

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF TREMONT

October 2nd, 2022

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday



Collage: The Best Supper

by Jan. L. Richardson, 2008

janrichardson.com

The Painted Prayerbook

<https://paintedprayerbook.com/2008/10/03/the-best-supper/>



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

a just world for all

October 2nd, 2022
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

*“When we have been to Holy Communion, the balm of love envelops the soul as the flower envelops the bee.”
- John Vianney*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

**please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements:

World Communion Sunday is a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. It began in 1933 and is now celebrated by many denominations in many countries. Originally known as Worldwide Communion Sunday. The day beckons us to remember that when we gather at the Lord’s table, we celebrate not only with those present and visible but also with sisters and brothers around the world.

Prelude – *Betty Funk*

*Call to Worship:

One: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ’s followers.

Many: We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service.

One: Where in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: At home and school and business place – in this community and throughout every land.

One: How in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: By working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.

One: Why in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us!

***Gathering Prayer**

**Meet us here with all our questions and insecurities.
Challenge our knowledge and certainties.
Transform our beliefs and perceptions.
Influence our commitments and actions.
Amen.**

***Hymn - NCH 423 - Great Is Your Faithfulness**

Great Is Your Faithfulness

Author: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with refrain

Composer: William M. Runyon, 1923

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**1 Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,
with you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
all of your goodness forever will be.**

Refrain:

**Great is your faithfulness!
Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]**

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. [Refrain]**

A READING OF THE WORD

This selection of the Hebrew Scriptures focuses on the prophet Habakkuk, who lived around the time before the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem. Habakkuk argues with God in the first portion, because all the prophet experienced was violence. He couldn't see any hope from God to deliver him or the people from evil. Justice was not possible because the law couldn't be upheld. However, in chapter 2, the prophet remained faithful to God, keeping their position at the fortress, watching, and waiting for God to respond. God told the prophet to write a vision, so simple that a runner could read it, because there was still a vision for their time. Whether it was a vision of hope, or a vision of doom, is unknown, but God would answer if the people waited for it. For those who are righteous live by their and are Justified, unlike those who are proud who live for themselves.

Hebrew Scripture: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

1 1 The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received in a vision.
2 “How long, YHWH, am I to cry for help while you do not listen?
How long will I cry ‘Oppression!’ in your ear and you do not save?
3 Why do you make me look upon injustice? Why do you countenance tyranny?
Outrage and violence—this is all I see! All is contention, and discord flourishes.
4 The law loses its hold, and justice never shows itself.
The corrupt triumph over those who are righteous, and justice is perverted once again.”

2 1 I will stand on my watchtower, and take up my post on my battlements, watching to see what God will say to me, what answers God will make to my complaints.

2 Then YHWH replied,
“Write down this vision, inscribe it legibly on tablets so that a runner/herald can easily read it,
3 since this vision will stand as a witness to the appointed time of judgment; it gives faithful testimony about a time that will come.
If it is slow in coming, wait for it— for come it will, without fail

4 “Look—those whose hearts are corrupt will faint with exhaustion, while those who steadfastly uphold justice will live.

A Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 37:1-9 (Responsively)

This is a song reminding the listener to trust in God. Do not be afraid of evil, because God is steadfast. Commit yourself to God and God will act. Be still and wait patiently. Do not participate in evil or revenge, because these are not God’s ways. Instead, know that God will not allow those who are wicked to prevail but will see you through.

37 1 Don’t be vexed by evildoers, and don’t be envious of the corrupt!

**2 They'll soon fade like the grass,
and wither away like unwatered plants.**

3 Trust in God, and do good,
and you'll dwell in the land and enjoy security.

**4 Delight in God,
and you'll be given the desires of your heart.**

5 Commit your way to God, and trust in God;
God will take action,

**6 making your vindication as sure as the dawn
and your integrity as bright as noonday.**

7 Be still before God and wait patiently;
don't fret about those who amass great fortunes
and carry out their schemes unchallenged.

