

# **The United Church of Christ of Robesonia**

**301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551**

**610-621-5770 -- [office@sprucc.org](mailto:office@sprucc.org) -- [www.sprucc.org](http://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 16, 2024  
4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:Office@sprucc.org)



[www.sprucc.org](http://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

*{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)*

**Majestic God, we worship your mighty power. Loving God, we seek your comforting love. Some trees in your creation are mighty and majestic. Some plants are lowly like the hen-and-chicks plant. Then there is the mustard seed, said to be the smallest seed ever, that opens into a huge bush, a home for singing birds. The humble and loving. The majestic and strong. Thank you for the blend and contrasts of your kingdom. Amen.**

*This service was prepared by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.*

#### PRELUDE

*"Peace Like a River"*

*Liturgical Dance*

*Traditional; Sung by the Heritage Singers*

Directed by Becky Boone, daughter of Mary Baum

Danced by Ava Ostimchuk, Lily Ostimchuk, Kamryn Ulrich, Preslie Ulrich

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

#### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

*NCH #28*

*One License #A-728042*

*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 92*

Leader: It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord,

**People: to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**

Leader: to herald your love in the morning

**People: and your faithfulness at night.**

Leader: You have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;

**People: and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

## 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 our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**We have good moments of oneness with you, O Lord. We are in tune with each other, you and your people, you and each of us. Then we are tempted to separate ourselves and off we go. Call us back. Set us on the path of goodness which you have planned for each of us. We ask for harmony once again.**

### \*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.  
**People (*sung*): Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
Leader (*spoken*): Christ, have mercy upon us.  
**People (*sung*): Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**People (*sung*): Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Leader)

The cedars of Lebanon spread their branches over us. The cedars of Lebanon weep kindness and comfort over us. We are like the palm trees who flourish when we are in tune with our caring God. May this forgiving and nourishing relationship with our God be everlasting.

### \*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:** [Ezekiel 17:22-24](#)

**The New Testament Letter:** [2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Reading:** [Mark 4:26-34](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### LITURGICAL DANCE

*"I'll Fly Away"*

*Traditional;  
Sung by Gillian Welch*

Directed by Becky Boone, daughter of Mary Baum  
Danced by Ava Ostimchuk, Lily Ostimchuk, Kamryn Ulrich, Preslie Ulrich

### MINI-MESSAGE

*{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship,  
or on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

*"The Faith Walk"*

## 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.**



**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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}*

**OFFERTORY INVITATION**

Leader: Trees are your gift to us.

**People: Some trees are majestic. Some trees are lowly.**

Leader: When we think of the many gifts that come from trees,

**People: we are in awe of your care for us.**

Leader: Gracious God, help us to use your gifts to make the world

**People: a better place for all of your creation.**

Leader: We bring a portion of you gifts to the altar now.

**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](#) 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 SOLO**

*"My Tribute"*

*by Andrae Crouch*

Soloist - Sheri Rowe

*{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)**

Lord, we did not bring trees to your altar. We did not bring cows or chickens to your altar, or seeds. Instead, we brought the gift of money to your altar. May some of this money be used to provide sustainability and comfort to people. Lord, show us how to use some of this money to be worthy partners in your kingdom. **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: Let us stretch our necks to view the tops of the tall trees, the cedars.

**People: Impossible from the ground.**

Leader: Oh, well then let's view the tree from underneath.

**People: Yes, let's welcome everyone who comes to share the space and the wonder.**

Leader: Everyone?

**People: Yes, everyone!**

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*  
*Public Domain*

### \*SENDING HYMN

*"It Is Well with My Soul"*

♪ *Blue #705*  
*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):** iamheretosome





## 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 *Sunday Sermons Preaching Resources*. (2017). Margate, NJ.
  - 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

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

*Music Minister:* The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

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*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 16, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 4<sup>th</sup> 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

### **The First Book of Samuel**

The First Book of Samuel describes the transition of the nation of Israel from their time of being ruled by the judges to that of being ruled by their first king, Saul. The end of First Samuel and the beginning of Second Samuel describe the transition to Israel's second king, David. First Samuel begins with the birth of the prophet Samuel, who is a priest, judge, seer, military leader, and the one who anointed both Saul and David as king. First Samuel covers the time span of about 1100 BC to 1000 BC, and Second Samuel covers the time from about 1000 BC to 960 BC.

### **Psalm 20**

This OT song, is attributed to King David. The psalmist prays for God's help during a time of trouble. This "royal psalm" may have been used as a prayer sung before the army and the king, before the army went to war, in which God is beseeched to give victory to the king.

### **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 23, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 *and* Psalm 9:9-20 *or* 1 Samuel 17:57 - 18:5, 18:10-16 *and* Psalm 133 *or* Job 38:1-11 *and* Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

## For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1-3, *Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.*  
 St. 4, *Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the splen - dor of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 4 For the good that love in - spires, for a world where none ex - clude,

For the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,  
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,  
 Friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,  
 For a faith that nev - er tires, and for ev - ery heart re - newed,

*Refrain*

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

*Folliott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.*

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain  
*Conrad Kocher, 1838*  
*Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861*

# 705 It Is Well with My Soul

He ransoms me unharmed from the battle waged against me. Psalm 55:18

G C C<sup>4</sup> C C G F E D G G<sup>7</sup> C Am E<sup>7</sup> B C

1. When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, When sor - rows like  
 2. Tho' Sa - tan should buf - fet, tho' tri - als should come, Let this blest as -  
 3. My sin - O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous tho't - My sin - not in  
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled

Am G D G G<sup>7</sup> C CM<sup>7</sup> F A<sup>7</sup> Dm D<sup>7</sup> G

6 sea bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
 7 sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,  
 8 part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
 9 back as a scroll, The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend,  
 10  
 11

G<sup>4</sup> G C E F<sup>6</sup> G C C N.C. C C E G N.C.

*Refrain*

12 "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is well with my  
 13 And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 14 "E - ven so" - it is well with my soul. It is well  
 15  
 16

N.C. G G<sup>7</sup> C F C G C C

17 soul,  
 18 with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
 19  
 20  
 21

TEXT: Horatio G. Spafford  
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss

VILLE DU HAVRE  
 11.8.11.9. with Refrain