



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, January	1	NO 8AM WORSHIP, 1030 WORSHIP ONLY
Sunday, January	8	8AM AND 10:30 WORSHIP. COMMUNION, LED BY OUR YOUNG ADULTS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS
Sunday, January	15	10:30 BAPTISM
Sunday, January	22	OUR MONEY STORY: RELEASE, 10:30 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, January	29	5TH SUNDAY

Feb 12	Confirmation Class leads Worship! Souper Bowl Sunday & Tailgate Lunch
Feb 19	Communion Sunday, Healing Service (Pray with a Pastor)
Feb 21	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday with Communion
Apr 9	Easter Sunday

Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 8, 2023 College/Young Adult Sunday Communion

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community here at Union UCC. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs.

Please complete the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you and hand it in with your offering or give it to a pastor. This is a good way to let us know you're here.

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.

Worship Leaders: Maggie Cygan & Jacob Roth
 Ushers: 8:00-Kerry Snyder, Tom Anderson
 10:30- Deidre Bilger, Carol James, Randy Bilger, Ruth Ruch, Janice Metzger, Julie Johnson, Todd McCoy, Laura Kohler
 Sound: Patrick Sorg

***Please stand in body or spirit.**

Prelude Music
Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It
Fanny J. Crosby, William J. Kirkpatrick

Welcome

Sharing God's Peace

Leader: One of our core values as God's church here
in Neffs is extravagant welcome.

So repeat after me - No matter who you are or where
you are on life's journey,

**ALL: No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey,**

Leader: you are welcome here.

ALL: you are welcome here.

Leader: And when we're together we like to remind
each other that God loves you,
and there's nothing you can do about it.

Leader: For those of you who are here, I invite you to
pass the peace with those around you saying,
"God loves you and there's nothing you can do about
it."

We send our prayers and blessings to those watching
and listening at home or during the week.
God loves you and there's nothing you can do about
it.

(Please stand in body or spirit to greet each other and
for our first song.)

***Hymn #173 You Have Come Down To The Lakeshore (New Century Hymnal, Black)**

1. You have come down to the lakeshore
Seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy
But only asking for me to follow

REFRAIN: O Jesus, you have looked into my eyes
Kindly smiling, you called out my name
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat
Now with you, I will seek other seas

2. You know full well my possessions
Neither reassure nor weapons for conquest
Just these my fishnets and will for working

REFRAIN

3. You need my hands, my exhaustion
Working love for the rest of the weary
A love that's willing to go on loving

REFRAIN

4. You who have fished other waters
you, the longing of souls that are yearning
as loving Friend, you have come to call me

REFRAIN

Please be seated.

Call to Worship

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

ALL: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:
**ALL: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious
light!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:
**ALL: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden
plan,
making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the
gospel!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord,
ALL: for God has done wondrous things!

Prayer

Leader: Repeat after me so our friends joining us at home
can pray with us:
Gracious and all loving God,
Gracious and all loving God,

you call to us across deep waters and dark places.
you call to us across deep waters and dark places.

Yours is the light which guides us
and the voice which we follow.
**Yours is the light which guides us
and the voice which we follow.**

We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship
you.
**We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship
you.**

May those without hope be encouraged;
May those without hope be encouraged;

those who are sad, cheered;
those who are sad, cheered;

those who are seeking, find you;
those who are seeking, find you;

and may all things be according to your will.
and may all things be according to your will.

Amen.

The Opening of Our Hearts

Leader sings first time.

ALL second time. Listen for directions to sing this in a round.

Gathering Chant #742 from the Black Hymnal (New Century Hymnal)

1.
Gath - ered here in the mys-tery of this hour

2.
gath - ered here in one strong bod - y,

3.
gath - ered here in the strug-ple and the power,

4.
Spir - it draw near.

10:30 Worship – Time for Children

Education Hour for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am

Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5. Ms. Tiffany would like to invite children to join her and her

volunteers for Sunday School at 9:15 and Children's Church during 10:30am service.

TODAY: Pastors invite children forward for a Children's Time and then they leave with Ms. Tiffany for a time designed just for them!

Children will be in the basement and will return before worship is over. If worship ends early, parents are welcome to meet their children downstairs.

Song: Go, Make a Diff'ence Angrisano, Tomaszek #199
Sing! Prayer and Praise

— Go make a dif - f'ence._ We can make a dif -

- f'ence._ Go make a dif - f'ence in the world._ *Fine*

The image shows two lines of musical notation in a single treble clef. The first line contains the melody for the first two phrases: "Go make a dif - f'ence._" and "We can make a dif -". The second line continues the melody for the next two phrases: "- f'ence._" and "Go make a dif - f'ence in the world._". The piece concludes with a double bar line and the word "Fine" written above it.

Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17 (NRSV)

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove

and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Our Response to God's Word in Song

Make Us One, Lord Carol Cymbala

ALL: Sung, 2 times



Make us one, Lord, make us one; Ho-ly



Spir - it; make us one. Let Your love flow so the



world will know we are one in You. Make us

The Message Jacob Roth

Prayers of the People

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.**

There's a spirit of Love in this Place



1. There's a spir - it of love in this place, there's a
(2. There's the) pres - ence of peace in this room, there's the



spir - it of love in this place. You can't
pres - ence of peace in this room. In God's



see it, but it's there just as pre-cious as the air. There's a
ten-der-ness is found peace that pass - es hu-man bounds. There's the



spir - it of love in this place. O al - le -
pres - ence of peace in this room.