8 Let go of your anger, and leave resentment behind.

And stop worrying! It produces nothing but evil,

**9 and evildoers will be cut off. But those who put their hope in God—
they will inherit the land.**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

The Epistle reading continues its series through 1-2 Timothy in the introduction to 2 Timothy. Paul gives thanks for Timothy and is reminded of Timothy's sincere faith. Paul is inspired by Timothy and wants to assure him that God is with him. Though Paul is in prison, he has no regrets or shame in sharing the Gospel, and he wants Timothy to hold on to what he has been taught, the faith and love in Christ Jesus. The last three verses of chapter one, not included here, share how some other churches and believers have turned against Paul, but some are still faithful to God and supporting Paul while in prison in Rome. Paul writes to encourage Timothy to keep living out the faith handed down from his mother and grandmother, to endure in the faith.

1 From Paul, by the will of God an apostle of Christ Jesus, sent to proclaim the promise of life in Christ Jesus 2 to Timothy, my dear child: May grace, mercy and peace from God the Creator and from Christ Jesus our Savior be with you.

3 I thank God, the God of my ancestors—whom I worship with a clear conscience—whenever I remember you in my prayers, as indeed I do constantly, night and day.

4 When I recall your tears, I long to see you again, which would fill me with joy. 5 I'm reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois, then in your mother Eunice, and now, I'm certain, in you as well. 6 That's why I want to remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7 For God didn't give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, of self-discipline. 8 So don't be ashamed to give your testimony about Christ, and don't be ashamed of me, Christ's prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the Gospel by the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done, but because of God's own purpose and grace.

This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. 11 And it was for this Gospel that I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher.

12 That's why I'm suffering as I am. Yet I'm not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and I'm convinced that Jesus Christ is able to guard what has been entrusted to me until that final Day. 13 Take what you have heard me say as a model of sound teaching, in faith and love in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the rich deposit of faith with the help of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us.

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

Jesus warned the disciples to be careful of the things that led people into temptation, to warn those around them who might sin and to forgive those who change in the verses prior to Luke 17:5-10. Here, the disciples' response to Jesus is, "Increase our faith!" Jesus responds that if they had any bit of faith, they could tell a mulberry tree to go plant itself in the ocean and it would obey them. Jesus then uses an example that is hard for us to understand today. In Jesus' time, slave ownership was part of society and slaves were expected to work all day and not eat until everything was taken care of, and the household manager was in bed. The household manager would not invite a slave to eat dinner after working in the field, nor would they thank slaves for doing their work. Jesus uses this example to show the disciples they ought to simply be living out their faith because that's what they are to do. It's not a great example for us today, but what Jesus seems to be saying is that we can't expect anything in return, not to expect God to grant us anything special in our faithfulness. It's who we are already supposed to be.

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" 6 The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

7 "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? 8 Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? 9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Choral Response – His Name is Wonderful

*Music by Audrey Mieir, 1959
Choir: Keith Konet, Barbara Rossington and Bob Buckew
Accompanist: Betty Funk*

Reflection – Faith Is Something We Do - The Rev. Scott Rosenstein

WE RESPOND

***Prayer of Response**

Holy One, our hope and trust are in you. We quiet our soul so we might listen. We calm our mind so we might comprehend. We still our bodies so we might take notice. May we experience the

holy in the here and now, where you dwell with us. May we know we are not alone in this journey of faith. Quiet our souls, our minds, our bodies, and break open our hearts to your love, O God. Amen.

***Hymn - We Come to This Table (to the tune of NCH 421 – We Gather Together)**

We Come to This Table

Author: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2002

Source: Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books,

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.12

Arranger: Edward Kremser, 1877

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**1 We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.
We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.
We hear Jesus' welcome — inviting, forgiving;
We know your Spirit's peace as we feast here today.**

**2 We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,
Diverse in our cultures yet nourished as one.
The bread and the cup that we share here with others
Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.**

**3 We grieve for your world here; we cry, "How much longer?"
We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.
Yet here, in Christ broken, we're fed and made stronger
To labor in his name for a world filled with peace.**

**4 We rise from this table with new dedication
To feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,
To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;
We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.**

Invitation to Share Our Tithes and Offerings

If tiny mustard seeds can produce unruly and enormous plants that extensively spread and impact their landscapes, so too can our cents, seconds, and cells, which we are now invited to graciously share.

