

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

Located: 13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD 20874
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March 27, 2022

**Let Love Rise:
Mixing & Kneading**

10:00 a.m.

In-Person & Livestreamed through Zoom

Our Mission

UCC of 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

Online Greeter:	TBD
Liturgist:	Clarisse Lin
Usher(s):	Shelly Moore
In-Person Deacon:	Jen Fuss
Zoom Deacon:	Asher Beckwitt
Pastor:	Rev. Holly R. Jackson
Bread Offering:	Deb Anderson
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). For Communion Sunday please have bread or a cracker and juice or wine with you as you sit down to worship. Keep your microphone on mute during worship unless told otherwise. Use the chat box for the passing of the peace and prayer requests or other worship responses. Chat directly to individuals as appropriate.

Welcome & Announcements

Welcoming the Light into Worship – Light your candle at home

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Liturgist: We have come today to find community.

People: We come together to find “us.”

Liturgist: We have come today to find God.

People: We are seeking God’s love and grace.

Liturgist: God is ready to knead us together as one.

People: In gratitude and hope, we are ready to worship God.

*Opening Prayer

Liturgist: Giver of life, we center ourselves - body, mind and spirit - to listen today with an attitude of generosity and gratitude. We pray that faith, hope and love would fill us and our faith community, so that it carries into our neighborhoods and out across the world which you so lovingly created. Indeed, Let Love Rise in all that we say and do. In the name of the one who showed us what love is, Amen.

*Opening Hymn

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

#331

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Accountability and truth is needed for growth. God does not want us to wallow in guilt or drown in despair and shame. Instead, in this time of confession let us remember what we need to let go of, or heal from, in order to truly be whole, as individuals and as a society. Imagine God knowing we have fallen flat, and yet over and over again kneading the yeast of love into our lives until we rise again. Let us offer God the truth of our lives first in silence and then in unison prayer. *(A chime calls us to a moment of silence)*

Prayer of Confession

People: Gracious God, we don’t always know how to be “us.” We forget that we are connected to each other and to all people through your love. We run away from that connection. We are tired and don’t want to do the work to address abuse, injustice, and brokenness. Forgive us, and hold us again in the palm of your hand. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: God’s grace and goodness abound! We are forgiven! God will answer every knock, forgive every debt and trespass, and fill every day with the abundance of bread. God works tirelessly for our well-being and, in God’s peace, we are drawn together.

*Passing of the Peace

***Sung Response**

"Let Us Break Bread Together on our Knees"

***Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.***

Message for All Ages

Scripture

Luke 13:20-21, Luke 11:1-13

Contemporary Reading

"On Approaching Seventy" by Joan Seliger Sidney

Sermon

Rev. Holly Jackson

Hymn

"O Grant Us, God, a Little Space" #516 (vv1-3, 5)

Community Life and Concerns

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

"As the Grains of Wheat"

#783

***As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread,
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.***

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist: Like the mill working to grind flour, God is at work in the world- making all things more bearable and nourishing. We are at work in the world as well,

laboring alongside God for love and justice. In this time of offering, we share the fruits of our labors for God's transformation.

Offertory Prayer

People: We offer these gifts, O God, in the spirit of love. May the gifts that we offer this day embody our loving response to your great love for us. Through these gifts, may others feel the love of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

***Closing Music**

"More Love to You O Christ"

#456

***Extinguish the Light**

***Benediction**

Postlude

***Stand in Body or Spirit**

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Fellowship Time - Each week during Lent, friends in the community will share baked bread, coffee/tea, and conversation in the Gathering Room or on the side portico (weather permitting) immediately after worship.

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

[UCC of Seneca Valley: UCCSV Worship Support \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/UCCofSenecaValley/WorshipSupport)

Donating to UCCSV is Easy!

Please consider donating to UCC of Seneca Valley to support the vital ministries for the greater Germantown community and the wider UCC church!

- **Online via PayPal:**

[United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley - Donate \(uccsenecavalley.org\)](https://uccsenecavalley.org/donate)

- **Text "Give" to 301-720-1980** (first time givers will need to input credit card information).