

Sunday, October 17, 2021 8am and 10:30am Drawn In: Living Out the Creative Life with God Week 6: Rest

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 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

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 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: Ron Pope, 10:30: Don Penrod Ushers: 8am: 10:30am: Sound: Mike Baer, Dawn Dengler Acolytes:

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

PRELUDE

Tis' So Sweet to Trust in Jesus Louisa M. R. Stead William J. Kirkpatrick and

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Music Be Still My Soul Mike Baer

Call to Worship Solo: Jason Klinger

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

(L)Something grossly overlooked in the creative process is the place of effortlessness and play. In the story of creation, God rested. And this was very "good" as well! Staying too focused on deadlines and how every moment can be "productive" robs us of an important feature of what it means to be humans made in the image of God: rhythm. Pushing through is nonsustainable, and creativity suffers if we constantly labor. Celebration is necessary along the journey. God's creativity is ongoing, so while the story said God was "finished" and then rested, really it was simply a pause to reflect, to observe, and to celebrate, and then God continued God's creative work among us and with us.

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

Let us pray together:

ALL: Active and Restful God, your heart is our heart, your rhythm is our rhythm. Open us to the place of rest and celebration in the rhythm of our lives. Draw us into delight. Give us the courage to breathe deeply. Amen.

Affirming and Connecting: Passing God's Love and Peace

Why can't we seem to keep up our creativity? Why do we get so burned out?

Researcher and author, Brené Brown says, "It takes courage to say yes to rest and play in a culture where exhaustion is seen as a status symbol."

Sometimes hidden or not-so-hidden expectations, even and especially the ones we put on ourselves, drown out our own gut feeling that it is time to take a break.

Hear the Good News!

God's love does not depend on your productivity. And your energy for the work of helping to serve the needs of the world is fed when you dare to give yourself what you need as well. You are beloved. Rest and celebrate. As our greeting and passing of the peace today, I invite you to turn to your neighbors and give them this assurance, "You ARE enough, period."

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

Children's Church

Pastors invite children forward to leave with Ms. Tiffany for Children's Church (in the basement).

Song: This, This is Where Children Belong



Parents and Families – your children will return to you in the sanctuary by the end of worship. If the timing doesn't match and worship is longer than Children's Church, please meet them in Room 7 in the Basement (the Preschool Rooms).

An Imaginative Word

"Take it In" by Marcia McFee

It is time time to take it in take in the beauty take in the wonder take in the consequences take in the meaning

it is time when work has worn us before its torn us before we quit it is time

take it in to our hearts our lives our longing

take it in and rock it love it let it go

all this making, creating, anticipating it is time it takes time so now is the time

to rest

Scripture

"Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it."

The Message

Nap Time

Pastor Kris Snyder-Samuelson

Pastoral Prayer and the Prayer of Jesus

Ulf 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.

We have been using our visualizations in this series to imagine and dream of a world closer to what God would have us do. So this last week, I invite you to imagine your own life and what it would look like if you could create more sabbath-time in it. What are the triggers that produce overwhelm in you? Imagine yourself in that situation and then transport yourself in your mind's eye to a tranquil place –it might be somewhere far away or simply a favorite chair with a cup of tea or a favorite place to walk. How can you create more sabbath when you need it?

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 ourselves, 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.

<u>ELECTRONIC GIVING</u> This is a great time to try egiving! Choose a weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out form at <u>http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf</u> and send to financialmanager@unionucc.org

financialmanager@unionucc.org

DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card

Go to <u>http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-</u> 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. <u>https://</u><u>smile.amazon.com</u>.

United Way has kicked off it's campaigns and it is time to make your designations. If your company matches funds, this is a great time to add Union UCC to your giving. Please work with your HR or Personnel departments to include us in this year's campaign. Thanks in advance for your generous support!

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!

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

Mike Baer

The Blessing

➡ This is not an end to focusing on creativity, this is a beginning the beginning of infusing this joy and agency, play and delight work and ingenuity dreaming, hovering, risking, listening, re-integrating and resting: applying the creativity already given to us as our birthright and nature into every day of our individual lives and every endeavor we do together. And so...

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.

Let Us Be Drawn In - Reprise

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

PRAYERS WITH A PASTOR

During the last piece of music, the postlude, those wishing to pray with a pastor or receive a blessing are invited to come to the railing and share their joys or concerns. The pastors will then offer a private prayer and blessing with you.

Pastors will continue to be masked and we will not be blessing with oil today.

Postlude

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place André E. M. Grétry, William Kirkpatrick

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		
Last Week	\$4,787.00	
Calendar 2021 (Jan Aug.)	\$244,800.00	La
Calendar 2020 (Jan Aug.)	\$237,616.00	To Y1
Change from Last Year	+3.0%	
Budget (July-Aug.)	\$61,840.00	
Actual (July-Aug.)	\$57,955.00	
Giving vs. Budget	-6.3%	
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes		

2021 Demeticus to the		
2021 Donations to the		
Northern Lehigh Food		
Bank:		
Last		
Total	3,886 lbs, \$547	
YTD:		

Presentations to the Glory of God

Spread the Good News:

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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