The Offertory – *Betty Funk*

***Presentation of Offering - Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Blessing of the Gifts**

**We thank you for these gifts of money, time, and selves
that we cheerfully give to you, Multiplying God.
Expand and bless every single one in service to you
and the work you've called us to do. Amen.**

***Call to Reconciliation**

Faith, hope, love have all been passed on to us, not so we can hoard these gifts for ourselves, but so we might share them with others. Let us lift our prayers to the One who is always ready to place forgiveness in our hearts, as we tell how we have not done this in our lives.

***Prayer for Forgiveness**

We think if we turn off the media, we will not need to listen to the voices of our neighbors, God of all the world. We are blessed with family and friends, and so do not know the lonely. We are at ease in a world which is troubled, and so do not notice the bitter tears of others. Because we are people of affluence and privilege, we cannot understand those who are broken by the anger and brutality of the world.

Yet, you know, God of the sufferers. You hear the cries of those living in oppression and call us to listen. Your tears mingle with those whose children lie mangled or dead in war zones and would have us be peacemakers. Your faithfulness is great, when ours seems so futile, yet you would have us serve the world alongside your Child, Jesus, even as he served us with his life and gifts. Amen.

Silent Prayer

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: Call this to mind: God is ever faithful; hope is the gift passed on to us, love is the gift we can share with others; God's mercies never come to an end.

Many: Great is God's faithfulness to all people, in all places. Thanks be to God, who has given us the promise of life in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.

Choral Hymn – For the Glory of the Lord

*Words and Music by Twila Paris and Tom Fettke
Choir: Keith Konet, Barbara Rossington, and Bob Bucklew
Accompanist: Betty Funk*

**1 For the glory of the Lord
We have been created
Living text of written Word
Mercy demonstrated
We are made a channel
Where His grace is poured
Witness of salvation
For the glory of the Lord
For the glory of the Lord.**

**2 For the glory of the Lord
Willingly, we suffer
Laid upon this holy cross
Dying with our Brother
His divine fulfillment
Our complete reward
Crucified rejoicing
For the glory of the Lord
For the glory of the Lord.**

**3 For the glory of the Lord
We advance united
Following Christ's blazing sword
His dominion sighted
All that has been taken
It shall be restored
This eternal anthem
For the glory of the Lord
For the glory of the Lord.**

COMMUNION LITURGY

A Celebration of Holy Communion

*(We pause to invite those at home who have not already prepared elements to do so.
Even an English muffin can become a sacrament, even a cup of water or tea
can become a remembrance of God's redeeming love)*

Invitation

One: Jesus prayed that we might be one.

One in spirit

One in mission

In union and communion with each other and with you.

**Many: Today, God, we confess fumbings and failures in accomplishing unity, as we set aside
yet another day to remind ourselves of the task.**

**On this World Communion Sunday, give us eyes to recognize your reflection in the
eyes of Christians everywhere.**

Give us a mind to accept and celebrate our differences.

Give us a heart big enough to love your children everywhere.

We thank you for setting a table with space enough for us all! Amen.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: God be with you.

Unison: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Unison: We lift them to God.

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

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

(Allow silence to speak for a few moments.)

Leader:

It is our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise
for you looked upon all your hands wrought
and called it good.

You smile upon purple mountains soaring above wildflower plains
where grasses raise their backs to meet your Spirit's caress

You send clouds scuttling across reflective waters
and set stars to wink upon the earth in deep, knowing delight.

You call the tune for dolphins dancing in the play of waves.

As giraffes amble across savannahs,
birds sing in full-throated praise
and children of various hues giggle
as they run free in your image.

Despite your created goodness,
we use our freedom for ourselves alone
without regard for your intentions for all.

Still, you chase after us to save us from sin's harm,
freeing us from slavery to give us a new world
flowing with milk and honey.

