

How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.
They cannot be numbered!
I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand!
Psalm 139: 17-18

June 25, 2023
10:30 Worship in the Grove
Build Your Own Sundae Sunday
Everyone is invited after worship for a picnic!

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.

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, fellowship, 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: Brynn Buskirk

10:30 Carrington Smith, Jim Lane, Jason Klinger, Susan Smith, Al Stubbmann, Karen Misera, Claire Kern, Gene Thrash

Greeters: Jim and Leanna Lane, Nancy Jones, Eric Minnich

Sound: Karl Klinger, Dawn Dengler

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

Prelude

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus
George Duffield, Jr., George J. Webb

Blake Hoppes

Welcome

When we worship outside in The Grove, please share your offering of financial support at the welcome tables when you arrive.

Preparing for Worship

Leader: In days of trouble, we call out to God. In times of distress, we ask how we can help. When hope feels forgotten, we wonder why it must be this way. In times of division, we ask what can be healed. In these days, we turn to each other and listen for God.

Prayer of Illumination

Leader: God of sparrows and elephants, of earth and sky, of the great and the small, wonder with us about transformation and division. Wonder with us about the peace we imagine and the disruptive peace about which Jesus spoke. Wonder with us today and always, loving us and caring for us through every question and possibility. Amen.

Response Song #391 In the Midst of New Dimensions
Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

**ALL: In the midst of new dimension,
In the face of changing ways,
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples
Wandering in their separate ways?**

**God of rainbows, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey**

Now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

Passing the 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 no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

ALL: And, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

Leader: God loves you and so do we.

ALL: God loves you and so do we.

Leader: Please stand and greet each other, sharing God's love and welcome.

We send our love to those worshipping at home too.

Please stand in body or spirit.

***Opening Hymn Here I Am, Lord Dan Schutte**

I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I
will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

Please be seated.

During Summer Worship:

***A reminder to pick up your Children's Activity Bulletins at the door when you arrive.**

***Mornings with Ms. Tiffany**

Kids are invited to join Ms. Tiffany for stories, activities, crafts and fun every Sunday at 10:30 worship through August 20. Pastors invite children forward to leave with Ms. Tiffany for a time designed just for them!

Children will be in the basement (or the gazebo when we're in the grove) and will return before worship is over. If worship ends early, parents are welcome to meet their children downstairs.

During the School Year:

Education Hour and Faith Formation for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am on Sundays

Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5.

Song: Go, Make a Diff'ence 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. _____

Go make a dif - f'rence. We can make a dif -

- f'rence. Go make a dif - f'rence in the world. _____ *Fine*

B \flat maj 7 Asus A Dm Am Am

Last time, Fine 1. 2.3.

Go make a diff - 'rence in the world. _____

Scripture Reading

Romans 8: 31-39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or

sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Message Music By Ben Anderson

**Find his music here: <https://bentylermusic.com>
and follow him on Facebook at Ben Tyler Music**

A New Jersey-native, Ben has played in various bands while in Albany, NY and Boston, MA before finding himself in a small corner of the Lehigh Valley. His pop-based melodies and emotionally-driven lyrics have landed him many opportunities, opening for national acts including Guster, Simple Plan, Tyler Hilton, Ludacris and Collective Soul among others. Ben is putting more focus back into songwriting while fine-tuning his indie folk/pop style.

He and Ashley and their two children, Lillian and Beckham, are members here and we are blessed that he shares his music so generously with us.

Entering into Prayer

Music Offering: Image of God

Fowler, Stevens, Mulligan, Recorded by We are Messengers

Pastor Kris with Ben Anderson

We are made, made in the image of God,
Made in the image of God
Beautiful shades of love.

We are made, made in the image of God,
Made in the image of God
That's where the light comes from.

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.**

PRAYER SONG RESPONSE

#107 Amazing Grace Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of
God

**ALL: Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.**

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH

OFFERING

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**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.

