The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org

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



Welcome to our
Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online

+ + +

Sunday, June 11, 2023 Second Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

May God's loving presence be very real to you, and may you receive strength and guidance today That will enable you to handle life's challenges.



Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.

The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul. (Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table).

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2nd and Last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Young Children & Family Ministries

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia. For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

More Information...

www.sprucc.org

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the *Blue Visitor Table* in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

{Symbols used in this bulletin: *= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♬# = Blue Hymnal Page}

Virtual Worship Service

Online: <u>Live Stream</u> at <u>spruce.org</u> - Live or Watch & Listen Later on <u>Our YouTube Channel</u>

Facebook Live at https://www.facebook.com/www.spruce.org/ - Live or Watch & Listen Later

Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



Free WiFi

ORDER FOR WORSHIP We Gather

We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God, and provide for one another our love, support, and care.

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

{If you have not already done so, please sign and pass the pew welcome pad to the person next to you.}

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP (Unison)

Merciful Jesus, you came for sinners. You died on the cross for sinners. You rose from the grave for sinners. You did not come to save people who claim to be without sin. Who would that be anyway? You are not looking for burnt offering sacrifices. We read in Matthew that you are looking for us to be merciful to each other and to ourselves. Help us to have mercy. In your name, we pray.

PRELUDE

"This Is My Father's World"

Franklin L. Sheppard; arranged for piano by Cindy Berry

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

₽Blue #309

Public Domain

*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*Call to Worship adapted from Psalm 50

Leader: Your burnt offerings are always before me. **People:** I will not accept a calf from your stalls,

Leader: nor goats from your pens;

People: for all the wild animals of the forest are mine,

Leader: the cattle on a thousand hills.

People: I know every bird of the mountains, Leader: and the creatures of the fields are mine. People: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Leader: Call upon me in the day of trouble;

People: I will deliver you, and you shall honor me.

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*Call to Confession (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

*CONFESSION OF SIN (**Unison**)

O merciful Father and loving Jesus, we stand before you in the presence of each other and of both of you. Remove from us any streaks of self-righteousness. We cannot save ourselves by giving burnt animals to you. We cannot save ourselves by looking down on other people and boast about ourselves. Transfer your mercy into our hearts and minds so that being merciful is what others notice about us. Thank you, Holy Father and Healing Jesus. Amen

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

▶ Red #518
Public Domain

Leader (spoken): Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader (spoken): Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Assurance of Pardon @ (Leader)

People of mercy, we are forgiven by our most merciful Savior, Jesus. Let us live like forgiven souls, light-hearted but full of wisdom.

*CALL TO PRAISE ①

Leader: Let us praise God with our sacrifices of love and mercy unto you and all

people.

People: Hallelujah! Amen!

Stanza 1

▶ Red #21
Public Domain

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

{please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings.

We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God."

Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

First Lesson: Hosea 5:15 - 6:6 Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:9-13; 18-26

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Jesus Loves Even Me" \$\beta Blue #495 \\ Public Domain

MINI-MESSAGE

MUSIC "Jesus Loves Me" Text: Anna B. Warner; Music: William B. Bradbury
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Vs. 1: Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so; As He loved so long ago, Little ones to Him belong; Taking children on His knee,

They are weak, but He is strong. Saying, "Let them come to Me."

Refrain: Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.
The Bible tells me so.

SERMON "Have You Been Healed?"

We Respond with Thanks

We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped, we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by re-affirming our faith in God,

praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus

{Those who are able, please rise}

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

UCC Statement of Faith

Section Two and Three: Jesus and the Holy Spirit

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

{Please be seated}

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God, in your mercy, **People:** hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

♪ Red #501

George Whelpton, Public Domain

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Leader: We bring offerings to the altar by our free will, not in fear,

People: but in thankfulness.

Leader: We help our neighbors, not to earn rewards,

People: but in thankfulness and kindness.

Leader: There are many ways to help our neighbors.

People: Let us not count the ways; Leader: let us put our love into action People: without counting the cost.

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

{Today, we will be passing the offering plate in person. You may also offer your tithe and offering to God through our secure <u>Online Giving</u> option on our website at **sprucc.org** (<u>Click Here</u>), or you may mail your offering to <u>United Church of Christ of Robesonia</u>; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

ORGAN OFFERTORY

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart / O Breath of Life"

Frederick C. Atkinson; Joel Blomquist; arranged for piano by Cindy Berry

{Those who are able, please rise}

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

▶ Red #506 Public Domain

We give Thee but Thine own, What-e'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer (Leader)

Here Lord, here are our monetary gifts for the work of your kingdom. Churches have expenses, of course. Help us to continue to lean on the belief that, when our outward-giving focus is a high priority, we will be surprised at how the budget falls into line. Thank you for calling us! In the name of Jesus, we stand here before you in total thankfulness. **Amen.**

We Are Sent Out

In response to God's love and grace, we go out into the world to share God's Good News through our words and actions.