When we chase after other gods,
you call us back to you
through cries of prophets,
which we ignore,
until at last you send your own child
to be for us the goodness we refuse.

Therefore, we praise you,
joining our voices with the choir of creation
and all the saints of all times and places
who forever proclaim the glory of your name:

Unison:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: So as we await Christ's coming among us
In the fullness of your sovereign glory,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Unison: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

***Table Prayer**

**Praised be you, Holy Spirit,
blowing through time
to enliven your people, the church,
to live as Christ's body,
in God's ministry of repairing our broken world.
Come hover over us now
with your bright brooding wings
in the breaking of bread
and in the celebration of this cup,
that our eyes may be opened
to recognize Christ among us
and in all who share in this feast.
Knit us more closely together
in the fellowship of your sovereign Way.
We offer ourselves, our lives, our resources,
to be your hands reaching into the world
with your unfathomable compassion.
Fill us like breath fills flutes
to be instruments of your peace.
Where there is lack of regard for your creation
prod us to speak up.
Where people fail to see the dignity of all persons,
open unseeing eyes.
Where there is silence about others being hurt,
impassion us with a desire for justice.
Lord, your creation groans under abuse.**

**Renew the earth with goodness.
Your children are starving across this globe.
To those who hunger
give bread.
And to those who have bread
give hunger for justice.
People languish in prisons,
some unjustly,
some without repentance,
and some for standing up for your Way.**

**Release the captives, Lord.
O God, our Sovereign, leaders in all lands
take bribes and afflict their peoples.
Topple oppressive powers with your rule
and send those who are rich empty away.
Your church luxuriates in the comfort of faith;
Send us to be your servants in service to the world.
Those who are sick suffer forgotten in pain.
Heal their hurts in body, mind, and spirit.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer – using "debts" and "debtors"**

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy 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 thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Leader: Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said:
"This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat."

And pouring the wine:
"This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Call to the Feast

Leader: This is the feast prepared for you.
Come and share for all is ready.

***Sharing of the Elements**

Leader:
Let us in our places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

Unison:

We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Leader:

Let us in our places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

Unison:

We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Help us rise in your resurrection power
at this table where you,
the Ruler of the Universe,
have served us by your own hand,
that we may extend your arms
of peace to a world at war.
This we ask through Christ, in Christ, with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

GOING FORTH

***Parting Hymn - NCH 76 - Sent Forth by God's Blessing**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Author: Omer Westendorf, 1964; alt.

© 1964 by World Library Publications (A div. of J. S. Paluch Company, Inc)

Tune: THE ASH GROVE 6.6.6.11.6.6.11.D.

Welsh folk melody

Harm. Leland Sateren, 1972

Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

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**1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended.
O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us,
and love shall unite us
to work for God's realm and to answer the call.**

**2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us,
with your light now lead us,
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.**

***Commissioning and Benediction**

One: Now let us go from this gathering space of haven
God has given to us.

**Many: Led by the Spirit, we will go to be with those
who are filled with fears, with hopes.**

One: Now let us go from the refuge of the Table
where we have tasted the first fruits of grace.

**Many: Led by the Spirit, we will go to feed
those who hunger for companionship and life.**

One: Now let us go into the world, living out God's reality
that there is no distinction between people.

**Many: Led by the Spirit, let us go to serve
our sisters and brothers who are our true family. Amen.**

***Postlude – Betty Funk**

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Credits

(1) The Call to Worship is by Ana and Tod Gobledale, Global Ministries Associates serving in the United Kingdom. Posted 2022, Celebrate: World Communion Sunday Resources, on the website of Global Ministries – Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. <https://www.globalministries.org/resource/celebrate-2021-world-communion-sunday-resources/>

(2) The Opening Prayer, Invitation to Share Our Tithes and Offerings, and the Blessing of the Gifts are adapted from Increase our Faith: Service prayers for after Pentecost were written by The Rev Phiwa Langeni, the Ambassador for Innovation & engagement for the UCC's CARDO, and the Founder and former Director of Salus Center in Lansing, Mi.

