Third Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Congregation is invited to respond as indicated in **bold**

* Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Morning Song

arr. David Ferriera

Welcome

* Song

"Because You Live, O Christ"

1 Because you live, O Christ, the garden of the world has come to flower, the shadows of the tomb are flooded with your resurrection power.

2 Because you live, O Christ, the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying, our cages of despair no longer keep us closed and life-denying, will draw all human-kind to adoration.

3 Because you live, O Christ, the rainbow of your peace will span creation, the colors of your love. The stone has rolled away and death cannot imprison! O

Sing this Easter Day, for Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen, has risen!
* Sharing the Peace of Christ

Scripture  
**Acts 9:1-6**

A Time With Kids

Moment for Mission  
Strengthen the Church

A Time of Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Personal Prayer

A Time of Responsive Prayer  
**“God, in your grace,”**  
**“You hear our prayer.”**

Scripture  
**John 21:1-19**

Message  
**Peter and Paul and You and Me**

A Time of Offering

Invitation

Offertory  
**Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**  
arr. Michael Wilson

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer, including The Prayer Jesus Taught:  
**Our Father, who is in heaven: hallowed be your name. Your kingdom 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. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup  
*This is an appropriate time for you to prepare your own elements.*

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanks

* Song  

**“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
2. Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone,
3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
   
   bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
   teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
   gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man-u-el) everywhere!

   **Refrain** (first time p, second time f)
   C C7 F Dm G

   Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
Announcements

Blessing

Postlude  Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ  arr. John Carter


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Those assisting with worship:
Sarah Reckmeyer, piano
Donna Martin, flute
Peg Breslin, reader
Meredith Martin Olsen, communion preparer
Sharon Loudon and Steve Malinsky, counters of our gifts
Dee Dressler, Donna Martin, Mike Thorp, Mary Malinsky,
Sarah Reckmeyer, Sharon Karasti, tech team

Welcome to Open Table
United Church of Christ!

No matter who you are
or where you are on life’s journey,
YOU are welcome here.

Welcome to Open Table United Church of Christ. We are an open table where all are welcome. We celebrate diversity, nourish and serve others, work for justice, and grow together in faith through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the voice of the still-speaking God.

Open Table UCC continues to ask those coming into the church building to remain socially distant from staff and others present who are not from their household, wearing a mask is optional. We are offering hybrid worship, meaning you are welcome to come to in person worship or join us through Zoom in the comfort of your home, with the exception of the last Sunday of the month which is a Zoom only offering.

Today, we will share the meal of Holy Communion. At Open Table UCC, we celebrate an open table where all are invited to eat the bread and drink the wine or juice as we remember the life and death and resurrection of Jesus and offer thanksgiving for God’s amazing love. If you are worshipping from home, please gather some bread, crackers, water, juice or whatever you have at hand.

We hope you find our church family warm and welcoming, and that you experience worship as meaningful and spiritually uplifting. We are an Open and Affirming congregation, and we take seriously our commitment to create a worshipping community where ALL people feel welcome, affirmed, and valued. Please stay and join us after worship for an opportunity for fellowship. And please, when you are ready, share with us your contact information so that we can keep you up-to-date on all the exciting things happening at Open Table UCC!
Today 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
6:00 p.m. Book Study
5/2 - Monday 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Music Lessons
4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. IVYSO Practice
5/3 - Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor’s Office Hours
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Youth Outlook
5/4 - Wednesday 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor’s Office Hours
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Music Lessons
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Music Lessons
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
5/5 - Thursday 3:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study
5/6 - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Music Lessons
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Plant Sale
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Music Lessons
5/7 - Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Plant Sale
5/8 - Sunday 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship
12:00 p.m. Second Sunday Lunch
6:00 p.m. Book Study
5/9 - Monday 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Music Lessons
4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. IVYSO Practice

Our May Mission of the Month is Strengthen the Church, building up the UCC by providing the financial resources to be a Spirit-inspired and world-changing Christian movement. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given to support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry and innovation: all strategies needed as we work through this current challenge and beyond. Gifts given to Strengthen the Church Renew the United Church of Christ! When sharing your gift please write STC in the memo section of your check, if giving online through our website ("Donate") or Facebook page ("Learn More"), make a note in the memo or notes section that the donation is for STC.

Conferences in the UCC work to support leaders, connect congregations, engage youth and young adults, and to imagine together a just world for all. And the Strengthen the Church offering makes this revitalizing work possible.

In the Penn Northeast Conference, we utilized Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering Funds to coach and teach a congregation how to manage conflict and disagreement proactively. People learned how to speak up against bullying and how to lead effectively. The congregation regained a positive approach to ministry and mission. STC funds helped train coaches like the Rev. Dr. Jo Marchetto and the Rev. Heather Kurtz for this conflict intervention (pictured below). Because of your gifts to STC, the coaches will be ready to help the next congregation struggling with conflict. Benefits upon benefit from our partnerships.
The Strengthen the Church Offering helped us wonder what new ministry God calls our congregations to. Nine urban churches in Allentown, PA participated in a Feasibility Study, partly funded by Strengthen the Church, which checked the demographics, membership, location of members, financial supports, and mutual ministry opportunities. For 5 of those conversations called for ideas for shared ministry, community outreach, mission, and building repurposing recommendations. Because of your gifts to Strengthen the Church, these congregations embraced new ministries offered in new ways with new leadership and new energy. Truly a strengthening moment.

Our conferences across the United Church of Christ can do this faithful work because of gifts to Strengthen the Church. Last year, Penn Northeast congregations quadrupled their support for this offering. Imagine what we could all do together if we committed to Strengthen the Church!

