

Morning Worship
September 27th, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Chimes

Greeting

Pastor Dennis W. Molnar

Prelude Music

Scripture Focus Matthew 21: 23-32

Call to Worship

Leader: Listen, O people, to holy teaching; tune your ears to hear God's word.

People: *We gather to proclaim our sacred story, to tell of God's wondrous deeds.*

Leader: Come, O people, into holy space to worship the Lord, our sustainer and guide.

People: *Let us turn to God in prayer and praise.*

Opening Hymn *The Church's One Foundation*

Glory to God #321

Scripture Reflection Philippians 2: 1-13

Call to Confession

Leader: God calls us to work in the vineyard which has been entrusted to us. Yet, how often we neglect to do God's will! Still, the Lord is faithful.

People: *Confident that mercy awaits us, let us confess our sin and pray for God to renew our minds and hearts.*

Prayer of Confession

Loving Lord, you desire that we have the same mind as Christ and imitate his compassionate service. But our minds are fixed on attitudes and ambitions that draw us away from you. We labor for ourselves and attend to the needs of a precious few before considering how our time and talents could bless the world. We look up to the rich and famous and overlook the lowly rather than affirming the dignity of all. Transform us, we pray. By your grace, give us the same mind and the same love as our Lord Jesus Christ, and work within us until our actions bear witness to the faith our tongues confess.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Beloved of God, hear the good news: The One who exalted Christ is at work in each of us—transforming our minds, healing our hearts, and setting us free to live according to God's purposes. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Statement of Faith

Leader: How is the church, through the Holy Spirit, to bring about God's reconciliation in society?

People: *God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In God's reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between sisters and brothers, and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it. Congregations, individuals, or groups of Christians who exclude, dominate, or patronize others, however subtly, resist the Spirit of God and bring contempt on the faith which they profess. (9.44a)*

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Hymn *Hear, O Lord, My Pleas for Justice*

GTG #211

Morning Message *"Re-sourcing Discipleship"*

Special Music *We Are Ready, God, to Sing*

Judy Bell, Pam Frost, John Gottschall, Monica Ide, Randy Ide, Jan Timmerman

Stewardship of Life Offerings *Peace and Global Witness Offering*

Intercessory Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn *We All Are One in Mission*

GTG #733

Sending & Benediction

Postlude

We welcome organist Bobby Neumeyer to our worship service this morning. Bobby is a graduate of the Duquesne University Mary Pappert School of Music. He is a staff arranger and accompanist for Pittsburgh Musical Theater and Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera.

A big Unity welcome and thank you to our guest brass musicians Tyler Evans and Ella Schiro from South Fayette High School, Lucia Palmer from Moon High School and her dad, Tim Palmer.

Many thanks to our music offering by the ensemble of voices today; Judy Bell, Pam Frost, John Gottschall, Monica Ide, Randy Ide, Jan Timmerman, under the direction of David Anderson and accompanied by Bobby Neumeyer.

The bouquets of flowers enhancing the chancel today are given to the glory of God by the YaSenka and Rieger families, in memory of Bill YaSenka, loving husband, father, and grandfather.

The roses by the baptismal font this morning are given to the glory of God in memory of Ed Sacco, who passed on to the Kingdom Triumphant on August 28th. The 29 roses are in recognition of their 29th Wedding Anniversary, which would be tomorrow, September 28th.

Mildred Gardner will be marking her 99th Birthday this coming Thursday, October 1st. Let's shower her with cards. Her address is 249 W McMurray Rd Rm 429 McMurray Hills Manor McMurray, PA 15317-2468!

Join Pastor Dennis for his first in a series of "Intercessory Prayer Practices" during the month of October this coming Thursday at 12:00 p.m. via Facebook Live, or watch it later via Facebook or the upload to our website. Each week Pastor Dennis will focus on a different Intercessory Prayer Practice, as we hold people, concerns, events, and all things before the Lord in prayer. This week the focus will be on "Praying for our Nation" as part of Pastor Dennis' call to prayer for our nation for 40 Days beginning today.