(3) The Prayer of Response is adapted from Worship resource for October 2nd, 2022 written by the Rev. Mindi Welton-Thomas, and posted on September 23rd, 2022 on her blog. Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>

- (4) The Call to Reconciliation, Prayer for Forgiveness, and the Assurance of Pardon/Forgiveness, are adapted from World Communion liturgy for October 2nd, 2022, (Pentecost 26/Trinity 16, Proper 22, Ordinary 26-c) written by The Rev. Thom M Shuman, and posted September 26th, 2022 to his blog. Lectionary Liturgies, <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>
- (5) The Invitation for Communion is adapted from A Prayer for World Communion Sunday, from the Africana Worship Book, Year B, (Discipleship Resources, 2007.) Used with permission. Posted for January 28, 2010, on the website of Discipleship Ministries – The United Methodist Church. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/a-prayer-for-world-communion-sunday>
- (6) Portions of the Communion Liturgy – Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Table Prayer - are adapted from Resources for World Communion Sunday, by the Presbyterian Church USA and posted to their website. https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/world_communion_sunday.pdf
- (7) Portions of the Communion Liturgy - Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine and Call to the Feast - are adapted from Liturgy w/communion for December 5, 2021 (Advent 2 - C), written by The Rev. Thom Shuman, and posted December 1, 2021 on the blog, Lectionary Liturgies. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>
- (8) A portion of the Communion Liturgy - the Sharing of the Elements - is adapted from Online Communion for Palm Sunday, written by The Rev. Maren C. Tirabassi. ©2020 Maren Tirabassi, all publishing rights reserved. Permission for congregations to use in worship or educational settings, including streaming
- (9) The Prayer of Thanksgiving following Communion is adapted from Prayer after Communion, from Resources for World Communion Sunday, by the Presbyterian Church USA and posted to their website. https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/world_communion_sunday.pdf
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Ministers, *All of Us*
Scott Rosenstein, *Pastor*
Betty Funk, *Pianist and Music Director*
Keith Konet, *Council President*
Beverly Wurm, *Administrative Assistant*



NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

God is Still Speaking...

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you will find a spiritual home in this United Church of Christ congregation. WELCOME!

Tithes and Offerings - Checks and Money Orders can be made payable to: "Zion United Church of Christ" placed in the offering plate or mailed to:

**Zion United Church of Christ
c/o Keith Konet
1039 Bridlewood Drive
Copley, OH 44321**

Questions: Contact Keith Konet at 330.604.6939

Our Church's Website Address is: zionchurchtremont.org.

Check out our website and Facebook page for updates and news!

Season after Pentecost - Ordinary Time

The longest season of the liturgical calendar is filled with Sundays called "Ordinary Time." **The season - called the Season after Pentecost or Ordinary Time - began with Trinity Sunday and ends with Reign of Christ Sunday (the Sunday before the start of Advent).** If you're like me, you might hear "ordinary time" as "boring time." But that's not the case! The word "ordinary" most likely means "numbered" here (think ordinal numbers), because the Sundays of Ordinary Time are numbered. **In this season we move from concentrating on the event of Christ in the world to focusing toward the impact of being in Christ in the world. A life in the unity of the Trinity is one of being shaped and sent daily in the image and in the purpose of Holy Love.** The liturgical color for this season is green. During the Season after Pentecost, we focus on the life of the Church as it grows in the midst of the world.

"When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they can seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall.

Think of it—always."

— Mahatma Gandhi

Please Remember in Prayer

- The Universal Church, its members and mission,
- The nation and all in authority, the leaders of our nation - federal, state, and local.
- For democracy and our democratic institutions and norms in the United States.
- The welfare of the world and the concerns of the local community,
- The interrelationship of Gospel values and civic engagement
- Our 155th Anniversary as a community of faith of Zion Church on May 15th, 2022.
- Ministries of the United Church of Christ and of Zion Church.
- The leaders of our church: local, regional, and national, including our Living Water Association UCC, Association General Minister, The Rev. Nayiri Karjian, and Association Faith in Action Minister, The Rev. Michael Howard.
- The ministers and missionaries of the world.
- Those who are refugees and immigrants.
- For children separated from their parents at detention camps along our southern border.
- For racial and religious justice and reconciliation in the United States and around the world.
- Mother Earth and the global reflection on climate disruption.

