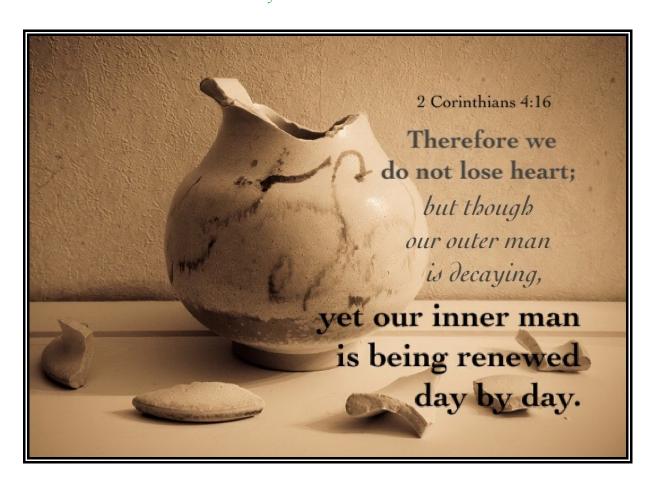
The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

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, June 9, 2024 3rd 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 at spruce.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on Our YouTube Channe

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







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)

Oh Lord, save us in this world of temptation. Our souls wait for your saving grace. You are always ready and generous with your presence and encouragement. Our paths sometimes lead us astray into the wilderness. You bring us back onto the path of goodness. We praise you and your Holy name. Amen.

This service was prepared by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.

PIANO PRELUDE "Lord. I Want to be a Christian" American Folk Hymn

{Those who are able, please rise}

*Processional Hymn "Let the Whole Creation Cry"

W&R #6

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

*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 130

Leader: Out of the depths, I cry to you O Lord;

People: O Lord hear my voice!

Leader: I wait for you O Lord, my soul waits:

People: in your word is my hope.

Leader: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning.

People: With the Lord, there is steadfast love. Leader: With the Lord there is abundant redemption.

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. 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)

Dearest Jesus, our lives could be as pleasant as the Garden of Eden before the Fall. Why do we rip the peacefulness? Why do we hurry toward the forbidden fruit? Why can't we stay firm and steady? Grant us your steadfastness. Fill us with your peace. In your name we seek forgiveness. 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 Forgiveness (Leader)

People, do you feel the mercy? It rains upon us and fills us to the gills. It is a gift to us from God. We cannot earn it. It is in the receiving of this grace that we find the ability to do God's will.

*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!**

*Song of Praise

"We Praise You. O God"

♪ Red #19

Text: Julia Bulkley Cady Cory; Music: Kremser

With voices united our praises we offer.

And gladly our anthems of worship we raise.

Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,

To Thee, our great Redeemer, forever be praise. Amen.

{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: Genesis 3:8-15

The New Testament Letter: 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: Mark 3:20-35

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Be Still and Know" W&R #450

One License #A-728042

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

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

"My Soul Waits for the Lord"

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: (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.

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 (1)

Leader: Our hearts are full of gratitude for your gifts to us.

People: What are these gifts that God gives?

Leader: Well, for starters, there is the sun.

People: And the rain and the soil.

Leader: And the green plants and nourishing fruit.

People: And the knowledge of how to use them creatively and beneficially.

Leader: God, help us to be good stewards with your gifts.

People: Amen.

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}.

OFFERTORY SOLO

"Rain Down"
Soloist - Terry Pastor

Words and music by Jaime Cortez

{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 ① (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: Leaving both our sins and our gifts at the altar,

People: we go forth with happy hearts and clear souls.

Leader: What could possibly tempt us today? It is a Sunday.

People: Satan will find something for us to have or to do

Leader: You mean things that are useless to have and to do?

People: Yes, useless or worse. Lord, we need your help each hour and each day!

ALL: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

▶ Red #558
Public Domain

*Sending Hymn "Day by Day" W&R #449

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

{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

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

① Reprinted with permission from The New Century Hymnal of the United Church of Christ. (1995). Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press. and/or the Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ (1986). New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.

United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) 2023 Resources.
 Led By Love by Lavon Baylor. (1996). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
 Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).

 Reprinted with permission from Sundays and Seasons. (2023). Augsburg Fortress.
 Reprinted with permission from the Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the United States. and/or The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. (1985) New York: United Church Press.

S Reprinted with permission from Sourcebook of Worship Services

scouting.org - resources for Boy Scouts of America

Reprinted with permission from Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ. (2013).

Sunday Sermons Preaching Resources. (2017). Margate, NJ.
 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

® 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.
 ® The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

The Rev. Mary Etta Mest

One License is our Church Copyright License #A-728042,, which is a subscription service giving us copyright permission to print the words and music found in the bulletin and to live stream music on the internet during the Worship Service. Cartoons are reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter.com. (2023).