All three installments of the "Breath Prayer Spiritual Practice", by Rose Schrott are available on our Facebook page and the church website. We encourage you to continue to practice "Breath Prayer" for the well-being of your body, mind, emotions, and soul!

A Service of Dedication for the new Marilyn Hetzel Welcome Center was held last Sunday. Pastor Dennis and Elder Pam Frost visited with Marilyn this past Tuesday! They shared the video of the Dedication Service, the Notes and Cards everyone sent in, the Memory Book, a check for the funds that were donated for her, a card from the Leadership Team that included a copy of the check sent to the Foster Cat organization in Marilyn's and her cat CoCo's honor, along with a variety of other simple gifts. She was grateful and humble by the gifts and recognition. Thanks to all who contributed to this recognition for our beloved Marilyn.

The video of the Dedication Service of the Welcome Center for Marilyn is available on our Facebook page and church website.

As you can see by today's worship service, we are beginning to offer more music options for our worship together. Please contact our Director of Music, David Anderson by phone or text at 412-389-3838 if you would be willing to share your talents and abilities, during this time of worship transitions.

We are renewing our Sunday morning Adult Education Offerings next week. A Bible Study offering led by Arlene Crissman and a video study led by Roy Humphrey will be available for in person learning in the Fellowship Hall and the Chapel beginning at 9:00 a.m. Safe distance practices will be in place, including the wearing of masks to and from the designated areas. Please keep in your prayers:

Sally Petro, recovering from her second knee replacement surgery performed on Friday.
Paul Patterson now at home recovering and undergoing therapy for a broken femur.

Due to recent changes in Allegheny County precautions, we are limiting worship attendance in the sanctuary to 25 people. There is need to make a reservation. See the What's Up at Unity email or visit the Website to know how to reserve your presence in worship during each week.

Information about our procedures and protocol is available on our website. These include the wearing of masks, social distancing, no singing, and no gathering inside the church after worship. Please call 412-561-2431 if you have questions or need further clarity.

We are currently receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering through October 4th. This special offering of the P.C.U.S.A. goes to support extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. 25% of the offering goes to local peacemaking opportunities we as a congregation can engage in. "May the God of peace... give you peace at all times in all ways!"

Please be reminded that an easy and secure way to give is here! It's Realm Text Giving!

Simply text [upcpittsburgh](#) to 73256. You'll receive a text message in response, with your next steps. The process is simple, and your gift will be recorded immediately to your Realm profile.

Operation Christmas Child and Shoebox Packing is underway!

The Ministry of Operation Christmas Child is Alive and Well this year, just in a different form than we are used to!! **You can pack a box at the Church today, Sunday, September 27th 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday, September 28th, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29th, 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** Please make a reservation via Realm or call the office.

If you would like to help with shipping costs, \$9.00/box, we are accepting donations and we are providing bottles to collect quarters or loose change for the next several months. These are available in the vestibule of the church. Let's see who can beat the quarter collection we've started in the church office!

Last year, Unity filled 253 Shoeboxes and exceeded its 2019 goal! As a result, we decided to make our 2020 goal 350 boxes to be collected from members, family and friends. We have already filled over 150 boxes! There are four options this year:

Option A - You may fill a box online through the OCC website. It is a simple process that takes only a few minutes and a credit card. These boxes typically go to the "hard to reach" areas with the strictest customs regulations.

Option B - We have a supply of empty boxes available at the church. You can call the church 412-561-2431 and pick some up at the church or Terri Molnar would be glad to drop off at your home the number you want to fill and pick them up when they are ready,

Option C – Packing at the church. We will have an area in the transept set up where individuals and "family groups" may come to the church by appointment. We will have the usual supplies and items to pack boxes, but, unfortunately, we are not able to enjoy a large group atmosphere.

See Above

Option D- Donations for supplies or shipping will be gladly accepted. We have been purchasing at seasonal clearance sales and we started the year with a nice donation. Samaritan's Purse/OCC has also been generous in providing quantities of "start up" boxes, given the times we are in! Options A, B, and D can be done at any time.