- For peace, justice, and freedom throughout the world and particularly for the peoples of Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, and the United States.
- The people of Afghanistan, Venezuela, Syria, Yemen, Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Kurdish people and the Christians of northern Syria - for peace, nutrition, and justice.
- The people of Pakistan amid extensive flooding.
- **The people of Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, western Cuba, eastern Canada – along with the people of Florida and the Carolinas profoundly impacted by recent hurricanes. Be with all who grieve and mourn the loss of loved ones, homes, businesses, and infrastructure. Please help the survivors to process and move through the trauma, and to rebuild their lives and communities.**
- According to data from the Gun Violence Archive, a total of 506 mass shooting incidents have occurred in the US as of September 28th, 2022. In 2021 a total of 693 mass shooting incidents occurred across the US, in 2020 a total of 611, in 2019 a total of 417, with 337 incidents in 2018. While we pray for the families and friends of those whose lives have been taken in violent acts – and we pray for those injured in body, mind, soul, and spirit – and for their neighborhoods and communities across the United States - We know that our words and prayers are not enough. We must repent for our collective inaction and commit to tirelessly working toward meaningful gun violence prevention.
- For those affected by the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and the omicron variant surge: for all those who are infected and/or sick, and those who are grieving, for all who are affected, all around the world, for essential workers and frontline workers...we pray for comfort, for safety, for health, and for wholeness.
- The residents and management of the San Sofia Apartments who share a campus with us.
- Those anticipating surgery, recovering from surgery, or undergoing medical procedures, tests, or treatments
- Those living in assisted living or in a nursing home
- Those who are homebound and those who are caregivers
- Those who suffer or are in any trouble, and the departed.
- Those on our church prayer list:
 - Patti Augustine and family
 - Robert O. Bucklew (*Bob Bucklew's Dad*) in Alliance, Ohio
 - Betty Funk (*our Minister of Music*)
 - Marian Heffernan (*neighbor to Scott and Bob; friend of Elaine – health concerns*)
 - Ken Kauffman & friends: Nim Bryant, Isadora Almaro, Joe & Janelle Reardon, Barbara, and Michael Reed.
 - Jocelyn Paulette and her parents, Kevin & Jacqui Konet
 - Keith Konet
 - Marcia Leslie (*neighbor and friend – health concerns*)
 - Elaine Lukacs (*has moved to : Alzheimer Skilled Nursing Facility, 18627 Shurmer Road, Room 408, Strongsville, OH 44136*)
 - Linda and James Mortach (*Elaine Lukacs' sister & brother-in-law*) & Linda's daughter
 - Patricia Matheny (prayers also for her Cousin Paul Kevin McCray)
 - Barbara Rossington (*move to a new senior housing community*)
 - Henry Senyak (*resident community leader – cancer*)

- The family of Michael O'Brien particularly his wife, Debbie Webb (*following Michael's death last Fall. Our love and sympathy to Debbie and Michael's family*).
- Beverly Wurm (*recuperating*)

Zion's Administrative Assistant, Beverly Wurm!

Beverly began a part-time position with us. She is keeping some limited Office Hours at church/home. The days and hours are:

Monday – 9am – 1pm

Wednesday – 10am-2pm

Thursday – 9am – 1pm

Beverly can be reached at: zionchurchtremont@gmail.com or by phone at: 216-273-7561 (church) or 216-310-6810 (mobile)

Elaine Lukacs' Address:

Elaine Lukacs
Altenheim Skilled Nursing Facility
18627 Shurmer Road, Room 408
Strongsville, Oh 44136
440.238.3361 ext. 5071

Help for Ukraine

Gifts made to UCC **Ukraine Emergency Appeal** will provide shelter, food, and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people.

Donate online with the link: <https://tinyurl.com/2fe6wnmd>

or designate a check for Ukraine Relief and mail to:
United Church of Christ,
P.O. Box 71957
Cleveland, OH 44194.