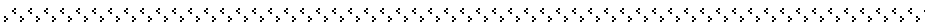
**ELECTRONIC GIVING.** Choose to give a repetitive contribution on a regular basis (i.e weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly), or make single contributions whenever you desire in an amount of your choice. Electronic contributions are initiated from Union UCC's website (UnionUCC.org). Click on 'giving', then 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. 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.

**Note:** When we worship in the grove please share your offering at the welcome tables when you arrive.



**Musical Offering**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms      Elisha A. Hoffman,  
Anthony J. Showalter

**Blake Hoppes**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**Offering Response**

#562 Take My Gifts Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

**ALL: Take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me,  
Gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free,  
Now because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
Now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply.**



# Offering Prayer

## Benediction

Leader: Go into the world without fear. Go and call out God's name, knowing that love will meet you. Steadfast love will lead you through every question and every wondering.

God's love carries us through every disruption. Do not be afraid to change the world. God's peace goes before you, now and always.

### \*Hymn #120 Dream God's Dream Sing! Prayer and Praise

$\text{♩} = 69$

D C G D C G D Em7

Dream God's dream! Ho-ly

D/F# G Bm7

Spir - it help us dream of a world where there is

F#m7 G Em7 A A/G

jus - tice and where ev - 'ry one is free to

D/F# G Bm7 A

build and grow and love, and to sim - ply have e -

G D/F# Em7 Asus A7 D

-nough. The world will change, when we dream God's dream.

Last time to Coda

C G D C G D C G

1. I'm dream-ing\_ of a world where the col - or of one's  
 2. I'm dream-ing\_ of the call God is of - fer-ing to  
 3. I'm dream-ing\_ of the way that I want my life to

D C Em7 D

skin will mean less than\_ what's with - in the per - son's heart.  
 me, how to use my\_ en - er - gy and my best gifts;  
 go. I've got hope and\_ I've got goals I'd like to meet.

C G/B D C

A world where wa - ter's clean and where  
 to do the work of Christ to say  
 I'm reach - ing for the stars, but I

G D Em7

air is safe to breathe. And ev - 'ry\_ chi - ld  
 God, please use my life to spread Your\_ heal - ing  
 won't for - get the scars of Christ who\_ died to

D/F# Em7 G Asus D Coda

born has e - nough to eat. dream.  
 love and to live Your truth.  
 show that the dream's for all.

**Postlude Music**

You Are My All in All Dennis Jernigan  
 Blake Hoppes

**Summer Coffee Hour** will continue on Sundays after 10:30 worship. Stop by in Memorial Hall for some cool lemonade, juice, water, and a snack and visit with friends and pastors.

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

| Offering<br>(e-giving, envelopes, and plate)                                |              | Attendance Last Week                                        |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Last Week                                                                   |              |                                                             | In person       |
| Calendar Year 2023<br>(Jan-May)                                             | \$162,264.00 | 8:00 am                                                     | <b>n/a</b>      |
| Calendar Year 2022<br>(Jan-May)                                             | \$158,771.00 | 10:30 am                                                    | <b>63</b>       |
| Change from Last Year                                                       | 2.2%         | Education Hour                                              |                 |
| Budget FY 2022-23<br>(July-May)                                             | \$397,230.00 | <b>2022 Donations to the<br/>Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b> |                 |
| Actual Fiscal Year-to-<br>Date (July-May))                                  | \$374,108.00 | Last Week:                                                  | \$, 160lbs      |
| Difference in Giving vs.<br>Budget                                          | -5.8%        | Total YTD:                                                  | 2,632lbs, \$635 |
| <i>Additional financial information available in<br/>Consistory Minutes</i> |              | OGHS                                                        | \$367.00        |

## Presentations to the Glory of God

**Today is our Pastor Kris's birthday, so Happy Birthday Pastor Kris. May you have a Blessed & Beautiful Day. God Bless You - Carol B.**

*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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