

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
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*

† † †

Sunday, May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday

First 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 and 3rd 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. The third toilet stall in each of our four restrooms has a high toilet and handrails.

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....

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: [Live Stream](https://www.sprucc.org) at [sprucc.org](https://www.sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [Our YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
[Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](https://www.sprucc.org) 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



www.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)*

Lord God Almighty, we come before you with grateful hearts. We praise you for being three persons in one: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are covered with your love, with your excitement, and your protection! Raise us to new heights to serve you all the more. In the name of Jesus, we proclaim you to the world. Amen.

This service was prepared by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.

PRELUDE

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

♪ Red #1
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 *from Psalm 29*

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name.

Leader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

People: The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice.

Leader: The voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

People: And in the temple of the Lord, all are crying "Glory!"

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 ⑩ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Are we crying "Glory" loudly enough? Do we appreciate the spirit of adoption that God has bestowed upon us? Are we living by the Spirit or are we living by the flesh? Do we realize that we are children of God and therefore heirs of the kingdom? What does that mean? Please accept these questions as our confession. Help us to understand. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Leader)

Have we passed the test? Will we inherit the kingdom? What will we do with the kingdom if we inherit it? Beloved, God adopts us with genuine love. We are the children of God if we profess our love for the triune God and all that God does for us daily, step by step. How can we not shout "Glory"?

*CALL TO PRAISE

Leader: Let us sing praise to God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit!
People: **We praise you, Triune God!**

*SUNG PRAISE

"O For A Thousand Songs to Sing"

*W&R #96
Public Domain*

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.**

{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

The Hebrew Lesson: [Isaiah 6:1-8](#)

The New Testament Letter: [Romans 8:12-17](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: [John 3:1-17](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"In the Bulb There is a Flower"

NCH #433

One License #A-728042

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MINI-MESSAGE

{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship, or on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time for the additional option of "Junior Worship"}

CHILDREN'S SONG

"The B-I-B-L-E"

author and composer unknown

**The B-I-B-L-E, Yes, that's the book for me;
I stand alone on the Word of God: The B-I-B-L-E!**

SERMON

"Blest Times Three"

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 Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: ⑩ (Unison) adapted from the Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is - both seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. 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: Merciful God,
People: Receive 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

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

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: In thankfulness for you, O Father, we bring our offerings

People: We thank you, O Father.

Leader: In gratefulness to you, O Jesus, we bring our offerings.

People: We thank you, O Jesus.

Leader: In awe of you, O Holy Spirit, we bring our offerings

People: We thank you, O Holy Spirit.

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 [Online Giving](http://sprucc.org) option on our website at sprucc.org (Click Here), or you may mail your offering to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

OFFERTORY

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

"Doxology"

♪ *Red #551*
George Bourgeois; Public Domain

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩ (Leader)**

Giving God, these are the gifts we are entrusting to you. We trust you will direct their use. We trust that somehow you will provide for us beyond expectation and beyond measure. **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: Go with us into the world, Holy Father.

People: Yes, go with us.

Leader: Go with us into the world, Holy Son,

People: Yes, go with us.

Leader: Go with us into the world, Holy Spirit.

People: Yes, go with us.

ALL: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

W&R #712
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*{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 worshipping 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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 - ① United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) 2023 Resources.
 - ② *Led By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1996). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
 - ② *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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 - ⑦ 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
 - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑨ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
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Staff & Leadership

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz - PastorMotz@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - mestme@aol.com - 610-659-2775 (C)

Music Minister: The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

Bell Choir Director: Miriam Borkert

Office Secretary: Geri Gammel - Office@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Sextons: Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Financial Secretary (Interim): Terry Pastor

Consistory President: George McLain

Consistory Vice President: Kirk Aulenbach

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 B**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Mark.

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). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which are about the life of Jesus Christ, which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, May 26, 2024, Lectionary Reading for Trinity Sunday - 1st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 6:1-8 *and* Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

Isaiah

The book of Isaiah (OT) is attributed to three prophets. The first of whom is from where the book gets its name, and is about Isaiah's call to become a prophet and his prophecy that Jerusalem will face God's judgement regarding its immorality in order to be God's Holy City (chaps. 1-39, written 738-688 B.C.), the second is about living in exile in Babylon (chaps. 40-55, written 597-539 B.C.), and the third is about the return from exile to Judah and the rebuilding of the Temple (chaps. 56-66, written 520-515 B.C.). A prophet is one who is divinely appointed by God to lead and instruct.

Psalm 29

This OT song of praise is attributed to King David, sung in honor of God's power and glory as revealed in a great thunderstorm.

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 John

John is the latest of the four Gospels, written around 80-90 A.D. probably in Ephesus, and attributed to John the son of Zebedee, the beloved disciple of Jesus. This Gospel was "written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and through believing you may have life in his name" (20:31).

Next Sunday, June 2, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) *and* Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 *or* Deuteronomy 5:12-15 *and* Psalm 81:1-10;
2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23 - 3:6

Adoration and Praise

1

REGINALD HEBER, 1826

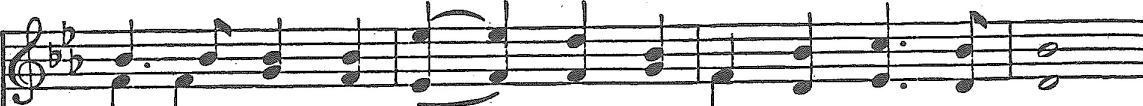
11. 12. 12. 10.

NICÆA
JOHN B. DYKES, 1861

With exaltation




1. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
3. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee:
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in Three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in power, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in Three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A-MEN.

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

712 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Unison
N.C. F $\frac{C}{E}$ F Dm $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$

1 Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing, the
2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the

F $\frac{F}{A}$ Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F N.C.

peo - ple of God from this dwelling take leave. The
tasks of our every - day life we will face. Our

F $\frac{C}{E}$ F Dm $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ Gm $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$

ser - vice is end - ed, O now be ex - tend - ed the
faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em -

F $\frac{F}{A}$ Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

fruits of our wor - ship in all who be - lieve. The
brac - ing God's chil - dren of each tribe and race. With

WORDS: Omer Westendorf (1916-1998)
MUSIC: Welsh folk tune; harm. Leland Sateren (1913-)

ASH GROVE
6.6.11.6.6.11.D.

Words © 1964 World Library Publications
Music Harm. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

F C7

seed of the teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls reach - ing, shall
your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us: u -

F C Dm C/E C/G G C Dm7 C/E

blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all. God's
nite us as one in this life that we share. Then

F C/E F Dm Gm/Bb Gm Gm/Bb C C/E

grace did in - vite us, and love shall u - nite us to
may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing give

F F/A Bb F/C C7 F

work for God's king - dom and an - swer the call.
hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.