



# LOOKIN' FOR...

L<sub>1</sub> O<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> E<sub>1</sub>

## IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

worshipdesignstudio.com/love

March 12, 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Look for the Thirst Quecher

**Music Guests: Interrupted Silence**

***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 are on life's journey, you are welcome here.***

Lay Readers: 8:00 Sue Steinmann, 10:30 Bynn Buskirk

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: Brynn and Jon Buskirk, Sally Saltzer, Devon Kuharik

Sound: Mike Baer

*“Yet even now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting...rend your hearts and not your clothing.” — Joel 2: 12-13*

**The Christian scriptures offer many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing can REALLY be found. And it is not in the “usual” places. Isn’t it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don’t we often look for wholeness and happiness in places that offer only temporary “good feelings” and satisfaction? Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to reassess where we are searching for meaning and purpose. We will move through stories of Jesus to find out who offers the “real deal.”**

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

### **Prelude**

I Need Thee Every Hour — Annie S. Hawks, Robert Lowry,  
Arr. Mark Hayes  
Blake Hoppes

### **Welcome**

#### **Threshold Moment**

#### **Solo: Interrupted Silence**

Hearts open, minds awake,  
change us now for heaven’s sake.  
Leave us not alone in hatred’s wake.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how, show us how to love.

*Leader:* Our worship series for Lent continues as we contemplate the ways we have looked for satisfaction

in things that cannot satisfy. The Samaritan woman at the well in our scripture today found out that the water she came for was not really the water she needed so desperately. This woman had looked for love in many places, in many faces. When she was finally offered a soul-quenching love by Jesus, she became a powerful messenger of Good News. Just as the water given by God that flowed in the desert for the Israelites offered new life, the desert of our lives can be refreshed if we look for love regularly at the well of living water and offer life-giving water to others.

Solo:

Eyes open, shocked awake,  
much to learn from our mistakes.

Draw us closer in our heartache.

Show us how to love.

Show us how to love.

Show us how, show us how to love.

### **Confession and Assurance**

Let us join together in opening our hearts to the love of God. Before we even utter a word, we can be assured God will offer us grace and a way forward. For this reason, we can be honest with what most pains us most about our own thoughts and actions. Let us pray:

Holy and Merciful One,

in this season of discernment we come bringing our deepest longings,

and our failed attempts at satisfying them.

We have often looked for love, for acceptance and security, in the approval of others,

giving away the power to claim for ourselves that we are inherently beloved, created by God.

**People: We yearn for lives that matter,  
we desire relationships that thrive,**

**we want less regret.**

*Leader:* At times we fail to see that you have already given us what really matters:  
your love and acceptance.  
You provide opportunities all around us to make a difference in the lives of others by affirming their worth and dignity.  
You give us a fresh start each day, inviting us to do better.

In this silence, we bring to you our pleas for openness to a different way of living.

*Silence*

My friends, be assured by the Psalmist who reminds us that our God is the “rock of our salvation” in whose hand is the “depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains.”  
Let us respond together:

**All: We open our hearts, our minds, our souls, our vision  
to the ways of love  
created by God,  
embodied in Jesus,  
and already moving in us by the Spirit.  
We are forgiven, loved, and freed!  
Amen!**

**Peace**

*Leader:* The love and peace of Christ be with you!

*People:* **And also with you!**

*Leader:* I invite you to pass this love and peace to one another by crossing your arms across your chest, indicating love, and then opening them with the common two-finger sign for peace, [remembering to send some of that love and peace to those worshiping remotely].

Please stand in body or spirit.

