

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never walk in  
darkness, but will have the light of life."

-John 8:12

Jesus ALSO said,  
"YOU are the Light of the World."

- Matthew 5: 14

February 12, 2023  
Confirmation Class Leads Worship  
Souper Bowl Sunday  
Installation of Consistory

**GUESTS,** Welcome to our faith community here at Union UCC. 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](http://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.

***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 dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care and outreach within our community and the world.***

***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.***

Lay Readers: Confirmation Class

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

Greeters: Carol Pope, Johanna & Greg Zellner

Sound: Pat Sorg

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

**Prelude Music**

8 & 10:30

Jazz Ensemble

Holy, Holy, Holy Tune: Nicaea

**Welcome**

Today our confirmation class will be leading worship:  
Miranda Brown, Elijah Gladish, Everett Lightner,  
Claire Puia, Alyssa Schwarz

**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: For those of you who are here, I invite you to  
greet those around you, waive across the aisle, walk  
around.

We send our prayers and blessings to those watching  
and listening at home or during the week.

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

# \*Hymn #8 Gather Us In Jazz Ensemble

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place, — new light is stream-ing, now is the  
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the  
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will  
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness, van - ished a - way, See, in this space, our  
 2. old who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-  
 3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your  
 4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place, the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this  
 2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu - man  
 3. sons and your daugh-ters, call us a - new to be salt for the  
 4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King-dom now is the



1. day. — Gath-er us in the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath-er us  
 2. race. — Gath-er us in the rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us  
 3. earth. — Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to  
 4. day. — Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, Gath-er us



1. in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -  
 2. in the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so  
 3. eat the bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to  
 4. in and make us your own; Gath-er us in all peo - ples to -



1. wa - ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name. —  
 2. low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song. —  
 3. fash - ion, lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true. —  
 4. geth - er, fire — of love in our flesh and our bone. —

Please be seated.

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: O God, you are righteous

**ALL: Transform us by your Word!**

Leader: Your judgments are upright

**ALL: Transform us by your Word!**

Leader: Your precepts are unforgettable

**ALL: Transform us by your Word!**

Leader: Give us understanding and we will live

**ALL: Re-form us, reconcile us,  
Transform us by your Word!**

### **Prayer**

Leader: O Still Speaking God,  
throughout history and the wide world  
you have gathered people around your Word  
to instruct and inspire.

We give thanks for all  
who have received your vision  
and shaped diverse and faithful communities  
to follow in your Way.

Continue to open that vision to us,  
that we may become transformed  
by the renewing of your Word in our hearts.  
Enable us to grow in love and understanding for each  
other .

Create in us, O God, clean hearts and minds;  
Let us join with you in your suffering and your triumph.

We desire to be your children and  
we claim these blessings in your name.

**Amen.**

### **Sung Response:**

**#526 We Are Marching In the Light of God**

Black Hymnal, New Century Hymnal

**ALL: We are marching in the light of God,**

**we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, oo-ooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, oo-ooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.**

### **Music Offering**

8:00 **Jazz Ensemble:** Jive Blues Nick Homes

10:30 **Kids Choir:** Super Wonderful Yancy Ministries

Accompanied by: Cayden Hoppes, piano- Gavin Hoppes,  
drums- Jordan Hoppes, bass- Mike Baer, guitar

### **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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Go make a dif - f'rence... We can make a dif -". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "- f'rence... Go make a dif - f'rence in the world...". The piece concludes with a double bar line and the word "Fine" written above it.

**The Installation and Ordination of  
Those Newly Elected to the Consistory  
Giving Thanks to Consistory Members Finishing Their Service:  
Affen Hamm, Suzanne Lorah, Todd McCoy**

**Giving thanks for those returning for a second term:  
Donna Christman, Jason Klingler, Eric Minnich, Kerry Snyder**

**Giving thanks for those starting their first terms:  
Marianne Kitzmiller, Ron Pope**

Leader: 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.**

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

**Response:** I am.

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

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

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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.

