

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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June 6, 2021

Children and Youth Sunday
Looking Back and Imagining Tomorrow

10:00 am 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: To Be Determined

Liturgist: UCCSV Children and Youth

Pastor: Rev. Holly R. Jackson

Deacon: Tim Fuss

Director of Music Ministry: Stefan Petrov

Zoom Technical Support: Patrick Jackson

Instructions for Zoom Worship:

As you sit down to worship bring a candle (flame or electric) and bread or a cracker and juice or wine for communion. 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 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: Get up, wake up, come on everyone!

People: Today has begun, don't miss a thing!

Liturgist: The music rises in our hearts. We feel the beat and join the rhythm.

People: Sing! Dance the wonder, sing the rhyme!

Liturgist: We'll call the sun into the sky.

People: We'll raise the roof with our praise. We'll shout our thanks for all to hear!

Opening Prayer

Pastor: God is calling you! Even before you were born God knew you, and chose you. And now we hear again God's call on our lives. The call of God comes in 5 parts, and we are going to use the 5 fingers on one hand to help us remember this. We start with our thumbs. Hold on to your thumb. Call number one is this: God calls you because God loves you, just as you are. Call number two, hold your first finger: God calls you into a family, the church, where you belong, where you are important. It matters how we treat each other. The third part of God's call is the call into God's big story. God calls you to be a part of God's beloved community through every time and place, throughout history. Number four, hold your ring finger and remember that God calls you to lead and serve and God gives you whatever you need to do this. And finally hold your little pinky as a reminder that God is always calling you to keep growing, no matter how old you are. Following Jesus is an adventure until the end of our days on this earth. Amen.

Opening Hymn

"This Little Love of Mine"

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: We don't always get everything right, and when that happens, sometimes we hurt other people or ourselves. God knows that, and wants to help us make things right. We start by telling God the whole truth. Let us now pray to God about those things. We begin with the sound of a chime that helps to center us in a moment of silence.

(A chime sounds.)

Prayer of Confession

People: Dear God, sometimes I make mistakes. Sometimes I hurt someone else because I am angry or mean. Sometimes I get frustrated and I don't want to share. Sometimes it's hard to love other people. Dear God, I want to be kind and thoughtful. I want to be loving and generous. Help me to live that way. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor: The good news of the Gospel is that God knows all our mistakes and forgives us for them. Jesus shows us a better way to live with love and peace towards all.

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.)

Musical Response

Fur Elise by L. van Beethoven (arr.)

Milan Yu

Scripture

Matthew 5:14-16

Reflection

Musical Response

Ubi Caritas

Clarisse and Miranda Lin

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

Jesus Loves Me

Tucker Singletary

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist: This moment in worship is a time where we do something extraordinary. We take our everyday ordinary lives – our sleeping, eating, going-to-work and school lives – and place them before God as an offering. We embrace what God has done for us and do our best to give back so that others are taken care of and can come to know God as we do. This morning's offering will now be received.

Offertory Prayer

People: Giving God, you give us everything we have our homes, our food, our families, even our lives. All that we own and all that we are comes from you. So we now thank you for our generosity by sharing our time, our talents, and our money with others in need. Use these gifts to show your love to people throughout the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

Communion Liturgy

Child: Who can come to this table?

People: All are invited to this table.

Child: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Child: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Child: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Child: Why do we give thanks at this table?

Leader: We give thanks for God's creation for making us in God's image. We give thanks because God never gives up on us, no matter what. We give thanks because when it was time, God sent Jesus, God's child, to show God's love for us.

Child: What do we remember at this table?

Leader: We remember Jesus, God's child: Jesus healed the sick and restored sight to the blind; Jesus welcomed children and ate with outcasts. Jesus fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and treated strangers as friends. Jesus said love was stronger than fear and life was stronger than death. On Easter Jesus rose again so we could too.

Child: Why do we eat bread at this table?

Leader: On the night that he gave himself up for love and justice, Jesus was having dinner with his friends as he usually did but this time something was different. Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his friends saying, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Right now take your bread lift it up in front of you and break it in remembrance of Jesus, now put it back down on your plate.

Child: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

Leader: After supper Jesus gave them the cup as the promise of our relationship with God. "Take and drink," he said. "This is the cup of the new covenant poured out for you and for all people. Whenever you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me. Right now take your cup and lift it in front of you to bless it then put it back down next to the bread.

Child: But this is just everyday bread and grape juice and wine.

Leader: God is especially good at making simple everyday things really meaningful and holy. Let us pray that God will do that with this bread and juice and wine right now. Put your blessing hands out over the bread and cup: Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit to be with us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup that the bread we break and the cup we bless may bring us closer to Jesus and Jesus closer to us. Amen.

Now you may share the bread and juice with your family or by yourself. Offer it to one another (or to yourself) saying something like, "This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the cup of blessing shared with you." Then dip your bread in the cup and eat it or eat your bread and drink what is in your cup.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

People: Thank you God for this special meal. Let us remember how it felt to be close to you and to each other in this moment. Be with us always as we go back out in to the world. Amen.

Closing Music Live Out Loud from "A Little Princess" by A. Lippa Chloe Jackson

Extinguish The Light

Benediction

"Call to Worship" and "Opening Prayer" adapted from prayers by Silvia Purdie. Hymns and lyrics reprinted and streamed under ONE LICENSE # 724117-A. All Rights Reserved.

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 or have questions? Please consider leaving us your contact information at <https://forms.gle/Rjicc2idMmzCgCFh8>

Greeters and Liturgists Needed ASAP

If you are available on Sundays, please consider signing up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a4a722a02-uccsv>

Pastor Holly's Front Porch Hours are Back!

Join Holly on the church porch from 3:30pm-5:30pm on Thursday afternoons. She'll be there just hanging out waiting for whoever wants to come by and chat. It's been a long winter but warm weather and vaccines meeting together on the porch or in the prayer garden is safer than ever and much needed for many. You can have a topic you want to talk about or just come by to say hi and reconnect. If you can't make Thursday afternoon but still want to talk to Holly (for any reason including just reconnecting after this long winter) please reach out to her by text or email and we'll find a time to meet that works with your schedule either at church or a place of your choosing.

Congregational Meeting, Today After Worship

Today after worship we will be having our bi-annual Congregational Meeting on Zoom. At this meeting we will elect and install a new slate of church leaders (more on that to come), review our church's journey these last months including a brief financial update, and hear a presentation on our recent church survey responses and how they impact our future including what that means for hybrid worship that includes both online and in-person worship on Sunday mornings.

A Card Ministry for UCCSV

Calling all creative types, and the rest of you. Please help us make cards for the Card Ministry on June 13, 1:30-3:30. We will be meeting in the Gathering Room at the church. Susan Percy will show us a fingerprint design technique. Use that or design your own card. We will have plenty of supplies but feel free to bring your own craft materials too. It is an exciting new ministry for our church. Contact Jeanne Springmann if you have questions.

Upcoming Sunday Worship at UCCSV

June 13 - Pride Sunday and Outdoor Vespers at 5:30pm

June 20 - Rev. Suzanne Adele Schmidt preaching

June 27 - Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath preaching