

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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June 12, 2022

Pride

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:	Julia Schucker
Usher(s):	TBD
In-Person Deacon:	Tim Fuss
Zoom Deacon:	Camila Young
Pastor:	Rev. Holly R. Jackson
Music Support:	Beth Lauriat, Bethany Fuss
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

(*Stand in Body or Spirit)

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: We gather as one across many lands, in many sacred spaces we set our own tables of welcome.

People: Thanks be to God for places of welcome.

Liturgist: We are united by the past struggles of our community and ones to come in the future.

People: Thanks be to God for places of struggle.

Liturgist: We look toward a future as bright as the many colors of the rainbow.

People: Thanks be to God for places of dreaming.

Liturgist: We imagine a world filled with the strange, the sacred, the queer, the peculiar, and the awe-filled – and everywhere we turn, from the spotless lady bug, to the four leaf clover, to our own hearts we find the wonder-ful.

People: Thanks be to God for places of wonder. Thanks be to God.

***Opening Prayer**

Liturgist: God of love, sanctify this space today;

Our own sacred and holy spaces – the tables where we find you, the closets where we find ourselves in you, the relationships where we come to know you more.

Make the spaces where each of us finds ourselves today a reflection of your love and grace.

God of rainbows, today we celebrate the many colors by which we all gather;

The colors that shape our identities

The many colors that make up our flags

The many colors that make up our bodies

Let us find that each of these shades is a reflection of your love for us.

In the name of Love, Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

“O For A World”

#575 v. 1-3

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Sometimes we make mistakes. Sometimes we do things we shouldn't do. Sometimes we even forget or fail to do some things we know we should do.

In those moments we may feel guilty or sad or angry at others or ourselves.

When we come to church, we get to admit our mistakes. Not to feel badly about them, but to be forgiven and to learn from them. God loves us and wants to help us make the world a better place and to be happy ourselves. In this time, we are honest with God and know we are forgiven. We start with quiet when we hear the sound of the chime. *(A chime calls us to a moment of silence.)*

Prayer of Confession

People: Holy One, we acknowledge the diversity in this amazing world, created in atoms and molecules but with an underlying spirit of mystery. But God we must admit that, at times, we have forgotten of the wonders of that diversity. We have longed for things to be familiar and as they have always been. We know that the great religious traditions have caused harm in the past and continue to cause harm and pain to those who express their being in ways different than the majority. We know, too, that we individually, both intentionally and unintentionally, have rejected and shunned those who are not like us. For this we are truly sorry and ask your patience as we learn and strive for ways to be more inclusive and celebrate all in this wondrous world.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: You know what?!! You're forgiven. And you're forgiven. And you're forgiven. God says you are loved. Start again and find joy in God's mercy. Let's raise our hands to God in praise.

***Passing of the Peace**

***Sung Response**

"There's a Spirit of Love in this Place"

*There's a spirit of love in this place,
there's a spirit of love in this place.
You can't see it but it's there,
just as precious as the air.
There's a spirit of love in this place.*

*O alleluia, sing alleluia!
We bless your holy name.
O alleluia, sing alleluia!
There's a spirit of love in this place.*

Scripture

Psalm 8, Romans 5:1-5

Contemporary Reading

A Pride Affirmation

by Rev. Don Uhryniw

Sermon

Rev. Holly R. Jackson

Hymn

"Community of Christ"

#314 v.1-3

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

"Here Are Our Hearts"

***Here are our hearts, here are our hands
Here are our lives, use them as you can.
Show us those who hurt. Show us those in need.
Show us how to serve. Teach us how to see.***

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist: Since its beginning, the church was meant to be a place of chosen family—a community of outcasts and outlaws, dreamers, prophets, and humble disciples of Love. In the company of Divine Presence, we create belonging and nurture justice. With gratitude for the sacred labors of love in this place, let us bring our offerings to God and one another. We invite you to share God's abundance—in person in the offering plates at the doors as you leave here today or online or by text or in any way that you feel called to do so.

Offertory Prayer

People: Beloved One, we offer our thanks for the holy witness in the lives of LGBTQIA+ and Two-Spirit people. In queer love and in trans and intersex bodies, we experience Christ enfleshed. In the faith of those who have been persecuted by the church, Christ is revealed. In the practices of community, of love that takes risks, and of telling the truth—even when it's costly—Christ lives on. In gratitude for these and all the sacred gifts of the LGBTQIA+ and Two-Spirit community, we give our thanks and offer these gifts. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

#391 v.1-3

***Extinguish the Light**

***Benediction**

Postlude

(*Stand in Body or Spirit)

*Call to Worship and Opening Prayer by puck glass
(<http://disciplesallianceq.org/welcoming-worship-pride/>), Offertory Invitation and
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Fellowship Time - Each week after worship we will share in snacks, 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://www.uccsenecavalley.org/donate)

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