Gifts made to **Sharing America's Resources Abroad (S.A.R.A)** provide food, clothing, and sanitary items for refugees fleeing to Hungary.

Donate online with the link: <https://tinyurl.com/hr6d8b8t>

or designate a check for **S.A.R.A. - Donations for Ukraine Emergency Fund** and mail to:

SARA
c/o Heartland Conference UCC
P.O. Box 1230
Worthington, OH 43085.

Please know that your gifts of any size make a difference in this critical time!

Pakistan's 'dire' flood crisis is subject of UCC emergency appeal

The United Church of Christ has issued an emergency appeal for relief-and-recovery gifts in response to what it called "massive flooding" across most of Pakistan.

Wider Church Ministries launched the **UCC Pakistan Response Fund** Sept. 16.

Torrential monsoons since June have dumped nearly five times as much rain as the country usually gets. So far, the resulting floods have:

- Killed more than 1,400 people
- Affected 30 million people and displaced 800,000
- Damaged or destroyed 1 million homes, as well as farms, livestock, roads, bridges, schools and more.

One-third of country still submerged

"The situation in Pakistan remains dire as more than a third of the country is still under water," said the Rev. Josh Baird, who heads the UCC's Global H.O.P.E. team. "The most pressing needs are for food, clean water and sanitation, and emergency housing."

"In areas where the water has not receded, people are forced to construct temporary shelter on whatever dry patch of land they can access — often on the edge of roads."

"At its peak, 73 percent of Pakistan's districts were impacted by flooding," the appeal's web page says. "... More than half of its districts have been declared 'calamity hit' by the government — a number that is expected to rise as the rain continues and floods flow through the Punjab and Sindh provinces."

World's churches respond together

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has called the crisis an "unprecedented natural disaster" caused by "the intensification of climate change." "No country deserves this fate, but particularly not countries like Pakistan that have done almost nothing to contribute to global warming," he said. He called on the international community for "massive financial support," especially from "countries that have contributed more to climate change."

Baird said the UCC is working with ecumenical partners to respond.

Community World Service Asia, a partner through the ACT Alliance, is meeting immediate needs "while laying the groundwork for long-term recovery," he said. "Gifts to the Pakistan Appeal will support emergency relief and focus on providing long-term care through the gifting of items such as seed for fields and feed and vaccines for livestock."

"With more than 6.4 million people projected to require humanitarian assistance, we anticipate walking with affected communities for the restoration of homes and livelihoods for many years."

People can donate electronically at this page: <https://tinyurl.com/ya8msm3n> by selecting "International Emergency" as the option and entering "Pakistan response" as the specific appeal.

Gifts by check can be made payable to United Church of Christ, with "Pakistan Response Fund" noted in the memo section, and mailed to P.O. Box 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194.

Statement from Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb in support of Puerto Rico 9.22.22

The people of Cleveland stand with the people of Puerto Rico, who are bearing the impact of Hurricane Fiona with incredible courage and strength. On the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Maria's vicious landfall, it remains unacceptable that so many Puerto Ricans still lack reliable access to water and electricity. As the scope of the need becomes clear in the coming days and weeks, Cleveland is here to support aid efforts—both for individuals in Puerto Rico prevailing against the hurricane and for those who find themselves relocating as a result of it. We're proud of our Puerto Rican community and Cleveland is ready with open arms to welcome those in need and to assist in any way we can.

Puerto Rico Relief:



The poster features a central circular logo with the text "LIFTING PUERTO RICO" around the top and "NEW ERA YOUNG LORDS EDITION" around the bottom. Inside the circle is a stylized illustration of a person holding a green plant. The background of the poster shows a group of hands of various skin tones reaching up towards the center.

LIFTING PUERTO RICO:

On behalf of New Era Young Lords and the situation among us, we are activating and impacting Puerto Rico with our Boots on The Ground Initiative. In Cleveland, we will be collecting donations and storing them in Lincoln-West High School. By October 8th a group of us will be taking those donations to Puerto Rico and support as much as we can to provide help and resources. **We will travel to San Lorenzo, Utuado, Guanica, and Salinas to help families clean up debris, cut trees down, rebuilt part of their homes that were affected by Fiona.** Please donate in the need of restoring and the Boots on The Ground Initiative by New Era Young Lords Ohio Chapter.

