

UNITED CHURCH ON THE GREEN

In the Heart of New Haven, Open to all Seekers



An Open and Affirming Congregation of
the United Church of Christ



We Gather as Church

*please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

*Chorale: Jesus meinen Zuversicht
(Jesus, my Assurance)*

Charles Zeuner
(1795—1857)

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please rise in body or in spirit as our worship begins. A deacon of the church will place the opened Bible on the pulpit, reminding us that the Word of God gathers the church and belongs to all God's people.

*HYMN 102

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come, let us worship our God with joy and thanksgiving: Everything in us says

All: Thank you!

Pastor: At worship in this sacred place we say it again:

All: Thank you!

Pastor: For your love, for your faithfulness;

All: Thank you!

Pastor: When earth's rulers hear what you have to say, O God, They'll sing of what you've done:

All: How great the glory of God!

Finish what you started in us, God.

Your love is eternal—stay with us, now, that we may say

All: Thank you!

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: Leadership and governance is on everyone's mind these days. Competing visions of the common good strive for our attention. Like the people of Israel, we may be tempted to seek rulers whose ways are not the ways of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: When we forget that God's ways lead all to the blessings of justice and mercy:

All: Lord have mercy.

Pastor: When we forget that God's ways lead all, especially the most vulnerable, to blessings of safety, health, meaningful work:

All: Christ have mercy.

Pastor: When we forget that God's ways lead all to the blessings of the shared abundance of God's beloved creation:

All: Lord have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Jesus reminds us: "Who is my mother, and who are my sisters and brothers? All those who do the will of God are my brother and sister and mother." In Christ we are forgiven all our failed efforts at community, and invited afresh to rejoin the family of God, seeking blessing for all.

* SUNG RESPONSE

Sing Amen

MASITHI

(Sing a - men:) A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:)
(Ma - si - thi:) A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:)

A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:) A - men, a - men,
A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:) A - men, Ba - wo,

a - men, a - men, a - men, we praise your name, O God.
a - men, Ba - wo, a - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa.

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture *Luke 10: 25-28* Joseph Saunders
Skit: Jesse Balkcom, Elias Hopper, Joseph Saunders, The Faith Formation Sunday Team
Scripture *1 John 4: 7-12* Joseph Saunders
The Message Translation

Open Dialogue Reflection Transitional Senior Pastor Bonnie Scott

MUSICAL RESPONSE *Etude No. 7* Heitor Villa-Lobos
Jesse Balkcom, guitar (1887—1959)

We Respond

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you... ***And also with you...*** Let us pray...

- Prayers for Bill Curran suffering from shingles
- George Lindsay scheduled for surgery June 1
- Barbara Hutchinson recovering at home
- Prayers for Alan Thayer's mother Ruth, recovering
- Prayers for Fred Walker, at home
- The people effected by last week's tornado
- The people of Ellicott City, MD
- The people of Noblesville, IN
- Those who have a birthday this week including, Gabriél J Atchison + Elaine Piraino-Holevoet

We Share the Sacrament of Holy Communion

HYMN #311

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

Pastor: Beloved in Christ

On the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death and appeared to Mary Magdalene. On that same day, he sat at the table with two disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. This table is for all who wish to know the presence of the risen Christ. Come to Christ's table not because you must, but because you may. Not as a stranger, but as one of God's beloved children. In the company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of bread. Let us eat and drink with joy!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Let us pray...

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died. Amen.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, the first time Jesus sat down to this meal, among those gathered there were: one who would doubt him, one who would deny him, one who would betray him, and they would all leave him alone before that night was over—and he knew it. Still he sat down and ate with them. If he ate with them, surely he's ready to eat with us—baptized or not, confessed or not, Christian or not, sure or not, believer or not, saint or sinner or a little of both. All you have to be to eat at this table is hungry; God will do the rest.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection, and for calling your church for its mission in the

world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you, as we join with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

***SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

All are invited to share communion, either by moving forward to stand around the table to receive a bit of bread to dip in the cup or by remaining in the pews, where a deacon will serve you. By tradition in this congregation, we hold the bread until all have been served so we may eat together. Note: We always use grape juice instead of wine, out of respect for those persons who are striving to live in recovery.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray: Loving and gracious God, with thanksgiving, let us now celebrate our new life in Christ, giving thanks to God our creator and sustainer. Thank you for Jesus Christ and his all-inclusive love for humanity. Thank you for this holy meal. May we serve you with open hearts. Amen.

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Our Father/Mother/God, 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.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Peace be with you... *And also with you...*

Call to Action

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY

Pastor Bonnie Scott

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor: St Paul writes of confidence in the power of God revealed in the resurrection of Jesus that must underlie a life of faithfulness and generosity: "I believed, and so I spoke". Today, let us believe, and give with generosity that God's goodness may be known in the world.

OFFERTORY

Lord, Listen To Your Children Ken Medema (arr. J. Schrader)

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray;
A door's gonna swing open and the walls come a-tumbling down,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.

You're gonna know it, when the Lord stretches out His hand,
And the people of the Lord get down to pray,
There's gonna be a brand new song of vict'ry in this land,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.

And all the people sang: *Refrain*

***SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW;
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST:
CREATOR, CHRIST, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Steward, Janyss Morse: Generous God, take our gifts this day and use them so that we may be part of your great work in this world. Through our giving, bring justice and love closer to all, not just in our community but in the world beyond these walls. Strengthen our church and the whole United Church of Christ so that we grow together each day into a powerful voice for healing and peace.

