

"Knowing I'm not responsible for making the person feel, act, or respond in a particular way lifts a great weight off my shoulders. I just need to focus on listening, feeling, caring, and letting them know I understand. When I do that, I open the door for all those wonderful results to happen."

— Kenneth c. Haugk / Joel P Bretscher

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Nancy Townley

Leader: Sometimes we wonder how we have gotten

through some difficult situations.

People: God has been with us, lifting and

comforting our spirits.

Leader: We struggle and worry. We cry out in anger

and confusion.

People: God's loving presence sustains and

strengthens us even in doubts and fears.

Leader: Listen for God's call to you.

People: Lord, we are listening and seeking your

guidance.

*HYMN God Will Take Care of You UMH #130

> Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you; beneath his wings of love abide, God will take care of you.

Refrain:

God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way; he will take care of you, God will take care of you.

Through days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you; when dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you. [Refrain]

All you may need he will provide, God will take care of you; nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you. [Refrain]

No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you; lean, weary one, upon his breast, God will take care of you. [Refrain]

> Words: Civilla D. Martin (1904) Music: W. Stillman Martin (1905)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostle's Creed #881 UMH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church. the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins. the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

SCRIPTURE

James 1:27 (NRSV)

¹⁴ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of God for the People of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

SINGING OF FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20AM

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN - 9:40AM

HYMN

Stand By Me #512 vs 1

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me (stand by me); when the storms of life are raging, stand by me (stand by me).

When the world is tossing me like a ship upon the sea, thou who rulest wind and water, Stand by me (stand by me).

Words: Charles Albert Tindley (ca. 1906) Music: Charles Albert Tindley (ca. 1906) Arranger: William Farley Smith (1989)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from a writing by Ruth C. Duck

Compassionate God, we bring to you our concerns for our troubled world. Lead the nations to seek the peace of cooperation and sharing not the peace of threats and drawn swords...

We pray for victims of senseless violence, those that are killed or wounded, those who mourn, and those who have learned to fear...

We pray for those who labor, that they may receive just wages for their work. We pray for those who seek employment; give them your peace as they search, and guide them to places where they can engage their gifts and skills...

We pray for the church, that we might be instruments of your justice and peace. Lift up the orphan and widow that they might be embraced by a wider community of love. Offer all your Beloved Children shelter under your wing of care...

Grant healing and restoration to those facing physical challenges. Gratitude for the many ways you reveal yourself to us. Abiding trust that will only rely on your strength and wisdom...

Hear the silent cries of our hearts...

(Silent Prayers)

Hear us as we pray:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Share the good news with one another: The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

HYMN

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GIVING

*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

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.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:12 (NRSV)

¹² In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks Be to God.**

MESSAGE

The Gifts of Empathy Rev. David W. Brown

*HYMN

We'll Understand It Better By and By #525UMH

We are tossed and driven on the restless sea of time, somber skies and howling tempest oft succeed a bright sunshine; in that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away, we will understand it better by and by.

Refrain:

By and by, when the morning comes, when the saints of God are gathered home, we'll tell the story, how we've overcome, for we'll understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute
of the things that life demands,
want of food and want of shelter,
thirsty hills and barren lands;
we are trusting in the Lord,
and according to the Word,
we will understand it better by and by. [Refrain]

Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand all the ways that God could lead us to that blessed promised land; but he guides us with his eye, and we'll follow till we die, for we'll understand it better by and by.

Temptations, hidden snares, often take us unawares, and our hearts are made to bleed for a thoughtless word or deed; and we wonder why the test when we try to do our best, but we'll understand it better by and by. [Refrain]

Text: Charles Albert Tindley (1905)

Music: Charles Albert Tindley (1905), arr F.A. Clark (1906)

BENEDICTION

Adapted from a writing by Nancy Townley

Go in peace to serve the Lord. Remember the healing love that has taken place in your life. Be open to all the wonders and opportunities that God puts before you. Go in peace. In the name of the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. AMEN.

Liturgist at 8:20 – Mark Paluta Liturgist at 9:40 – Beth Eberle

Armstrong Bell Choir at 9:40 – directed by Chester Imhausen
Prelude: Andante Maestoso -Holst / arr McChesney
Offertory: Meditation on Beautiful Savior -arr Moklebust









^{*}Stand in body or in spirit





This fall we're super excited to team up with the 7th-12th grade youth from Sharonville UMC and Trinity UMC (in Milford) for a fall schedule filled with fun, service, and connection! Questions? Contact Carol Adams, Armstrong Chapel member and Sharonville UMC Youth Director at youth@sharonvilleumc.org.

- 9/29—Tailgate Party 11am-2pm @Armstrong
- 10/6—Youth Fellowship 6-8pm @Trinity
- 10/13—Youth Fellowship 6-8pm @Sharonville
- 10/15—Opportunity for service hours with Sharonville Trunk or Treat

5th Annual Period Packs Project

Women and girls of limited means often lack the funds for sanitary products. Still, they want to experience a period that is comfortable and free of embarrassment. When they lack the needed products, they frequently miss school or work. Last year, Armstrong Chapel served 260 women and girls.

To donate products (see the online sign-up for the complete list and volunteer opportunities on Saturday morning November 2), please go to https://bit.ly/3MzffO4 and let us know what items you'll bring in. We are requesting these specific products (and more listed online) to better accommodate the needs of our mission partners:

- Regular Size Sanitary Pads 22 or 28 count
- Regular Size Tampons 16 or 18 count
- Flushable Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer 2oz

If you can't find these items – or don't have time to shop for them – then we welcome your cash donation. Each PACK costs ~\$30. armstrongchapel.org/giving

Drop off products at the church office through October 20 between 9am to 2pm on M/T/Th, or in the designated bins in the Atrium on Sundays. (FYI: Incontinence products are NOT included in this effort.)

We will gift ALL Packs to our mission partners: John P. Parker School, Heritage Hill Elementary School, and Madisonville Education Assistance Center (MEAC).

To assist with collections or to ask a question, contact Shelley Bamberger shelleybresents@gmail.com or Jan Rogers jan@timetimer.com.