**\*Hymn #196** When, like the Woman at the Well  
(Black Hymnal, New Century Hymnal)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'When, like the Woman at the Well'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a bass line. The vocal line starts with a 'Unison' instruction and a 'D' chord. The lyrics are: '1 When, like the wom-an at the well, I lived with bro-ken dreams, 2 Christ knew my heart, my way-ward ways, yet gave me hope, not fear. 3 I learned I could for-ev-er live and wor-ship God a-right, 4 Each day I lift my cup a-bove, and I a-gain re-ceive 5 Since now I am in grace im-merged, set free, for-giv-en, whole,'. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: 'Christ came to me, good news to tell, of ev-er-liv-ing streams. The God I once thought far a-way, I could ap-proach, draw near. Could trust the power the Spir-it gives to guide me in truth's light. The liv-ing wa-ter of God's love, re-vealed for my be-lief. I share with those who are a-thirst the well-springs of my soul!'. The score includes chord markings (D, F#m, FM7, A9) and a 'Unison' instruction.

Please be seated.

**WE PROCLAIM**

**10:30 Worship - Story for All Ages**

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

**Children's Church – during 10:30 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 to 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'rence Angrisano, Tomaszek #199  
Sing! Prayer and Praise

Asus A  $\text{\textcircled{S}}$  Dm B $\flat$  C

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff-

Dm F Asus A

--- 'rence. Go make a diff - 'rence\_\_\_ in the world.\_\_\_\_

Dm B $\flat$  C Dm

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.

B $\flat$ maj $^7$  Asus A Dm Last time, Fine Am Am

Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.\_\_\_\_ 1. 2.3.

**Testimony of Love Deana Correll**

**Scripture Reading  
John 4:5-42**

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."

The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"

The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."

Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"

Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I



sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."



## **The Message**

**The Places for Love** Interrupted Silence, vocal ensemble  
**Megnot Toggia, Katherine Kaiser, Michael Brian Welch,  
William Marshall, Ian Murphy**

Psalm 23 - Herbert Howells

Music, When Soft Voices Die - Taylor Scott Davis

My Spirit Sang All Day - Gerald Finzi

Ubi Caritas - Ola Gjeilo

Exsultate Jubilate - Karl Jenkins

Hold Me, Rock Me - Brian Tate  
Lullabye - Billy Joel

Did you know your Music Ministry at Union UCC in Neffs hosts a professional vocal ensemble? Since its inception in 2019, Interrupted Silence has had numerous concerts in and around the Valley ranging in styles from the Renaissance to Broadway. The ensemble has performed over 16 concert events, large choral works, musical theater productions and has helped create a hub for the arts in Neffs. Two large parts of our mission are to bring quality and affordable arts events to rural areas, and provide a performance platform for Lehigh Valley based artists. Our rotating roster of artists have been a part of Broadway and National Touring stage productions, Disney World, Opera Philadelphia, Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Sarasota, and many more, and have received music or music theater degrees from top level Colleges, Universities, and Conservatories around the Country. We hope that you enjoy today's music, and join us in the future for our next concert event!

**Director: William Marshall**

**Thank you to the Funds of Lasting Gifts for their financial support which allows for music guests in worship.**

## **WE RESPOND**

### **Prayers of the People**

Leader: In this season of Lent, we come together in prayer using an ancient form in the church, "Kyrie Eleison," meaning "God, have mercy on us." We will be led in various intercessions—prayers in categories—followed by

singing this simple chant as a response to each one. Let us pray for God's mercy, which is God's love, in our singing:

**Solo first time.**

Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i -

5  
son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son, Ky-ri - e E-le-i - son.

## Prayers for the World

*Leader:* Loving Creator, we come to you asking for your living water of life for this planet and all its living creatures. You have created wonders and called it all good. Show us how to love so that we might participate in the flourishing of this goodness. Show us how to love when there seems so much to fear. We pray this day for ...God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this world to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**

**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison  
Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

## Prayers for Our Community

*Leader:* Loving Sovereign, we come to you asking for your living water's flow in and through our communities. Let our thirst for love be quenched in care and kindness shown to all, especially those who are in need. Show us how to love with pitchers of mercy raining down to water the potential of this place. We pray this day for... God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this community to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

### **Prayers for Our Relationships**

Loving Parent, we come to you asking for your living water to make our homes and relationships wells of love. Lead us to water in the deserts of loneliness. Show us how to love with the depth of your well of mercy, your well of grace. Help us to honor and cherish each other, letting love lead rather than envy or hatred or fear or resentment. We pause in silence as we each lift up in our hearts the relationships that need your love... God have mercy. In this singing we lift up each other to you with our love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