*Commission @

Leader: God said through Hosea, "For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,

People: the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

Leader: Let us yearn to know God more fully.

People: Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord!

*BENEDICTION

*Three Fold Sung Amen

Red #558

Public Domain

*Sending Hymn "Living for Jesus" \$\beta \text{Blue #605} \\ Public Domain

{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us, as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}

Postlude

Join Us For Fellowship and Food in Miller Fellowship Hall

Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest **Password** (for both): iamheretoserve

The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

(1) God welcomes us and invites us

(2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him

(3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace

(4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace

(5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon

(6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer

(7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure

(8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

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2 Gathered By Love by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.

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- **②** Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and* Devotion. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
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Miller, Earl D. (1994). Consecrating Stewards. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

The Rev. Mary Etta Mest

@ Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).

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Consistory President: Elsa Wertz Consistory Vice President: George McLain Consistory Secretary: Geri Gammel

About Today

Church Season: Pentecost -which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

White - used on Trinity Sunday - symbolizing the holiness of our Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (or Holy Ghost)

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year A**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Matthew.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church).

This Sunday, June 11, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 12:1-9 *and* Psalm 33:1-12 *or* Hosea 5:15-6:6 *and* Psalm 50:7-15; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Hosea

This OT book primarily consists of the prophet Hosea's speeches critiquing the social, political, and religious life of the Northern Kingdom of Israel during the final days before the Assyrians conquer the Israelite people in 722 B.C. The destruction of Israel is revealed as a result of the lack of faithfulness of the Israelite people, as our lack of repentant faithfulness results in our own destruction.

Psalm 50

This OT song admonishes the people in liturgical form for failing to act and speak justly and righteously. The people need to repent, act rightly, and live thankful lives to God, before God will hear their prayers, accept their sacrifices, and offer salvation. This psalm is attributed to Asaph, who was one of King David's chief musicians.

The Letter of Paul to the Romans

This epistle (letter) is addressed "to all God's beloved in Rome." It was dictated by the Apostle Paul to Tertius in 58 A.D. in Corinth and delivered to Rome by Phoebe (she was appointed by Paul as a deacon, teacher, and leader of the church). Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul, a highly educated man, wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Matthew

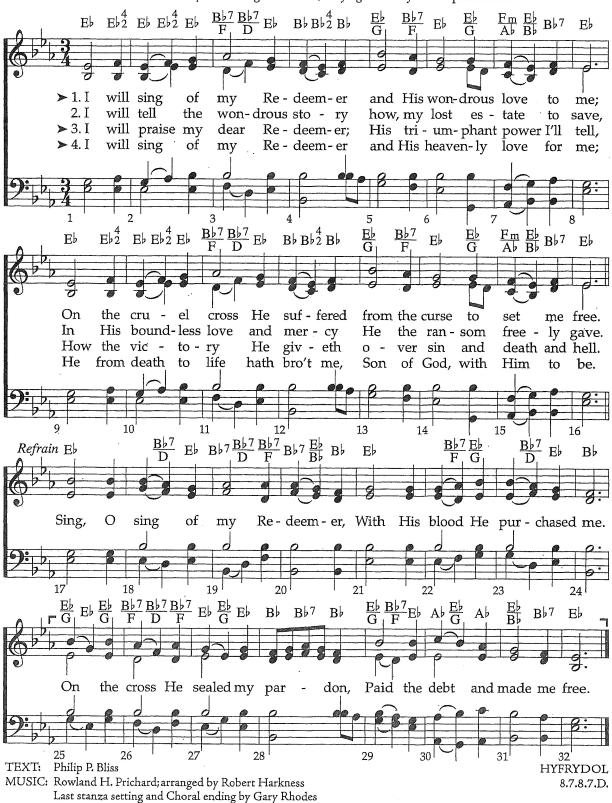
Matthew's Gospel was written around 80-90 A.D. in Antioch, Syria by a Greek-speaking Jewish Christian. The first writing was probably by a Christian scribe who wrote in the name of Matthew. Matthew was a disciple who knew Jesus personally.

Next Sunday, June 18, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) and Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 or Exodus 19:2-8a and Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

309 I Will Sing of My Redeemer

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Ephesians 1:7



A higher setting may be found at No. 17

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Jesus Loves Even Me 495

Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her. Ephesians 5:25



605 Living for Jesus

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm MUSIC: C. Harold Lowden LIVING 10.10.10.10. with Refrain

That you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way. Colossians 1:10