All: And Bless those who give and those who long to give, that we may become living stones of mercy, grace and justice in the house of your creation. Amen.

We Are Sent Out

***HYMN 329**

Now in the Days of Youth

DIADEMATA

***COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Fuga I

Charles Zeuner

PLEASE BE SEATED UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE MUSIC

Our Worship Has Ended. Let Our Service Begin!

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADER

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transitional Senior Pastor | Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott |
| Deacons | Al Forino, Rahteisha Pittman, Lisa Ann Koskelowski, Dan Rausch, Wayne Palmer, Carlos Sanchez, Kathryn Thomas |
| Steward | Janyss Morse |
| Director of Music | Caesar Storlazzi |
| United Church Choir | |
| Church School Teacher | Betty Baisden |
| Childcare Provider | Colleen O'Connor |
| Childcare Provider | She'mone Jenkins |
| Head Sexton | William Henton |
| Sexton | Brendan Linehan |
| Coffee Hour Hosts | Dale Richards, Jane Peng, Harlene Sullivan, Kristina Zallenger, George Lindsay |

THIS WEEK AT UNITED CHURCH

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 3rd: | 10:00AM Worship at United Church Meeting House 11:30AM ANNUAL MEETING in the Bradley Room 12:30PM Second Worship Service at the Meeting House 4:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) at the Parish House 5:00PM Shalom Congregation Worship and Potluck at Parish House |
| June 4th: | 12Noon AA at the Meeting House 7:30PM Adult Faith Formation at the Parish House |
| June 5th: | 12Noon Staff Meeting at the Parish House 12Noon AA at the Meeting House 4:30PM Amistad Committee in the Parish House 7:00PM Deacons Meeting at the Parish House |
| June 6th: | 8:30AM UCNS Parent Survey Breakfast at the Parish House 12Noon AA at the Meeting House 12:30PM Finance Committee Meeting at the Parish House 6:30PM NA Speakers Group at the Parish House 7:00PM Shalom Prayer Meeting at the Parish House |
| June 7th: | 12Noon AA at the Meeting House 5:30PM Joint Project Meeting at the Parish House 7:00PM Hope After Loss Meeting at the Parish House 7:30PM New Generation NA at the Parish House |
| June 8th: | 12Noon AA at the Meeting House 3:00PM UCNS Annual Picnic RAINDATE 5:00PM WE ARE Immigrant Art Project Reception |

CHURCH NOTES

Pastor Bonnie's Contact Information and Office Hours

Mondays: Sermon Drafting

Tuesdays: Office Hours

Wednesdays + Thursdays: Pastoral Calls and Visitation

(203) 787-4195 x104

dr.bonnie.scott@gmail.com

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Pastor Bonnie's Sermon Discussion Series: If you are interested in this Series, please contact the Pastor by phone or by email, so she can add you to the group. On Mondays, the Pastor will email the upcoming Sunday's scripture to the group. The group can then respond and join in the discussion by email.

Upcoming Surgery? New Baby or Grandchild? Moving? Death in the Family? If you've had a recent major life change, please contact the Pastor so that she can contact you and your family and provide appropriate Pastoral Care.

Dried Pasta

Going forward, we will be taking food donations once a month as part of our Communion Service. Please bring in your food offering on the first Sunday of each month or drop it off at the Parish House during business hours. In June, we are collecting dried pasta.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday June 3rd, 2018 (today) during Second Hour. Lunch will be served.

Agenda Items include:

Reports from all committees and from the Minister

Recognition of committee members ending their terms

Election of new committee members

Consideration of the proposed budget

Vote to accept Sean Patrick Coady as a Member in Discernment at United Church on the Green.

All other issues the congregation wishes to discuss.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.



**Welcome from
Pastor Bonnie Scott
United Church on the Green**

If no one has had a chance to tell you they are glad you're at United Church on the Green this morning, we are glad you are here!

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubt, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and to old friends.

Welcome to children, to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, and single people.

Welcome to families of all configurations, to young and old, to believers and questioners, to questioning believers.

Welcome to everyone!

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

At United Church on the Green, we seek to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, following in the footsteps of Jesus. We are also a progressive Protestant Christian church, a member of the nationwide United Church of Christ (UCC).

We have a long history.

- Established 1742. Meetinghouse was built in 1815.
- The Amistad Incident? Abolition of slavery? The 1970 Black Panther trials? Divestment in South Africa? United was there.

We believe God is still speaking to the world today... and we're trying to listen.

- Not a "The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it." kind of church. Questions encouraged. (Actually, they're necessary.)
- "Open and Affirming" of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people since 1989.

We are working with God to build a better future.

- Not interested in "saving souls" or "converting the heathen." God's love is for all.
- Trying to "connect the dots" to grow peace, justice, and compassion in the world.

Staff Contacts

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott, *transitional senior pastor*
Caesar Storlazzi, *director of music*
Betty Baisden, *director of the nursery school*
Jack Russell, *director of operations*
Nicole René Atchison, *church administrator*
Nancy Lupi, *financial secretary*
Rev. Louise B. Higginbotham, *minister emerita*

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United Church on the Green, UCC

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Worship Sundays @ 10:00am, corner of Temple & Elm

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