### **Prayers for Our Selves**

Lover of Our Souls, we come to you asking for your living water in our own lives. Help us to look to you for our worth, for the love that quenches our yearning for acceptance. When we are tempted to search for love in things that cannot love us in return, help us to let go, making room for that which matters. Help us know the lure of your love for us, so that we may be your love in this world, in our communities, and in the lives with whom we intersect each day. God have mercy. In this singing we open ourselves to your love:

**All: (Sung)**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**  
**Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

Leader: And so, as your people following in the ways of your Son, Jesus, who set the pattern of love as right relationship with each other, we pray with confidence the prayer that he taught us:

**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,  
forever. Amen.**

**NURTURING LOVE:**

**NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S  
CHURCH**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

.....

**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.

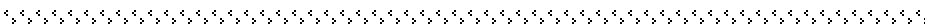
### **Easter Mission Offering**

This year the **Easter Mission Offerings** will be divided between the **Habitat for Humanity and the Jubilee Breakfast Ministry.**

Please support these two mission organizations by using the Easter Mission Offering envelope in your envelope packet, or make a note on your check or blank envelope for Easter Mission. Give online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/campaign/C-12H6T>

The mission of Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley is to provide hardworking families with simple, decent, affordable housing. Since 1989, Habitat has built 131 homes for families in the Lehigh Valley.

The Jubilee Breakfast Ministry at Zion's Reformed Church in Allentown serves about 65 breakfasts to those who need a meal each Thursday, Friday, and Saturday during the coldest months of the year, November through April.



## Musical Offering

Widmung (Dedication) Schumann– Liszt  
Blake Hoppes

Please stand in body or spirit.

## Offering Response

**ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God, above, the heavenly host.  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

## Benediction

*Leader:* Go forth into the world, looking for love in all  
the right places!

**People:** We will look for signs of The Thirst-Quencher,  
and we will pour out the life-giving water of love  
wherever we go!

**\*Hymn #3** Come to the Waters  
Sing! Prayer and Praise

Musical notation for the hymn "Come to the Waters". The score is in 3/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 144. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Eb, Fm7, Gm, Fm7, Gm, Fm, Eb, Bb, Eb, Fm7, Gm.

Come, Je - sus is call - ing to you. "Reach out, take my  
hand. You'll not fall. Come, come, I am wait - ing for

Fm<sup>7</sup> Gm Fm<sup>7</sup> *f* E<sup>b</sup> Last time, Fine

you. O'er the wa - ters of life, hear my call."

A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b9</sup>/D E<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup>

1. "Reach out in faith, cross the wa - ters to me.  
2. "Walk out in faith, take the risk if you can.

Fm B<sup>b7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup>

Your hand in mine, that's the way it should be.  
I bring you peace, come a - long, take my hand.

Fm B<sup>b9</sup> E<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup>

Stretch out in faith, take my hand if you will.  
Step out in faith, I will car - ry you on.

Fm B<sup>b7</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b7</sup> D.C.

Wa - ters be calm! Wind be still."  
You may be weak; I am strong."

## Postlude Music

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Tune: Morecambe, Frederick C. Atkinson



# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week		
Last Week	N/A		In person	Online
Calendar Year 2023 (Jan)	\$37,004.00	8:00 am	<b>44</b>	
Calendar Year 2022 (Jan)	\$29,651.00	10:30 am	<b>135</b>	
Change from Last Year	<b>+24.8%</b>	Education Hour	<b>6</b>	
Budget FY 2022 ( <i>July 2022-Jan. 23</i> )	\$261,970.00	<b>2022 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b>		
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date ( <i>July 2022-Jan 23</i> )	\$248,782.00	Last Week:		
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	<b>-5.0%</b>	Total YTD:	1179lbs, \$150	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		Souper Bowl	\$1,066.00	
		Blanket Sunday	\$997.00	

## Presentations to the Glory of God

*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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