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates  
Conference Minister  
Penn Northeast Conference UCC

Second Sunday lunch is noon next Sunday. We hope you will join us for breakfast casserole, fruit and sweet bread. If you’d like to help with the meal or provide a sweet bread, please contact Mary Malinsky. We serve a free community meal the second Sunday of each month at noon where all are welcome!

Leadership Table meets Wednesday, May 11 at 3:00 p.m. Please reach out to any member with your questions, concerns or agenda items: Moderator, Jordan Johnson; Moderator-Elect, Steve Malinsky; Clerk, Sharon Karasti; Treasurer, Donna Martin; Member at Large--designated projects, Sarah Reckmeyer.

Book Study continues this evening at 6:00 p.m., join using the links below.

Join Book Study  
Meeting ID: 837 4707 7903  
Passcode: 752510  
One tap mobile: +13126266799,,83747077903#,,,,*752510#

Join Bible Study  
Meeting ID: 835 6182 3902  
Passcode: 777333  
One tap mobile: +13126266799,,83561823902#,,,,*777333#

The plant sale is May 6 and 7 with an in-person plant stand. We are currently looking for volunteers for sorting and delivering plants May 5, 6 and 7 along with volunteers to work the plant stand the 6 and 7. Please sign up to help here.

Do you have a graduate in your house? We want to hear about them! Join us on Sunday, May 22 as we take time to honor our graduates and their achievements. If you have a graduate in your home, please let our Admin Wendy know, if you’d like to share information regarding a major which will be taken and which school your student will attend, we’d love
to hear about that as well. If your student will be attending high school in the fall please let Wendy know which school that is as well; office@opentableottawa.org or 815-433-0771.

CAMP IS BACK! Attend the next All Conference Chat (Wednesday, May 4 at 3:00 p.m.) and learn about all the wonderful summer camp opportunities this year, as well as resources to host a "camp promotion" Sunday at your church. Speakers will be Rev. Tracy Heilman, *Tower Hill Site Director* and Mitch Kloster, *Pilgrim Park Site Director*.

**Join All Conference Chat**

Meeting ID: 879 6243 0629      Passcode: 284065

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799

If you missed any All Conference Chat you can watch recordings [here](#).

The Four Freedoms and Beyond Project encourages bridging current cultural divides by engaging in art, music, poetry, presentations and discussions held in Princeton, IL, in May and June. With FDR’s Four Freedoms framing the events, participants reflect on what they mean in today’s context. RSVP to the event is appreciated but not mandatory; most events are free. It begins with the opening of artist Maggie Meiners’ exhibit "Revisiting Rockwell" at the Princeton Public Library on Saturday evening, May 7. Meiners reinterprets Norman Rockwell’s depictions of freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. For more information on the project and all its events: [https://www.fourfreedomsandbeyon](#d.com/).

Community Food Basket of Ottawa has sent a nice thank you letter for your January Mission of the Month gift:

**Dear Open Table UCC,**

On behalf of The Community Food Basket, thank you very much for your $990 donation. Today, over 12,700 LaSalle County citizens are facing food insecurity. Our ultimate goal is to make this number zero. We are committed to being an unwavering resource--a solution--for the families who seek our help. Your gift goes a long way toward making this goal a tangible reality.

**Thank You,**

Marissa Vicich, Executive Director

Epworth United Methodist Church is having their annual pork chop dinner fundraiser Wednesday, May 4 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Donation for the dinner is $14 and the dinner is drive through only at the church - 627 Gentleman Road in Ottawa. For advance tickets or more information please call 815-434-4416.

Join our local YMCA and area clergy for the free annual Community Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 5 from 7:15 - 8:30 a.m. Prayer leaders will share words of comfort and inspiration during a light breakfast with music, fellowship and prayer. Guest speaker Teresa Kopp will share about her time in Nepal and how Christianity is received there. Please RSVP to 815-433-2395 by Monday, May 2.
After two years off due to Covid, the National Association of Letter Carriers’ Stamp out Hunger Food Drive is making a comeback on Saturday, May 14.

Items most needed:
- Canned tuna/meats
- Canned tomatoes
- Skillet dinners
- Pasta
- Toilet paper
- Kleenex
- Paper towels
- Cash donations

The outdoor mobile food pantry of the Community Food Basket of Ottawa is Saturday, May 14 at OSF Healthcare parking structure, 1050 E. Norris Dr. in Ottawa. Registration is from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., distribution begins at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a container to take food home in and be prepared to wait as the process can take up to 2 hours. This event is open to anyone in need of food assistance regardless of residency and you must be present or send a representative with a completed proxy form in order to receive food for your household. Proxy forms are available for download here: [https://tinyurl.com/y2n7x25h](https://tinyurl.com/y2n7x25h).

Office Hours: Mon. and Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Tues. - Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Phone: 815-433-0771  
Email: office@opentableottawa.org  
Address: 910 Columbus St., Ottawa, IL 61350  
OTUCC Website: [www.uccottawa.org](http://www.uccottawa.org)  
Facebook: Open Table UCC Ottawa  
Pastor’s Office Hours:  
Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
[ pastor@opentableottawa.org](mailto:pastor@opentableottawa.org)
YOU CAN BE RESTORED
JOHN 21:1-19

WORD LIST:
AGAPE      DENIAL      GOSPEL      RECOGNIZE
APOSTLE    DISCIPLE    JOHN        RELATIONSHIP
APPEAR     FISHING     PETER       RESTORATION
CONFRONT    FOLLOW      PHILOS      SACRIFICIAL
DECLARATION GLORIFY    PROVISION   THREE