

HEIDELBERG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
251 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, SCHWENKSVILLE, PA 19473
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
SERVICE CONDUCTED ON FACEBOOK LIVE & IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Today's Thought:

"I do not want merely to possess faith; I want a faith that possesses me" ~ Charles Kingsley

Centering Words:

God's voice names us in holy love. Christ's voice chastens us when we go astray. The Spirit's voice draws us back to the path of righteousness. Thanks be to God!

* = Stand in Body or Spirit

GATHERING TOGETHER

Ring the Bell

10:30am

Welcome

Pastor Adrian

Prelude

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

Pat Clemens

Call to Worship

L: From generation to generation, God names us and claims us.

P: Blessed be the Lord, our God.

L: When we try to tell God what to do, Christ chastens us and leads us back onto the paths of life.

P: Let all who draw breath come back to the Lord.

L: From our earliest steps, the Spirit guides our steps and sets before us the ways of life and death.

P: Let the faithful rejoice in the mysteries of our God.

L: From generation to generation, God names us and claims us.

P: Let heaven and earth praise God's holy name.

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Adrian

* Opening Hymn

"Standing on the Promises"

Standing on the promises of Christ my king, through eternal ages let his praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

* Call to Confession

Pastor Adrian

In the season, when we reexamine our lives and find our faith tested, we often discover a barrenness within. Our relationship with God is weak, not because God has turned away, but because we have failed to trust the Almighty or spend time in prayer. We have not sought God's answers to our daily problems. Let us be honest with our Creator in this time of prayer. Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another ...

* Prayer of Confession – Silent Prayer

Forgiving Lord, we have fallen short time and time again. You have given us your word, both in scripture and in Son, you have promised us your presence, both in Spirit and in community, and you have graced us with your kingdom, both in teaching and in service. Even so, we neglect, ignore, and reject your purposes for us. We do not love what you love. We do not embrace what you embrace. We do not defend what you have called us to defend. Have mercy on us, O God of all ages past and all hope for years to come. Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do. And with your gifts, promises, and grace, continue working in our lives that we might receive full life in Jesus Christ, now and forevermore. Amen. [Silent Prayer]

* Words of Assurance

By saying no to ourselves, and picking up our cross, we find ourselves. By saying yes to the good news of Christ's spirit, we find faith and wholeness. Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Hymn of Praise

"Halle-Halle-Halleluja" (x2)

Halle-Halle-Halleluja. Halle-Halle-Halleluja. Halle-Halle-Halleluja. Halleluja. Halleluja.

Children's Chat

"Listening for God's Voice"

Special Music

"Lamb of God"

Vocalists: Christie Lohr
Isabella Yackanicz

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Lessons (NRSV)

Liturgist

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Romans 4:13-25

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Lesson (NRSV)

Pastor Adrian

Mark 8:31-38

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon

"Cross-Bearing"

Rev. Adrian Tierson

Hymn

"Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said

"Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be; Take up your cross with willing heart and humbly follow after me."

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm; Christ's strength will bear your spirit up and brace your heart, support your arm.

Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and let your foolish pride be still; For Christ did not refuse to die upon a cross on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down, For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

SHARING FAITH & LIFE

Joys, Concerns & Announcements

Pastor Adrian

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Adrian

Lord's Prayer

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, forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Pastor Adrian

Through this invitation to share our gifts, we acknowledge that God has blessed us abundantly, and that we are to be a blessing to the world. In the very act of giving, in every act of bestowing blessings on another, we find that we are blessed yet again. I encourage you now to enter fully into this amazing cycle of blessing.

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

God we bring ourselves to you, just as we are. We bring our gifts and our talents to you, asking for you to bless them and help them to grow that they might be food to the hungry, resources to the needy, and love to the unloved. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD

* Closing Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

* Benediction

Pastor Adrian

* Final Response

"First Song of Isaiah"

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense and he will be my Savior.

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
Arrangements	Victoria Bosler	Tina Richards
Head Usher	Gary Bosler	Anne Ryan
Acolyte	Ethan Beideman	Jacob McDowell
Liturgist	Susan Krajnik	Jim Beideman
Song Leader	Tina Richards	Steve Freed
Greeters	Bob Messersmith	Carla Godshall
Technology	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert
Nursery Care	Allison Schock	None

Welcome to Heidelberg! Whatever your past, whatever your religious background, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome. Join us for a spiritual journey where God is still speaking. Enter as a guest, depart as a friend.

Next Sunday - Worship Service (March 7th): "Facebook Live" and In-Person Worship at 10:30am. We are excited to be able to welcome you to worship in the sanctuary today. Please take a moment to read over the Guidelines in place for in-person worship found on our website (www.hucc.net) and posted within the building.

Holy Communion - We will celebrate at the Lord's table next Sunday. For our virtual worshippers - please plan to participate with us by having elements of bread and juice available.