News about the Ministry and Mission of God's Church

Offering

Offering Prayer

Leader: Gracious Spirit, you have showered us with your gifts, and we embrace you with thanksgiving. May our embrace be arms wide open, ready to share, to serve and to love. Use our spiritual gifts that we may live the spiritual life, moving according to the Spirit's heated

touch and bending in the direction of God's holy will.
Amen.

Thank you for the many ways in which you support God's work and God's people.

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

OFFERING ENVELOPES. If you can't attend worship, you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

ELECTRONIC GIVING. Choose to give a repetitive contribution on a regular basis (i.e weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly), or make single contributions whenever you desire in an amount of your choice. Electronic contributions are initiated from Union UCC's website (UnionUCC.org). Click on 'giving', then on 'Ways to Give' and follow the prompts. Feel free to contact John Harting (610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-398-2654) to answer your questions or demonstrate the process.

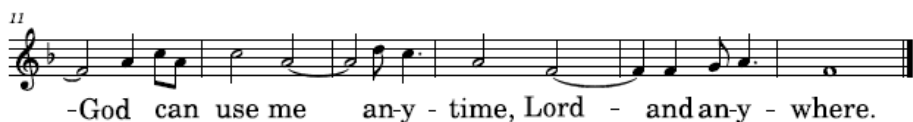
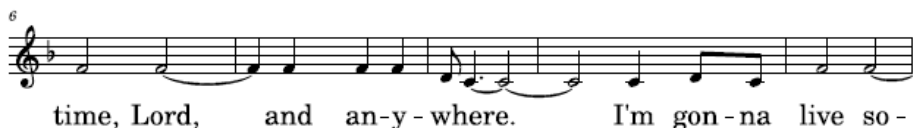
MOBILE GIVING. If you would like to give on the go, Vanco, the company that processes our e-giving transactions, has a mobile app that allows you to do so. Open your app search screen, search under "Vanco Mobile Faith \Engagement" and follow the prompts.

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

Musical Offering

Wonderful Words of Life Philip P. Bliss

Offering Response #139 I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me -Sing! Prayer Praise



Communion

Leader: Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace. You will be served in your seats. Wait to eat and drink until the Pastor invites you to do so. A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray. Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please choose either.

Invitation

Leader: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creating God.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit fashioned, fired, and freed him for preaching good news to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, setting at liberty those who are oppressed, announcing that the time had come when you would save your people.
He brought new sustenance to the lives of those who suffered from illness, hunger, and separation. Through his own transformation through baptismal waters, deep connection with the people, suffering for the sake of the least, and resurrection from death to hope, you gave birth to your church, invited us to radical and transformational change, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the vessels of Christ,
so that we may be for the world the vessels of Christ,
redeemed by his love.

By your Spirit change us for the better,
make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

- L: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.
- L: The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.
- L: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING THE MEAL

**Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.
You will be served in your seats.**

Wait to eat and drink until the Pastor invites you to do so.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a pre-packaged container on the bread tray.

Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please choose either.

THE BREAD

L: Take and eat, the body of Christ, broken for you.

HYMN #330 Let Us Break Bread Together (New Century Hymnal, black)

1. Let us break bread together on our knees

Let us break bread together on our knees

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

My God have mercy on me

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees

Let us drink wine together on our knees

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

My God have mercy on me

3. Let us praise God together on our knees

Let us praise God together on our knees

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

My God have mercy on me.

THE CUP

L: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you.

MUSIC OFFERING

There is a Balm in Gilead Spiritual

The Blessing

L: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
keep and preserve you unto eternal life.

COLLECTING OF CUPS

HYMN #347 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (New Century Hymnal, black)

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with
a shout of joy;

Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and

seen and heard

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,

Pass the Word around: loaves abound

2. Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the
tone,

Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in
deed express

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,

Pass the Word around: loaves abound

3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world
of doubt;

Gives us love to tell, bread to share, God (Immanuel)
everywhere

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,

Pass the Word around: loaves abound

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: God, by the bread of heaven and the cup of
life, you make us one body. Bind us together by your
spirit that we might live into your hopes for us, a
community centered in Christ and rich in compassion,
commitment, courage, and care. May it be so.

Benediction

Leader: May the path
that Christ walks
to bring justice
upon the earth,
to bring light
to those who sit
in darkness,
to bring out those
who live in bondage,
to bring new things

to all creation:

may this path
run through our life.

May we be
the road Christ takes
Amen.

***Hymn #584 I am the Light of the World (New Century
Hymnal, Black)**

1. When the song of angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the sages and the shepherds have found their
way home,
The work of Christmas is begun.

REFRAIN: I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery of what
you're meant to do and be.

2. To find the lost and lonely one,
To heal the broken soul with love,
To feed the hungry children with warmth and good
food,
To fee the earth below, the sky above!

REFRAIN

3. To free the prisoner from all chains,
To make the powerful care,
To rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
To see all God's children everywhere!

REFRAIN

4. To bring hope to every task you do,
To dance at a baby's new birth,
To make music in an old person's heart
And sing to the colors of the earth!

REFRAIN

Postlude Music

Just As I Am, Without One Plea Tune: Woodworth

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$16,609.00
Calendar Year 2022 (Jan-Oct.)	\$ 309,414.00
Calendar Year 2021 (Jan-Oct.)	\$ 302,292.00
Change from Last Year	2.4%
Budget FY 2022 (<i>July 2022 - June 23</i>)	\$ 131,000.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (<i>July 2022-June 23</i>)	\$ 112,648.00
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-14.0%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week		
	In person	Online
8:00 am		
10:30 am	55	
Education Hour		

2022 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	bs, \$
Total YTD:	5,989 lbs, \$880

Presentations to the Glory of God

Spread the Good News :

In memory of Rich Correll

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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