DONATION ITEMS NEEDED:

BATTERIES • FLASH LIGHTS • LANTERNS •
BABY FORMULA • DIAPERS • CANDLES
MEN/WOMEN HYGIENE PRODUCTS •
FIRST AID KITS • NON PERISHABLE
FOODS • MEDICINE: TYLENOL, PAIN
MEDS, ETC • WET WIPES • LATEX GLOVES
TOWELS & WASH CLOTHES • BUG SPRAY

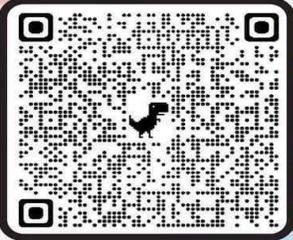
FOR PURCHASE ON ISLAND:

TOOLS • CHAIN SAWS • GARBAGE BAGS •
TARPS • GENERATORS • GAS CANS

DROP OFF LOCATIONS, STARTING FRIDAY SEPT 23:

LINCOLN WEST HIGH SCHOOL
3202 W 30TH ST, CLEVELAND, OH 44109

BENNY'S SPORTS BAR
3463 FULTON RD, CLEVELAND, OH 44109



Scan QR Code to donate to our GOFUNDME!

Instructions on how to scan a QR CODE: Open camera and hover over the image until you see a link pop up. Click on the link that appears near the image!

Or manually type in link: <https://gofund.me/a3708ade>

We are also accepting donations to our CashApp

\$YOUNGLORDZPROJECT

Manuel Orlando Santiago
\$YoungLordzProject

Use QR code or manually type in link: <https://gofund.me/a3708ade>

UCC launches emergency appeal for 2022 hurricanes – Ian, Fiona and those still to come – to read more, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6kpt24>

Hurricanes 2022 Emergency Appeal

The United Church of Christ is issuing an appeal to support immediate needs for families and communities affected by Hurricanes Fiona and Ian.

While this year's hurricane season started slow, the last two weeks have made it clear just how dangerous and destructive these storms can be. With wind speeds topping out at 130 miles per hour and 155 miles per hour, respectively, Hurricanes Fiona and Ian have left devastation in their wake. More than a week and a half after Fiona's winds left all of Puerto Rico in the dark, hundreds of thousands of people remain without power. Communities remain in crisis mode as the delivery of food, drinking water, and medical needs is challenged in hard-to-reach places cut off by downed trees, mudslides, and washed away bridges.

Millions have lost power and access to clean drinking water. The need for emergency food support, medical care, and temporary shelter is high.

Rev. Edward Rivera-Santiago, Pastor General of Iglesia Evangélica Unida de Puerto Rico shared that congregations across the island are reporting both church and community members whose homes are severely damaged, with some facing total loss. Solidarity grants from Global H.O.P.E. and Global Ministries have been sent to assist with immediate needs while basic infrastructure is repaired and more complete assessments can be made.

Meanwhile, Hurricane Ian still rages, with widespread damage in Cuba, flooding and wind damage across Florida, and coastal flooding threatening Georgia and the Carolinas. It is way too early to know the full extent of damage in Cuba and in Florida, yet early indications point to a recovery that will take many years – perhaps a decade.

Emergency response personnel are active. Relief agencies are meeting immediate needs where they can gain access to communities hard hit by the storm. United Church of Christ partners through National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster who focus on relief are implementing their plans. Global Ministries Area Executive for Latin America Angel Luis Rivera is in touch with bilateral partners. Conference leaders and Conference Disaster Coordinators are making contact, assessing needs, and communicating with the Global H.O.P.E. team so that help can be channeled, now and for the long term.

Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need, for relief and long-term recovery. Donate online: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7bd3e2>

If you prefer, you may mail a check payable to the United Church of Christ, PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note "Hurricanes 2022 Fund" in the memo section.