#### 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.



# Have faith in Jesus.

Welcome to our 10:15am Worship Service In-Person & Streaming Online

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Sunday, June 30, 2024 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Welcome

CHRIST + JAC

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; H = Red Hymnal Page; A = Blue Hymnal Page

#### Virtual Worship Service



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

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

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP <sup>®</sup> (Unison)

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PIANO PRELUDE

"In Times Like These"

Arranged by Fred Bock (see Blue Hymnal #577)

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN	"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"	♪ Red #443
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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 <sup>2</sup>

Leader: Arise, people of faith, that Christ may give us life. This is the day of meeting in Christ's name.

- People: We embrace one another with concern and care. We wait in joyous anticipation of God's Word.
- Leader: The word of life is our to receive. The good news is available to be shared.
- People: We will sing praises to God's holy name. We will tell of God's faithfulness day by day.

#### 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 <sup>©</sup> (Leader)

Surrounded by the steadfast love of God, we gain courage to examine our lives and our relationships. Together we confess the sin that cuts off from our Creator and separates us from one another. Let us pray....

#### \*CONFESSION OF SIN <sup>2</sup> (Unison)

Almighty God, we have tried to hide from you our self-concern, deceits, and dirty hands. Because we do not see great evil within us, we turn away from confession of sin. Our minor flaws seem insignificant before the horrors we discern on every hand. We find it hard to accept responsibility for the inequities that enrich some and impoverish others in a world where you claim all human beings equally as your children. Convict us of our responsibility and our need for your salvation in Christ, in whose name we pray for forgiveness. Amen.

\*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

#### \*Assurance of Pardon <sup>2</sup> (Leader)

We will receive blessing and vindication from the God of our salvation. When we face the truth about ourselves, God takes us by the hand and proclaims, "Your faith has made you well." Go, therefore, and sin no more. **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**

#### Lesson from the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books:

The Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24

#### New Testament Letter from Paul to the Church in Corinth: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

New Testament Gospel (Good News): Mark 5:21-43

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

Нуми	"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"	<i>♬ Blue</i> #139
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#### 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

### 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}

Adapted from the UCC of Robesonia Vision & Discipleship Statements

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Unison) We seek to be Inwardly Growing, Outwardly Serving, Upwardly Worshiping,

Together Connecting,

working toward the vision of All in our community being Actively Connected in a Living Relationship with our Loving God. 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 *"The Nation"* ↓ *Red #10 pg 538-539* Leader: Almighty God, the Father of humankind, who hast commanded us to make intercession for all people, hear us while we pray.

{A time of silent prayer}

Leader: That it may please thee to bless the whole family of humankind from one end of the earth to the other; to destroy every form of tyranny and superstition; to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death; to remember for good all rulers, and to bind all nations in unity, peace and concord,

#### People: we beseech thee to hear us, O God.

- Leader: That it may please thee to look with favor upon our country; to preserve to us the blessings of an equal and impartial freedom; to bring in upon us the righteousness of the kingdom of God, and so to control us by thy good Spirit that we may use our liberties only for thy glory and the welfare and progress of mankind,
- People: we beseech thee to hear us, O God.

Leader: That it may please thee to prosper the community in which we live and all its institutions; to bless every effort made in our midst to remove the causes of ignorance and crime; to raise the general level of comfort, and to give a higher standard to public and private life,

#### People: we beseech thee to hear us, O God.

Leader: O God of our forebearers, who from generation to generation hast watched over us in love, hear us now in hours of perplexity and need. Revive in all hearts a spirit of devotion to the public good, that strife and tumult may cease, and justice and truth be exalted. Enable the people of this nation and every nation to live in righteousness and good will, so that the coming of the kingdom of brotherhood and peace may be hastened, and thy will be done upon the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### People: Amen.

#### 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 PRAISE

*My Country, 'Tis of Thee"* 

♪ Red #441 Text: Samuel F. Smith One License #A-728042

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To thee we sing: Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

#### **OFFERTORY INVITATION**<sup>®</sup>

Leader: We have received blessings from God;

People: how will we show our gratitude?

Leader: We are called to give as we are able;

People: how will we respond?

Leader: We are invited to life that can be embraced only as it is shared;

People: how much are we prepared to give?

#### **RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS**



{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 United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

VOCAL OFFERTORY

#### *"Jesus Walked This Lonely Valley"* Soloist: Brian Keppley

{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 <sup>®</sup> (Leader)

O God, we pray that you will find our gifts acceptable. If we have not given according to what we have, we seek the courage to do so. May these gifts relieve suffering and reveal hope. May they give meaning to all who give and all who receive. We dedicate them, that those who have much may not have too much, and those who have little may not have too little. **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 <sup>2</sup>

Leader: Continue to excel in everything. Serve with eagerness, faith, and love. People: We seek to share the best that we know.

We want to pass on the love we have received.

Leader: Dare to be generous with your time and resources. The needs of others are not always apparent.

People: We are eager to reach out helping hands. We will share the riches of Christ with all whom we meet.

ALL: Amen.

\*BENEDICTION

\*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

Red #558

\*Sending Hymn

"God of Our Fathers"

Blue #809 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

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#### 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.

- <sup>①</sup> 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. (5) 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
- B Reprinted with Permission from Lecturn Resource. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
  Miller, Earl D. (1994). Consecrating Stewards. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
  The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

- The Rev. Mary Etta Mest

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#### Staff & Leadership

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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 30, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 6th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 *and* Psalm 130 *or* Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 *or* Lamentations 3:22-33 *and* Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

#### 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, July 7, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 7th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 and Psalm 48 or Ezekiel 2:1-5 and Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

#### Seasons and Special Services 443 MATERNA S. A. WARD, 1882 KATHARINE LEE BATES, 1895 C. M. D. Joyously, with dignity for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain, for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im - pas-sioned stress for he - roes, proved In lib - er - at - ing strife, 1. O beau - ti - ful 2. O beau - ti - ful 3. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the 4. O beau - ti - ful years For pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain! A thor-ough-fare for free - dom beat Who more than self their coun - try loved, A - cross the wil - der - ness! And mer - cy more than life! Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam Un-dimmed by hu - mar: tears! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on A - mer - i - ca!thee. A - mer - i - ca!A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw, A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold A - mer - i - ca!re - fine. A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace A - mer - i - ca! on thee, And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea! Con-firm thy soul in self - con-trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law! Till all suc-cess be no - ble-ness, And ev - ery gain di-vine! And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea! A-MEN.

## 139 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

The Lord's compassions are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23



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## God of Our Fathers 809

