

**March 2, 2025**  
**8:00am & 10:30am**  
**Holy Communion**



**GUESTS**, Welcome to our faith community. 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). Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you and hand it to a pastor or drop it in the offering plate.

**Vision Statement**

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

**Mission Statement**

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.

***No matter who you are or where you on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.***

***Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.***

Lay Reader: 8am Michael Roth, 10:30am Don Penrod

Ushers: 8am Phil Wehr, Ron Pope, Leoma Kern

10:30am : Eric Minnich, Scott Nagle, Tami Wassum, Don Penrod,  
Jennifer Haley, Suzanne Schneider, Carolyn Seyler

Greeters: Geoff & Sara Jane Brace, Jen Haley

Sound: Mike Baer

## Holy Communion Directions

Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace. Here at church, you will be served in your seats. Please 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. If you are at home, we invite you to find something to eat and drink that represents communion for you.

## Prelude Music

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us  
Tune: Bradbury, William B. Bradbury  
Blake Hoppes

## Welcome to Union UCC!

## Welcome & Announcements

## Call to Worship

Leader: Beyond our busyness,  
Above the cold winter floor  
there is a glory rising born of heaven  
and reaching out to each one of us

**ALL: a light that shines through the clouds  
an invitation seeking all of who we are  
that transfigures the world**

Leader: that transforms darkness into hope  
that brings life from a cross  
where old life ends and new life is born

**ALL: In glory Jesus meets us here  
raising us from the depths of the valley to the height of the  
mountain**

**carrying the weight of our humanity  
to the heights of heaven's glory.**

Leader: Let us worship from the mountain and hear again

"This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

~ written by Rev. Rob Smith, Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church, Apple Valley, MN

SONG Open the Eyes of My Heart Baloché

**ALL Sing:**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord**

**Open the eyes of my heart**

**I want to see You**

**I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord**

**Open the eyes of my heart**

**I want to see You**

**I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up**

**Shinin' in the light of Your glory**

**Pour out Your power and love**

**As we sing holy, holy, holy**

**REPEAT**

**Holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy**

**I want to see you.**

## PRAYER

Leader: Reveal your presence to us this day,  
O God of light, love, and glory.  
As you did to your servants at the foot of the mountain,  
send your Spirit to show us your story.  
May the brilliance of your face  
illuminate this place  
as we dare to proclaim your Word  
and may we, your people, be never unable  
to tell all of that we have heard.

~ written by Stephen Fearing, and posted on **Wild and Precious Life**. <http://www.stephenmfearing.com/>

### The Peace

I invite you to share the peace of Christ with those around you, [remembering to greet those online with a wave to the camera].

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**\*Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other and for the first song.**

**\*Opening Hymn** Beautiful Things Gungor, Gungor

Solo: All this pain  
I wonder if I'll ever find my way  
I wonder if my life could really change at all  
All this earth  
Could all that is lost ever be found  
Could a garden come up from this ground at all

**ALL Sing:**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of the dust**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of us**

Solo: All around

Hope is springing up from this old ground

Out of chaos life is being found in You

**ALL Sing:**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of the dust**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of us**

Solo:

You make me new, You are making me new

You make me new, You are making me new

**All Sing:**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of the dust**

**You make beautiful things**

**You make beautiful things out of us**

Please be seated.

## **Music Offering**

Come Share God's Gift Nancy Price & Don Besig

**8:00 Heritage Choir**

Our Love is Loud David Crowder

**10:30 Kids Choir**

**10:30 Worship - Children's Time**

## **ALL SING:**

**Go make a diff'rence, we can make a diff'rence  
Go make a diff'rence in the world  
Go make a diff'rence we can make a diff'rence  
Go make a diff'rence in the world**

**Children's Church** – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5. Kids start in worship with their family and are invited forward for a children's time, They then leave with Ms. Tiffany and return before worship is over. They will return to worship before it's over and if not, please pick up your children in Room 100.  
If you want your child to stay in worship with you, please let them know.

**Kids are also invited to the Education Hour and Faith Formation for All Ages** – 9:15-10:15am on Sundays, ages 3 to grade 7.

## **Gospel Lesson**

Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice

that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

## **Sermon Pastor Kris**

### **Prayers of the People**

Song: Amazing Grace

Traditional

**ALL Sing:**

**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.**

### **Sunday Morning Alive Version**

Solo:

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.

