



Photo taken by JenniLynn

Order of Worship Reign of Christ / Thanksgiving Sunday

November 22, 2020

8:15 & 10:00 a.m.

Gathering of the Community

Welcome
Service Introduction and Announcements
Silent Prayer

Prelude "Now Thank We All Our God"

R. Kevin Boesiger

*Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

We glorify our God with songs of thanksgiving and joy.

God has done great things for us, filling us with grace.

God fed our ancestors in the wilderness, God clothes us with hope.

We will offer our hearts to God, always saying,

"Thank you!" to the One who loves us.

We will sing our praises, shouting of God's presence in our lives.

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2. He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

*Opening Prayer

Hot showers in the morning
and cool breezes in the evening;
work that provides for our families,
and abundance that makes us generous,
silly jokes told by third graders,
and the silent tears of a grandmother
lost in her childhood forever.
What blessings are ours, Creation’s Joy!

**Teachers who patiently keep us with our math,
and mentors who keep us on the right paths;
friends who shovel snow off sidewalks before we waken,
and employers whose hearts are greater than their profits;
piano teachers who smile at our repeated mistakes,
coaches who teach us (one more time)
how to curl the ball into the goal.
What blessings are ours, Servant of Joy!**

Dogs who bounce us awake early in the day
and cats who lullaby us to sleep at night;
grandfathers who teach us how to whittle
and sisters who give up a date to baby sit;
little boys who always forget to wipe their mouths
and folks who always remember to say “thank you.”
What blessings are ours, Joyous Spirit!

**God in Community, Holy in One,
thanksgiving is in every word we speak. Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word

Children's Time

Children's Hymn #712 v.1

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

Grand Isle

They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops or at tea;
for the saints of God, are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.

Psalm 100

NRSV

A Psalm of thanksgiving.

¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

² Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

³ Know that the Lord is God.

⁵ For the Lord is good;

It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

*Hymn #2177

"Wounded World that Cries for Healing"

Healing Spirit

1 Wounded world that cries for healing -
here we hold each other's pain,
wounded systems, bruised and bleeding
bear the load, the scars of strain;
dollars ration out compassion,
hard decisions rule the day,
Jesus of the healing Spirit,
free us to another way!

2 Through our nation's spent frustration,
through the corridors of stress
may there move a kindlier wisdom
all my feel, and all may bless;
tax and tithe are for a purpose
shared to shield the poor and weak;
past the symptoms of our sickness
let the voice of justice speak.

3 Honor those whose loving spirit
nurses hope, restores and heals,
towel and basin used in service
like the Christ who comes and kneels;
in the tending, in the mending
may we see the right and fair,
in our common quest for wholeness
heal each other by our care.

Sermon

"Blessed at the Beginning"

Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell

Invitation to Offering and Prayer of Dedication

the November Jingle is for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People Each prayer will end, “In your mercy;” please respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”

The Lord’s Prayer: Now, as we lift our hearts to you, God in Community, Holy in One, gather us into your presence, even as we pray, as we are taught, “**Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, who art in heaven...**”

Testimony of Thanksgiving

Li Luo

Reception of Member

With joy we receive: Li Luo
Carli Ficano, Sponsor

10:00 a.m.

Blessing of the Water for Reaffirmation of Baptism

Presentation of New Member by Sponsor

Questions for New Member and Sponsor

Questions for the Congregation:

Do you reaffirm your trust in God through Jesus Christ? If you do, please say, “**We do.**”

Will you welcome Li Luo who is before you now—by enthusiastically joining her in the practices of our faith? Will you learn alongside each other? Will you attend worship regularly? Will you grow in your prayer life and pray for this church? Will you grow in generosity by sharing your time, talent, and treasures and will you serve both within this church and beyond our walls? If you will, please say, “**We will.**”

Unison Blessing

Thank you God, for Li Luo. May she grow from strength to strength in her love and service to you. May you bless her and guide her on her journey. We ask all these things in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Response to the Word

*Hymn #381

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Bradbury

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

3. Thou hast promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.

4. Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

*Copyright: Call to Worship and Opening Prayer, Thom M. Shuman, Playing Hopscotch in Heaven © 2013.
Thank you to Jennifer L. Walsh for allowing use of her photograph.*

Thank you for your continued gifts and tithes to the church!



From the Green Team

Reuse Zippered Packaging

Numerous products come in re-closable plastic bags. Rather than automatically trashing them, reevaluate. If the bag has contained individually wrapped pieces or if it can be thoroughly washed, it can be reused. Simply add a masking tape label or use a marker to identify the new contents.

PRAYER LIST – November 22nd, 2020

Focus Rehab: Bill Pharr (1445 Kemble Street, Room 207, Utica NY 13501)

Kathryn Roffe is at Fox Nursing Home for rehab (2 Norton Ave, Oneonta, NY 13820

Ginny Pence is at home (138 Forest Lane, West Oneonta, NY 13861)

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please call the church office to talk to the secretary or leave her a message.

- Ramona Leavey asks for prayers for her family & friends
- Ramona Leavey’s friend Michael Joy
- David Jones, requested by Bhala Jones
- Mike O’Neill and family, requested by Scott Fielder
- Ramona is praying for people to gain an understanding of God.
- Ramona Leavey’s friend Betty Fischer
- Dick & Joyce Miller’s grandson, Ben Miller
- David and Tom Jones, Bhala Jones’ sons
- Phil Young, recovering from surgery
- Marsha Johnson, sister of Kayann, for multiple serious health concerns
- Cecilia Russell, for serious health concerns
- Flora Beth Cunningham

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: to *Jennifer Sorensen* on November 22; *Lindsey McGowan & Simon Miller* on November 23; *Martin Donnelly-Heg & Alexandra Loucks* on November 24; *Dylan Sorensen* on November 25; *Ashlyn Grimm* on November 26; *Denise Herrick* on November 27.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: *Allison Bookhout & Bruce VonHoltz* on November 26 as well as *Cathie & Peter Paluch* on November 26; *Jeanne & Steve Cherniak* on November 28.



This year we WILL be having the Giving Tree for Head Start children...in a new form. Because of COVID, everything is being done differently this year. I have been in conversation with the person from Head Start and with Pastor Marti and we have decided to go with Gift Certificates instead of the actual presents. Sorry to disappoint all you wonderful shoppers who get great joy from shopping and wrapping presents!! But think of the joy the parents will have being able to shop for their children.

Having done shopping for the little people in the past, I know I average about \$50 per child...and many of you must do the same from the packages I have seen donated.

There are 38 children, so our goal is to raise at least \$1,900. Any money given above and beyond will be used for the "Secret Santa Fund," a fund that covers requests that come in from caring parents in our congregation and beyond. SO...Please donate what you usually spend by sending a check to the church with Giving Tree in the memo...or use PayPal if that's your thing. If you have never done it before, but want to participate this year, we'll gratefully accept your donation, no matter what the size. **So far we have \$750 towards the goal of \$1,900. Deadline is November 30th.** Thank you and God Bless. Call 607-432-8751 if you have any questions.

As COVID-19 cases rise in NYS and the country, and with upcoming holidays meaning more indoor gatherings and increased risk of infection, the FUMC COVID Team wants to remind you that symptoms of COVID can be very mild, such as congestion, headache, or runny nose. If you develop any of these symptoms, please isolate yourself. Do not go to church, but instead please attend via Facebook Live or Zoom. If symptoms persist and you need to be tested, contact your healthcare provider. The New York State Health Department's informational hotline to locate Covid -19 testing sites is 1-888-364-3065. Bassett Hospital's Covid-19 information hotline is 607-547-5555.