

You Are Welcome Here!



**An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
of the United Church of Christ
in Germantown, MD**

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF SENECA VALLEY

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November 14, 2021

**Rooted In Love:
Rooted in Generosity**

10:00 a.m. Zoom

Our Mission

UCC Seneca Valley is an open and affirming, progressive and inclusive spiritual community that is centered in the belief that we are all beloved children of God. We seek to joyfully share Christ's message of hope through creative expression, deepening connections between people, advocating for justice, and serving our community.

Worship Participants

Greeter: Tim Fuss

Liturgist: Heidi Harmon

Pastor: Rev. Holly R. Jackson

Deacon: Jen Fuss

Director of Music Ministry: Stefan Petrov

Zoom Technical Support: Patrick Jackson

Instructions for Zoom Worship:

As you sit down to worship we encourage you to bring a candle (flame or electric). Keep your microphone on mute during worship unless told otherwise. Words in bold are meant to be said aloud at home with the Pastor or Liturgist who will say them on the Zoom call. Sing along at home to the sung responses and hymns. Use the chat box for the passing of the peace and prayer requests or other worship responses. Chat directly to individuals as appropriate. If you are having technical issues please send a chat message Patrick Jackson for help. The Zoom room opens at 9:30am and worship begins at 10.

Welcome & Announcements

Welcoming the Light into Worship – Light your candle at home

Prelude

Call to Worship

Liturgist: What have you brought to give today?

People: We have brought our hopes and our fears.

Liturgist: What have you brought to give today?

People: We have brought our joys and our sorrows.

Liturgist: What have you brought to give today?

People: We have brought our prayer and our voices.

Liturgist: What have you brought to give today?

People: We have brought our talents and our money. Let us give all of ourselves in this time of worship. Let us, with gratitude and joy, worship God!

Opening Prayer

Liturgist: Giver of life, you have sown love and hope in your world since creation. You have planted joy and kindness in our hearts and watered it with your patience. You root us in love and watch joyfully as we bear fruit. You shine your peace upon us, that even as we experience life's challenges, your gentle presence reassures us that you are in control. Let your Spirit of generosity fill our lives and stir our desire to share with others what you have so graciously given to us. Amen.

Opening Hymn

"In the Bulb There is a Flower"

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: The prayer of confession allows us to claim that we are works in progress, and there is beauty in that. We are seeds planted, rooted in love and sprouting towards the sun, until the drought comes, or the clouds gather, and we cannot figure out how to grow fruit. But the good news is that you don't have to be perfect here. You don't have to have it all figured out here. You just have to want to grow and flourish and honestly admit to all that gets in the way of doing that. In the silence of this moment let us hold on to that truth.

(A chime calls us to a moment of silence.)

Prayer of Confession

People: Gracious One, we confess that too often we give sparingly, yet expect to reap abundance. Too often we give the bare minimum out of fear that we do not have enough; other times we give sparingly because we believe our efforts do not make much difference. Forgive us, we pray, for not giving generously. Give us clarity to see our giving as our way of celebrating your goodness to us and our contribution toward caring for those in need in the world you love. Help us to trust you to supply what we need and give us the courage to share what we have, being fully confident of your continued provision. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Friends, know that forgiveness is available in abundance, “pressed down, shaken together, running over” (Luke 6:38). It will never run out. Receive forgiveness, be free from the fears that affect your giving and your living, forgive yourself and others as you have been forgiven this day. Feel yourself rooted in love and flourish.

Passing of the Peace

(We will drop out of the PowerPoint and unmute you. You are encouraged to wave, say Christ’s peace aloud, and/or write your offering of peace to all in the chat.)

Sung response to the Peace

“This Is the Day”

Children’s Time

Scripture

2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4

Sermon

Rev. Holly R. Jackson

Musical Meditation

Community Life and Concerns

(We will drop out of the PowerPoint here. Please feel free to write your prayer concerns in the chat box.)

God is good, **all the time.**

All the time, **God is good!**

Moment of Silence

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

(You are welcome to pray using the words below, or whatever words or version of this prayer is the most meaningful to you.)

**Our Creator in heaven,
hallowed be Your name.
Your realm come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer Response

Stewardship Moment

John Bartkowiak

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist: The invitation to bring our tithes, pledges, and offerings is an invitation to support one another, those within this community and beyond, to become all of what we are called to be. Our tithes, pledges, and offerings—both monetary and other—enable us to give thanks to God for the resources we have been given and enable us to be resources for others. This is how we remember that we are rooted in love even as we encourage our roots to grow deeper still and our fruits to overflow. Let us give generously and watch the miracles of God unfold in our lives and in our ministry together.

Offertory Prayer

People: May the gifts we offer today be dedicated to your work, O God: to save and change lives, to help people live with meaning and purpose, and to build a better world. As you have given freely to us, we return a portion to you with joy. Bless us and our gifts to be a blessing. Amen.

Closing Music

“The Temple Rang with Golden Coins”

Performed by George Benskin IV and Catherine Benskin

Extinguish the Light

Benediction

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Fellowship Time - Those who wish to stay and chat with others will be broken into small group breakouts to allow for more sustained conversation.

New to our Congregation? Have questions?

Please consider leaving us your contact information at

<https://forms.gle/Rjicc2jdMmzCgCFh8>

Greeters and Liturgists are needed always!

If you are available on Sundays, please consider signing up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a4a722a02-uccsv>