**Chorus**

**ALL Sing:**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

**ALL Sing:**

**Tw'as grace that taught my heart to fear,**

**And grace my fears relieved;**

**How precious did that grace appear**

**The hour I first believed.**

**Chorus**

**ALL Sing:**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

**ALL Sing:**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,**

**Bright shining as the sun,**

**We've no less days to sing God's praise**

**Than when we'd first begun.**

**Chorus**

**ALL Sing:**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

**Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia, Allelu.**

Traditional

**ALL Sing:**

**Through many dangers toils and snares,**

**I have already come,**

**IT's grace that brought me safe thus far,**

**And grace will lead me home.**



## 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.**

**All sing:**

**Freely, freely you have received,  
freely, freely give.**

**Go in my name, and because you believe,  
others will know that I live.**

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## NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH AT UNION



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Neffs, Pennsylvania

## OFFERING

**Thank you for your faithful generosity and for all that you do  
to help our church be  
*Relevant - Engaged - Growing***

• **ELECTRONIC GIVING** <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> or use the QR code with your cell phone. Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)

• **FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app**

Look for our church Union United Church of



Electronic Giving

Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.



Vanco Mobile

- **Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.



Venmo

- **Cash or checks (to "Union UCC")** Place in the offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person. Contact John Harting (610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-972-8719) or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.

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### **Music Offering**

As the Deer Martin Nystrom

**Blake Hoppes**

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

### **\*Offering Response**

Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary  
#187 Sing! Prayer and Praise

### **All Sing:**

**Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary  
pure and holy, Tried and true:  
With thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

**God empower me to be a witness for you,  
Acting boldly, in your name:  
Seeking justice, where there is hurting  
offering hope where there is pain.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

### Holy Communion Directions

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### Invitation

Leader: No one has to hide who they truly are. All will be transfigured here in the presence of our loving God. All are accepted just as they are for God has a vision for who they shall become. Join this meal and become transfigured.

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.**

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks for 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.”

And so, as we remember these words and acts of Jesus,  
we offer our own lives, leaving behind what we do not  
need, seeking new paths full of risen life in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit  
on all gathered here,  
that we might be your light in the world.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit  
on these gifts of bread and wine,  
that we might be infused with the gift  
of your nourishing guidance.  
Transform us with your nourishing grace,  
even as we eat of this bread  
and drink of this wine.  
Transfigure us to be your presence in the world,  
even as we are redeemed and reclaimed  
by your great love.  
By your Spirit, make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry to the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we feast at the heavenly banquet.  
Through Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,  
now and forever more.

**Amen.**

— from the *Abingdon Worship Annual*

## **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**

### **THE BREAD**

**HYMN** #677 They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love  
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**ALL Sing:**

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord**

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord**

**And we pray that all unity may one day be restored**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love**

**They will know we are Christians by our love**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side**

**And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love**

**They will know we are Christians by our love**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand**

**And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love**

**They will know we are Christians by our love**

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

## **THE CUP**

**HYMN #330 Let Us Break Bread Together**  
Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

### **ALL Sing:**

**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**

**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**

**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.**

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

### **The Blessing**

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

## **COLLECTING OF CUPS**

**HYMN In the Bulb There Is a Flower**  
#433 Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

### **ALL Sing:**

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,**

**Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
There's a dawn in every darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

### **Benediction**

Leader:

May God now send us back down the mountain of our  
worship.

We have been changed.

We can't be silent anymore.

We have seen the Light of the World.

Go and share the radiance of love!

~ written by Rev. Dr. David Bahr,

### **\*Closing Hymn**

#123 Draw the Circle Wide

Sing! Prayer and Praise

**Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song,  
no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle  
wide.**

**1. God the still point of the circle, 'round whom all creation**

turns; nothing lost, but held forever in God's gracious arms.

2. Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

3. Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.

### **Postlude Music**

Holy, Holy, Holy    Tune: Nicaea John B. Dykes

**Blake Hoppes**



# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
Last Week	\$10,075.51	8 AM	38
Calendar Year 2025 <i>(January)</i>	\$ 31,482.00	10:30 AM	85
Calendar Year 2024 <i>(January)</i>	\$ 37,004.00	Online Views	168
Change from Last Year	<b>-14.9%</b>	Sunday School	11
Budget FY 2024-25 <i>(July-Jan.)</i>	\$ 243,040.00	God First	25
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date <i>(July-Jan.)</i>	\$ 255,913.67	Faith on Tap	30
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	<b>5.3%</b>	Breathe	15
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		<b>2024 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b>	
		Last Week:	\$500, 150lbs
		Total YTD:	\$600, 870lbs

  

<b>Blanket Sunday</b> \$1,846.00	<b>Souper Bowl</b> \$945.00
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## Presentations to the Glory of God

### In memory of Walt Disney

**Good News Sponsor**– for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

**Children’s Bulletin Sponsor**– for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children.

*Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or 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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