred music, but they can also be what are called 'secular hymns'. Email or call her with your list. See if your song gets chosen to be sung, performed by a guest musician or one of our own beloved musicians, listened to or included in the sermon.

Your love, God, is my song, and I'll sing it forever.
—Psalm 89:1

Note: With your permission, we will add your name to the songs you have shared and any reflections shared as well. Thank you for grooving with us, we hope it is music for your soul!

Sunday, September 5, 2021 **Labor Day Sunday**

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

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

UPDATE:

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

Sanctuary Guidelines Worship Fall 2021 (Starting September 12)

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 2 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.

Assisting with Worship: Susan Glosan

Ushers: Donna Christman, Phil Wehr, Ron Pope, Brian Horwith

Sound: Mike Baer

PRELUDE

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus
George J. Webb

George Duffield, Jr.,

GREETING 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.

*Favorite Hymn #433 In the Bulb There Is a Flower (New Century Hymnal)

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed an apple tree
In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody
There's a dawn for every darkness, bringing hope to you and
me
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery
Unrevealed until it's season, something God alone can see.

3. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity
In our doubt there is believing; in our life eternity,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory
Unrevealed until it's season, something God alone can see.

*Call to Worship

(Today's liturgy is inspired by Season of the Spirit)

One: I am the circling hawk dancing with joy for life.

ALL: God, you invite us to join in the dance!

One: I am the faithful soil nourishing each life I touch.

ALL: You invite us to join in the caring.

One: I am the swift stream singing my thanks for life.

ALL: You invite us to join in the song.

One: I am the blazing star bringing wonder to life.

ALL: You invite us to join in the wonder.

One: I am the voice of Creation praising the God who shapes life:

ALL: You invite us to join in the praise.

Opening Prayer:

One: Generous God, creation is your song of love. May we stop to listen and open our hearts to the melody so that we might join in the singing. Amen.

***Prayer of Confession**

One: For times when we have viewed Planet Earth as a source of endless resources,

ALL: forgive.

One: Earth's waters are polluted with toxins,

ALL: forgive.

One: For times when we have cared more about progress than Planet Earth,

ALL: forgive.

***Words of Affirmation**

One: Planet Earth is our sanctuary home.

ALL : We celebrate Earth as our home and live in the goodness of God's forgiveness.

The Reading of Scripture

In the Beginning based on Genesis 1:1-25

The Message

What A Wonderful World?

Pastor Kayli Freeman

Pastoral Prayer and the Prayer of Jesus

**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.**

Offering/Offertory

Leader: Thank you to everyone who has donated school supplies during the month of August. Don't forget, we will continue to collect through the month of September. If you aren't able to go out to the store, your bulletin shares links for amazon and target to have your supplies shipped directly to the church. We will be sure to get these items to those who need them the most.

Generous creator, you have opened your hands and places so many gifts into ours. Receive what we offer as a sign of thankfulness.

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

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!

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/egive.pdf> and send to 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>.

A Song of Peace

Mike Baer, Justin Bower, Mitchell Roth

The Commission and Blessing

One: May the joy of soaring birds be yours. May the peace of star-filled nights be yours. May the hope of sprouting seeds be yours. May the strength of flowing rivers be yours. May God's love for all creation be yours. Amen.

*Favorite Secular Hymn *Everybody Hurts R.E.M* submitted by Eric Minnich

"In honor of Suicide Prevention Month (September), because the message is to hold on. As the Coroner, suicide prevention is at the forefront of my concerns. Engaging a conversation on suicide is so important to ending the stigma and beginning a healthy dialogue."

When your day is long
And the night, the night is yours alone
When you're sure you've had enough
Of this life, well hang on

Don't let yourself go
'Cause everybody cries
Everybody hurts sometimes
Sometimes everything is wrong
Now it's time to sing along

When your day is night alone (hold on, hold on)
If you feel like letting go (hold on)
If you think you've had too much
Of this life, well hang on

'Cause everybody hurts
Take comfort in your friends
Everybody hurts

Don't throw your hand, oh no
Don't throw your hand
If you feel like you're alone
No, no, no, you are not alone

If you're on your own in this life

The days and nights are long
When you think you've had too much
Of this life to hang on

Well, everybody hurts sometimes
Everybody cries
Everybody hurts, sometimes

And everybody hurts sometimes
So hold on, hold on
Hold on, hold on, hold on
Hold on, hold on, hold on
Everybody hurts

Postlude

You Are My All in All

Dennis Jernigan



EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$3,902.00
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>	

2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	
Total YTD:	3,146 lbs, \$452

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS SPONSORS:

White gardenias in memory of Janet Snyder and all who suffer from Multiple Sclerosis

*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.*

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