Neighbors in Need - A neighborhood family, the Bannerman-Martin family experienced a devastating house fire Saturday, February 20th. Tracy, the mom, sustained burns on more than 30% of her body and is currently hospitalized. The Dad, Will and son Willie and daughter Ashley are physically well. This fire has left the family devastated of memories and necessities. They need our help to the necessities such as clothes, shoes, food, medical related expenses, and our prayers.

How to help:

1. Send a card to Tracy in the hospital at the following address:

Tracy Pendleton-Martin
Burn ICU Rm 35
Lehigh Valley Hospital Cedar Crest
1200 S. Cedar Crest Blvd
Allentown, PA 18103

2. Send a card to the family at the following address:

Kelly Bernardyn, Compass
Bannerman-Martin family
P.O. Box 26313
Collegeville, PA 19426

3. Donate gifts card to WaWa, Wegmans, Giant, CVS, BJ's, or Visa. We will collect these cards at church and send them all at once. There will be baskets at the entrances of the church or you can drop them off to the church office. We will collect through Sunday, March 14th.

Youth Sunday School - Classes will be held again **NEXT SUNDAY, Sunday, March 7th**. Classes are held during the 10:30am worship service following the Children's Chat.

Nursery Care - The Nursery will be available again **Sunday, March 14th**. Nursery will be supervised the alternating Sunday's of Sunday School and when there is a fifth Sunday in the month following the Children's Chat. Nursery Care is for pre-schoolers through 1st Graders.

Online Donations - If you would like to make a one-time or recurring donation to the ministry of Heidelberg UCC, we have a new and simple way to do that by credit/debit card or by connecting your paypal account right through Facebook. Just click the "Donate" button at the top right of our Facebook Page and follow the very easy steps. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Audio-Visual Team - Would you like to be part of a team that will become our AV experts for our services of worship? We are looking for about 6 people willing to learn the system and improve the system. Please reach out to Tina Richards at 215.534.3851 or ssgrich@aol.com

Greeters - Eleanor Risell is looking for someone who is willing to spare a little time on Sunday morning and are comfortable coming to worship to act as a greeter. Please contact her at 610-287-9520.

AmazonSmile - AmazonSmile is very simple to use—all you need is an Amazon account. On your first visit to the site, you will be asked to log in to your Amazon account with an existing username and password (you do not need a separate account for AmazonSmile). You will then be prompted to choose a charity to support. During future visits to the site, AmazonSmile will remember your charity and apply eligible purchases towards your total contribution—it is that easy. **You can find an easy link on our website (www.hucc.net) homepage (lower right column). Click, shop and support!**

Lenten Study/Devotional Resources - Lenten devotionals are available today in the Narthex. If you would like a copy of the Lenten Daily Examen (daily prayerful experience), please see Pastor Adrian.

Heifer Luncheon - Have you filled out the Heifer Luncheon Google Form yet? The Google Form link for meal purchasing which offers options for the sandwiches (type, quantity, etc.) is: <https://forms.gle/7tGaWS6QgZVxjQJF6>. If not, please do so by TODAY so we can begin to prepare for the luncheon. If you are not able to fill it out online, please complete a paper copy found in the Narthex or see Matt or Sara McDowell!

Join us on Sunday, March 21st as Heidelberg UCC will again hold the Heifer Luncheon as a means to help end hunger worldwide. We are going to hold this a little differently in 2021, as it will involve the "drive thru" methodology for delivering of the meals.

Heifer fun fact...Did you know that "with a water buffalo, farmers can plant four times as much as when they plow by hand. They also give rich milk for the family to drink and sell. Water buffalo produce valuable manure for fuel and fertilizer. And with a calf born every other year, Heifer project participants can expect a steady increase in income, after they have passed on the gift to another family in need."

Now, how about a riddle? "Do you know which animals were given in the first Heifer project? Why COWS of course! Seventeen cows were given to malnourished families in Puerto Rico in 1944. Learn more about the cowboys who accompanied them at <http://hefr.in/1E21hqu>"

World Day of Prayer - "Build on a Strong Foundation" is the theme for 2021. World Day of Prayer dates back to the 19th century when Christian women of the United States and Canada initiated a variety of cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission at home and in other parts of the world. It is celebrated on the first Friday of March each year - this year March 5th. Today everyone is encouraged to spend time in personal prayer and reflection seeking God's guidance in living out faith in action.

One Great Hour of Sharing - OGHS will be honored on Sunday, March 14th. One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. The 2021 theme is "Let Love Flow." When you share your gifts to OGHS, you Let Love Flow. Your generosity ensures that, even in the midst of uncertainty, the transforming power of love will continue to change the lives of those who are most vulnerable among us. Envelopes will be made available in church and they are included in your giving envelopes.

Prayer Requests - please e-mail the church office with any prayer concerns and we will keep our prayer list updated.