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

**ALL: 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.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL: 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**

Leader: 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.**

### **Scripture 1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

3:1 And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ.

3:2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready,

3:3 for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is

jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?  
3:4 For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?  
3:5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each.  
3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.  
3:7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.  
3:8 The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each.  
3:9 For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

### **Sung Response:**

**#526 We Are Marching In the Light of God**  
Black Hymnal, New Century Hymnal

**ALL: We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, oo-oooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, oo-oooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.**

### **The Message**

Why Are You So Obsessed With Me    Pastor Kayli Freeman

**Hymn #591 Just A Closer Walk with Thee (Hymns for the Family of God, Gold)**

**Jazz Ensemble**



1. I am weak but thou art strong  
Jesus keep me from all wrong  
I'll be satisfied as long  
As I walk, let me walk close to thee

**REFRAIN: Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be**

2. Through this world of toil and snares,  
If I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden share?  
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee

**REFRAIN: Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be**

3. When my feeble life is o'er  
Time for me will be no more;  
Guide me gently safely o'er  
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

**REFRAIN: Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be**

## 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.**

# News about the Ministry and Mission of God's Church

## Offering

### Offering Prayer

Leader: As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, Gracious God, who holds nothing back from us, but is generous and gracious with all that is yours. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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.

**VENMO** Union UCC now has Venmo! You can now make donations, pay for events, and support the church through this platform. Please be sure to include in the "What it's for" line what your Venmo is supporting. You can either search for @unionuccneffs

**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.** Amazon will be discontinuing Amazon Smile on February 20, 2023

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### **Musical Offering**

8 & 10:30

Jazz Ensemble

Trumpet Trio     Jeff Lewis

### **Offering Response**

#### **#526 We Are Marching In the Light of God**

Black Hymnal, New Century Hymnal

**ALL: We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, oo-oooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, oo-oooh,  
We are marching in the light of God.**

### **Benediction**

Leader: Go forth from this place inspired to serve one another and empowered by the love of God to do so. Go forth from this place to work in company with all God's children to do God's work and God's will on Earth as it is in heaven, that in loving and serving one another the kingdom of God may come to this world through you.

Amen.

## **Hymn #21 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Hymns for the Family of God, gold)**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
into every troubled breast  
Let us all in Thee inherit,  
Let us find Thy promised rest  
Take away our bent to sinning,  
Alpha and Omega be  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty

3. Come, Almighty to deliver,  
let us all Thy life receive  
Suddenly return and never,  
never more Thy temples leave  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serving Thee as Thy hosts above  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish then Thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be  
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee  
Changed from glory into glory,  
'til in heaven we take our place  
'Til we cast our crowns before Thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

**Postlude Music**

8 & 10:30

Jazz Ensemble

Four

**Jazz Ensemble: Blake Hoppes-piano,  
Malcolm Mackenzie – Bass, Mike Baer-guitar, Mitchell  
Roth – Trumpet, Matt Gerry – Trumpet, Andy Hill - Trumpet**

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$8,357.00
Calendar Year 2023 (Jan)	\$37,004.00
Calendar Year 2022 (Jan)	\$29,651.00
Change from Last Year	<b>+24.8%</b>
Budget FY 2022 ( <i>July 2022-Jan. 23</i> )	\$261,970.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date ( <i>July 2022-Jan 23</i> )	\$248,782.00
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	<b>-5.0%</b>
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week		
	In person	Online
8:00 am	<b>32</b>	<b>174</b>
10:30 am	<b>104</b>	<b>102</b>
Education Hour	<b>18</b>	
2022 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:		
Last Week:	bs, \$50	
Total YTD:	754lbs, \$100	
Souper Bowl		\$400.00
Blanket Sunday		\$745.00

## Presentations to the Glory of God

### Thankful for the Church Consistory!

*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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