

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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July 12, 2020

Virtual Vacation with God: The Beach

10:00am 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: Jeanne Springmann

Liturgist: Sabine Cox

Pastor: Rev. Holly R. Jackson

Deacon: John Bartkowiak

Director of Music Ministry: Stefan Petrov

Zoom Technical Support: Patrick Jackson

Instructions for Zoom Worship:

We invite you to come to worship with a candle to light. This can be a real flame or an electric candle. Since we're on a virtual vacation at the beach this morning feel free to wear beach wear or have your beach gear with you.

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. Close all non-essential programs on your computer and silence all notifications so you don't become distracted. 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: We invite the oceans to worship with us.

People: The deep sea currents and coral reefs, the mountain peaks on the ocean floor.

Liturgist: We call the surging seas to celebrate with us.

People: The icebergs that break off from the South Pole, the calm waters that caress the equator.

Liturgist: We join all ocean life in songs of praise.

People: Whales and dolphins dancing on the surface, and choirs of angel fish assembled below.

Liturgist: We summon the seashore to magnify the Lord.

People: The pelican, the stingray, the silver gull, the white caps and waves that splash in praise.

Liturgist: Oceans, seas and watery deeps,

People: Celebrate with all that lives within you, and roar in praise with us today.

Liturgist: Roar, ocean, roar!

People: Roar, roar in praise. We celebrate the song of the ocean and the one who created it. Roar, ocean, roar!

Opening Prayer

Liturgist: O God, we gather at your waters,
as a hot and bothered crowd gathers on the beach
on a sweltering, summer day.

O God, we drink at your fountain,
as a parched dog laps at the fresh,
running water of a bush creek.

O God, we await your refreshment,
as a tired worker watches for the change of shift.

Quench our thirst, satisfy our longings.

May we be refreshed and restored in you;

and teach us where to find the bucket and how to carry it
so that we might draw that water for those who most need it. Amen.

Opening Hymn “In the Midst of New Dimensions”

***In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways.
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?***

***God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever,
now and ever, now and ever more.***

***As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams***

***God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever,
now and ever, now and ever more.***

Confession

Liturgist: On this day which God has made, which God has given to us, we pause. We consider our hearts and hands, the good we have left undone, the harm we have caused, the ways we have been complicit in tearing the fabric of community. On this day which God has made, we are loved and grace awaits us. Let us begin first in silence and then in unison prayer.
(A chime calls us to a time of silence.)

People: Gracious God, save us from ourselves.

**We continue to do the same things over and over,
expecting different results.**

Mighty One, save us from doing too much.

**We go fishing every day,
not noticing you waiting with a meal on the beach.**

Holy Presence, save us from doing too little.

We say we love you, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.

Jesus, save us from ourselves.

Help us to hear and respond when you say, "Follow Me." Amen.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Rest and renew yourself in that knowledge that God hears our confessions and sends us peace. God knows our brokenness and sends us healing. God feels our exhaustion and sends us the Spirit to hold us up. You are forgiven and given a chance to begin again. Thanks be to God!

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 –

*When peace, like a river, upholds me each day,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Children's Message

Scripture John 21:1-14

Contemporary Reading “While Walking on The Beach”
by Ralph P Quinonez

Reflection

Musical Response

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.**

Sung Prayer Response -

***In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
you may have all this world, give me Jesus.***

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist: As we give we may be reminded of a grain of sand on the beach. What we give doesn't seem like all that much more than a grain, insignificant by itself. But when we give together all of our offerings to God pile up one upon another until they stretch before us in a line that reaches to the horizon, abundant with hope. This morning's offerings will now be received.

Offertory Prayer

People: God of grace, we know you want justice rolling down like water. Accept these gifts from our hands, which we cast upon the waters of your love, a generous ever-flowing stream feeding the hungry and helping those in need. Accept these gifts for the work of your church. Amen.

Closing Music

“Beautiful Beach Spring”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWCDBt4ifQk&pbjreload=101>

Benediction**Extinguish The Light**

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

“Confession” written by Rev. Nathan Decker. “Opening Prayer” by Anita Monro. Hymns and lyrics reprinted and streamed under ONE LICENSE # 724117-A. All Rights Reserved.

New to our Congregation or have questions? Please consider leaving us your contact information at <https://forms.gle/Rjicc2jdMmzCgCFh8>

Parents of Children and Youth

Here are some great coloring and activity pages for children and youth to complete while listening to worship. There is also a word search at the end of this bulletin.

<http://clipart-library.com/summer-beach-coloring-pages.html>

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/tropical-beach-0>

Social Justice Yard Signs

Signs declaring we believe that Black Lives Matter, No Human is Illegal, Love is Love, Women’s Rights are Human Rights, and other similar sentiments are available for \$20. This is a Social Action Board fund raiser. Please contact John Bartkowiak at jbinmd@gmail.com if you're interested in a sign.

Mindfulness Sessions on Mondays at 7pm

Ruel Billones will lead mindfulness sessions on Mondays from 7-8pm via Zoom. Please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45adaf28aaf85-mindfulness>

or contact Beth Lauriat at balauriat@aol.com for more information.