If you are interested in any of these Options or want to make an appointment to pack at the church, reach out to Terri at molnarzoo@verizon.net or her phone 724-991-0848. Stay safe, wash your hands and please remember this ministry and the children it reaches in your prayers. We will have a Collection Week at Unity November 16-23, but it may look different.

Stewardship Snapshot

Special Note: As we practice social distancing, our ministries continue although procedures have been modified. We have worship on Sunday morning on Facebook Live, and we are able to watch it any time during the week since they are recorded. We have limited attendance at our services. We are not able to “pass the plate” during worship in the typical fashion. We rely on you to send your envelopes to the church in the mail, arrange for your bank to send your check to the church, make use of online giving (go to www.unitypresbyterianchurch.org , select the “Donate” button and follow the prompts) or you can even use our Facebook page which also has a Donate function.

Remember that even though we are not able to meet in person for worship, the missions of the church continue during this critical time.

Based upon the approved expense budget, Envelope Giving needs to be \$7921 per week without having to use other sources of income or reserves. The average weekly envelope giving was \$5921 or a little more than \$19/member.

A summary of giving through September 20 is shown below:

	Envelope Giving	Other Income	Total Income	Expense Budget	Unfunded Ministry
Year-To-Date	\$219,091	\$41,116	\$260,207	\$300,998	\$40,791

Actual expenses have been lower than budgeted for a number of reasons. Unfunded ministry will be lower than the original budget projected.

Thank you for your generosity.

CAPITAL FUND – When contributing to the Capital Improvement Fund, please mark your envelope and check so that we can allocate it to the proper account. Remember that the Birthday Fund is allocated to Capital. Remember the Birthday Fund. You have the opportunity to honor a member by donating \$1.00 for each year of their life. Monies go into the capital fund.

PER CAPITA- So far, 135 members have sent in their 2020 Per Capita for a total of \$4740. Our goal is \$11,000. We are ahead of last year at this time, but still have a long way to go.

FOOD PANTRY- This week \$175 was donated.

PASTOR PETEY'S COMMENT –My human says that love endures. I think he's right.

Stay safe and keep healthy. Woof

Please pray for the teachers related to the life of our Congregation as they begin a new school year using some new methods of teaching during this Season of Disease.

Craig Madge	Music Teacher at Upper St. Clair
Monica Ide	Teacher & Support Person for Connecting the Pieces
Leigh Growall	Speech Teacher in Pittsburgh Public Schools
Jennifer Johnson	Food Worker at Chartiers Valley
Terry Oberst	Substitute Teacher
Dawn Hicken	Support Teacher at Chartiers Valley
Colleen Tortorella	High School Counselor at Gateway High School
Megan Cummins	Special Education Teacher at McGuffey Middle School
Julie Rubritz	Preschool Teacher @ Bethany Presbyterian Church (Online)

Our Frontline Workers:

Cathy Schilero	Nurse at Cleveland Clinic (2 nd Cousin of Martha & Joanne Bald)
Ben Gery	Pittsburgh Police Officer
Brandon Stevens	Pittsburgh Police Officer (Joanne Kromer's grandson)
Jaime Gottschall	Respiratory Therapist
Jillian Figorski	Nurse in ICU at Jefferson Hospital
Ben Cunningham	Doctor in New York Hospital
Ted Schroeder	AGH Doctor
Michelle Clay	Physician's Assistant at McGee Hospital in Delivery Arena
Ashley Antonucci	Home Health Nurse
Meleanie Brown	CCU Nurse @ St. Clair
Walter Figorski	Director of Food Services /Parking a@ West Penn
Lauren Campbell	Traveling Nurse (Niece of Ron & Chris Brusceci)
Joyce Slater	Nurse @ St. Clair Hospital (Niece of Ron & Chris Brusceci)
Brooke Fuehne	Nurse in St. Louis (Niece of Ron & Chris)
Patti Allison	Nurse at West Penn Hospital
Leslie Raboin	Lab Technician dealing with Covid-19 (Niece of Ron & Chris Brusceci)