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):

Green - symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God's Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

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, June 9, 2024, Lectionary Reading the 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) and Psalm 138 or Genesis 3:8-15 and Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1; Mark 3:20-35

Genesis

The book of Genesis (OT) is a part of the Pentateuch (first five books of the OT or Torah or one of the five most central books in Judaism). Genesis means beginning. The book of Genesis tells about the creation of humankind and the entire universe by the will and power of God. Genesis creates a context for the reading of the entire rest of the Bible. The book is traditionally attributed to Moses, who led the Israelite people from Egyptian slavery to freedom, through the saving grace and divine providence of God.

Psalm 130

This is an OT penitential song of prayer asking for God's forgiveness and favor. Psalms 120-134 are a part of the collection known as "A Song of Ascents." These songs were most likely sung by people on religious pilgrimages.

The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

This NT Epistle (letter) was written by the Apostle Paul between 50-56 A.D. to a gentile congregation he had founded several years earlier in Corinth (the capital city of the Roman province of Achaia, a large and prospering urban center that was ethnically, culturally, and religiously diverse). This letter is believed to be a compilation of fragments of multiple letters. This letter is in response to Titus' glowing reports and other negative reports Paul has received about this 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 wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Mark

Mark's Gospel is the oldest and shortest of the four Gospels, written between 65-75 A.D. Papias, a church leader in the 2nd century, reported that this Gospel's author is Mark, a follower of Peter who wrote this Gospel after Peter's death.

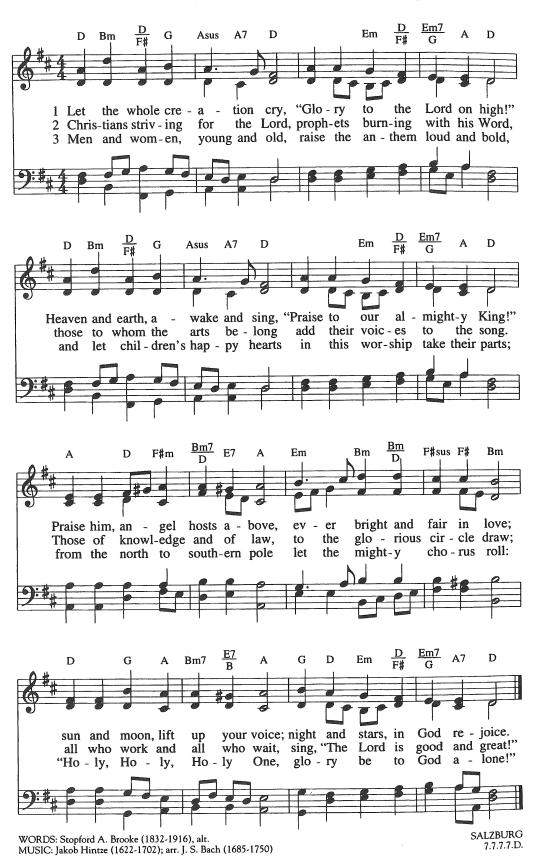
Next Sunday, June 16, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 4th Sunday after Pentecost

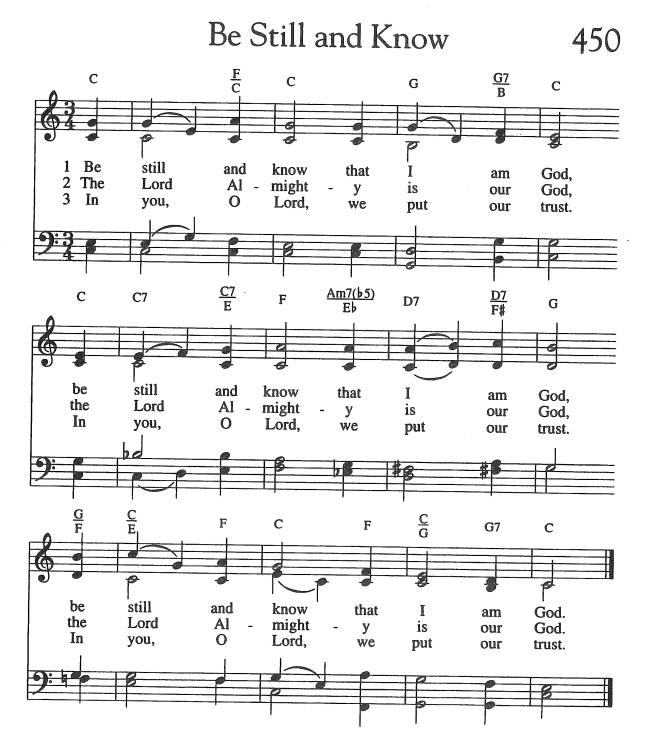
1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 *and* Psalm 20 *or* Ezekiel 17:22-24 *and* Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15;

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

GOD

Let the Whole Creation Cry





WORDS and MUSIC: Anonymous; para. Psalm 46:10, 11; 143:8; arr. Jack Schrader (1942-)
Music Arr. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

449

Day by Day