The Lord's Prayer UCCSV Edition

The Lord's Prayer, also known as the prayer of our Savior or the "Our Father/Mother/God," has been a central part of Christian worship for centuries. Since it is derived from Jesus' instructions to the disciplines when they asked him how they should pray, it is a powerful piece of witness when said out loud. But the exact wording of this key prayer has always been somewhat contested; different translations of the text use different words, for example "trespasses" versus "debts" versus "sins." but the important thing is the spirit of the prayer, and not the exact wording, and that's why we in this community say the prayer together the way that we do: people use the words that are most meaningful for them, and we wait for one another.

This is a lot more difficult to do over Zoom, as I am sure that you have noticed! In person we can make adjustments a little more easily, so we all stay roughly together in the prayer even as some of us say, for example, "lead us not into temptation" while others say "lead us not into the time of trial." But when we each pray the prayer in our own way at the same time, it makes a very powerful statement about the core values of diversity and inclusion in our community: different versions are both welcomed and celebrated.

What I would like to do is to produce a virtual version of our intentionally diverse common prayer practice. As Stefan has done with our "virtual choir" performances, I plan to layer different audio and video clips on top of one another in order to recreate the melodious cacophony we get when we pray this prayer together in person. But I can't do this without your help. I need you — yes, YOU — to record yourself saying this prayer in your own way, and send me the resulting audio or video (I can use either). You can record on your computer, or on your phone in "landscape" orientation (turn it on its side). Best to do this inside or in a relatively quiet place outside, so that the audio quality is good. If you would like I can even meet you on Zoom and talk you through the recording process live.

If you are able to be part of this project, please get in touch with me at onyxdr@mac.com and I will give you further instructions about how to get

your audio or video to me. Then I'll put them all together and produce something we can use in future worship services. I'd like to get the audio and video clips by Friday July 18th.

-Patrick Jackson

Zoom Worship Volunteer Opportunities

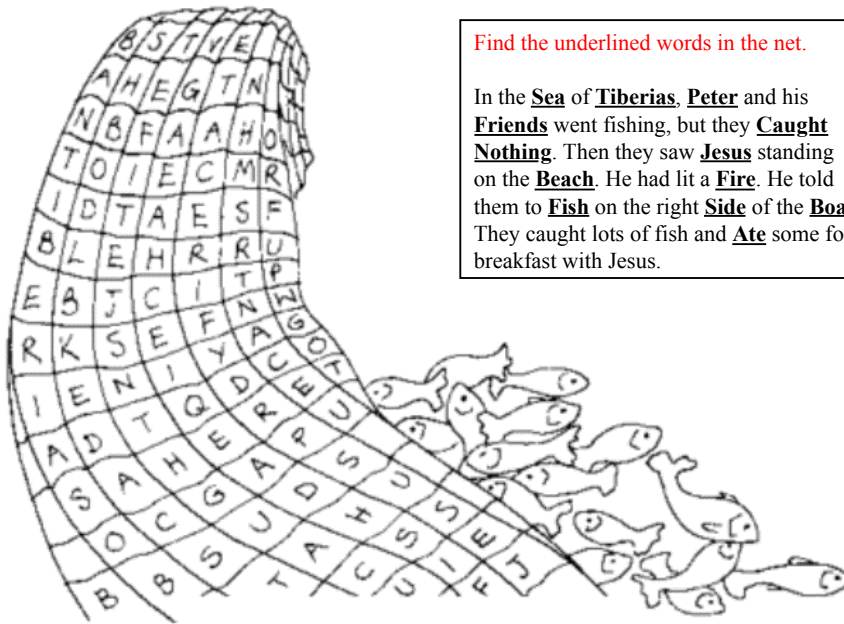
If you would like to help lead our Zoom worship experience there are ways you can help. We still need a "Greeter" and a "Liturgist" every Sunday. Greeters will welcome people as they come into the meeting before worship by voice or by chat and help by supplying important web links in the chat box. Liturgists will lead the service with Holly. We also welcome musical video offerings of instruments or voice that we can use during worship. In addition, we welcome pictures of our congregation during this time apart. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a4a722a02-uccsv>

In Person Pastoral Visits

Now that the weather is improving it is possible to do pastoral visits outside in a safe way. Pastor Holly is available to meet with you in the prayer garden (or in your yard if you can't get to the church). Visits will observe proper social distance and include masks, but are a way to connect in person. You don't even have to have a topic to discuss! This is just a way to feel a little more connected and normal again. Please email HollyRJackson@gmail.com to make an appointment.

[Print This Page](#)

Jesus Appears At The Sea Of Galilee John 21:1-17



Find the underlined words in the net.

In the Sea of Tiberias, Peter and his Friends went fishing, but they Caught Nothing. Then they saw Jesus standing on the Beach. He had lit a Fire. He told them to Fish on the right Side of the Boat. They caught lots of fish and Ate some for breakfast with Jesus.

Calvary Kids Pages