

The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our
Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*

+ † +

Sunday, June 18, 2023
Third Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*



Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.

The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.

(Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table).

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2nd and Last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Young Children & Family Ministries

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia.

For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

More Information...

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: *= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*

Virtual Worship Service

Online: **Live Stream** at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **Our YouTube Channel**

Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later

Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



www.sprucc.org



Free WiFi

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{If you have not already done so,
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad
to the person next to you.}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ⑩ (Unison)

On this day of honor for fathers, we thank you, God, for being our holy of holiest Father. Whether our own fathers were loving or not so loving, we thank you for them. Thank you for the fathers in our congregation. Help us to support them in their ministry as fathers. The well-being of our nation and world depends on how loving we are as parents and guardians and teachers and friends. Help us, Holy Father. Amen.

PRELUDE

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

arranged for piano by John Carter

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Praise Ye the Father"

♪ Red #14

Public Domain

*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from Psalm 100*

Leader: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

People: Come before his presence with singing.

Leader: Know ye that the Lord he is God.

People: It is he who has made us and not we ourselves.

Leader: We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

People: Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise.

Leader: Be thankful unto him and bless his name for the Lord is good.

People: His mercy is everlasting and his truth endures to all generations.

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION ⑩ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ⑩ (Unison)

Attentive God, you know our sins but unless we acknowledge them to you, they remain with us. Help us to confess sincerely and deeply. Maybe we are not on our mark to take meals to people. Maybe we only think about checking on our living-alone neighbors or fellow church members. Maybe we spend excessive money on entertainment instead of the local food pantry. Maybe we think the color of skin matters. Maybe we think wealth is a line of separation when we are really siblings with you as parent. We beg not only forgiveness but a transformation of values and actions. Hear us, O God of mercy! Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

♪ Red #518
Public Domain

Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Leader (*spoken*): Christ, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

People of hope, we are forgiven by our most merciful Savior, Jesus. Let us live like forgiven souls, actually serving instead of just thinking about serving, actively praying instead of just thinking about praying. May it be so!

*CALL TO PRAISE ⑩

Leader: With extreme hope and thankfulness,
People: **we praise our three-in-one God!**

***SUNG PRAISE**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Stanza 1

♪ **Red #21**
Public Domain

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.**

{please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God’s love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the “inspired word of God.” Gospel (which means “Good News”) refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians’ most central books of the Bible.

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

First Lesson: [Exodus 19:2-8a](#)

Second Lesson: [Romans 5:1-8](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson: [Matthew 9:35 - 10:8](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Pass It On”

W&R #557
One License #A-728042

MINI-MESSAGE

MUSIC

“Jesus Loves Me”

*Text: Anna B. Warner; Music: William B. Bradbury
Public Domain*

**Vs. 1: Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.**

**Vs. 2: Jesus loves me! This I know,
As He loved so long ago,
Taking children on His knee,
Saying, “Let them come to Me.”**

Refrain:

**Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

Refrain:

**Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

SERMON

“Baptism - Not Just Saving Ourselves”

We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more
about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of
ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) UCC Statement of Faith**
Section One about God

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:
You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
You judge people and nations by your righteous will, declared through prophets
and apostles.
Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.**

{Please be seated}

DEDICATION OF THE BLANKETS OF HOPE

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE

“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

♪ *Red #501*
George Whelpton, Public Domain

**Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace.
Amen.**

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: We bring offerings to the altar by our free will, not in fear,

People: but in thankfulness.

Leader: We help our neighbors, not to earn rewards,

People: but in thankfulness and kindness.

Leader: There are many ways to help our neighbors.

People: Let us not count the ways;

Leader: let us put our love into action

People: without counting the cost.

RETURNING GOD’S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

{Today, we will be passing the offering plate in person. You may also offer your tithe and offering to God through our secure [Online Giving](https://sprucc.org) option on our website at sprucc.org ([Click Here](#)), or you may mail your offering to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

OFFERTORY SOLO

“Change My Heart, O God”

words and music by Eddie Espinosa

Soloist: Sheri Rowe

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

♪ *Red #506*
Public Domain

**We give Thee but Thine own, What-e’er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩ (Leader)**

Dear and gracious God, accept these gifts we have brought before you. You know what they represent in our individual budgets and in our individual hearts. May we use them as you have planned. In the name of our model for life, Jesus, your Son, we pray.

People: Amen.

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

*COMMISSION ⑩

Leader: Let us continue our praising.

People: Yes, our praising of God.

Leader: Let us be passing the spirit to the next person we meet.

People: Yes, the spirit of love and caring.

Leader: Let us be telling the story.

People: Yes, the story of Jesus.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"I Love To Tell the Story"

♪ *Blue #444*
Public Domain

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

POSTLUDE

Join Us For Fellowship and Food in Miller Fellowship Hall

Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest
Password (for both): iamheretoserve



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

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 - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑦ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
 - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑨ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑩ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - ⑩ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - ⑫ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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Staff & Leadership

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Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Financial Secretary & Assistant Secretary: Geneva Aulenbach

Consistory President: Elsa Wertz

Consistory Vice President: George McLain

Consistory Secretary: Geri Gammel

About Today

Church Season: Pentecost -which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Green - symbolizing the life God brings, especially through our mission work.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year A**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Matthew.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church).

This Sunday, June 18, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) *and* Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 *or* Exodus 19:2-8a *and* Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

Exodus

The book of Exodus (OT) is a part of the Pentateuch (first five books of the OT or Torah or one of the five most central books in Judaism), and is named for the exodus (leaving/escape) of the Israelite people from Egyptian slavery through the divine saving providence of God and the leadership of Moses and his brother Aaron.

Psalm 100

This is OT hymn of praise gives thanks for the goodness of God.

The Letter of Paul to the Romans

This epistle (letter) is addressed "to all God's beloved in Rome." It was dictated by the Apostle Paul to Tertius in 58 A.D. in Corinth and delivered to Rome by Phoebe (she was appointed by Paul as a deacon, teacher, and leader of the church). Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul, a highly educated man, wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Matthew

Matthew's Gospel was written around 80-90 A.D. in Antioch, Syria by a Greek-speaking Jewish Christian. The first writing was probably by a Christian scribe who wrote in the name of Matthew. Matthew was a disciple who knew Jesus personally.

Next Sunday, June 25, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 21:8-21 *and* Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 *or* Jeremiah 20:7-13 *and* Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

Adoration and Praise

ELIZABETH CHARLES

11. 11. 11. 5.

INTEGER VITÆ (FLEMMING)
FRIEDRICH F. FLEMMING, 1810*Not too fast; with feeling*

1. Praise ye the Fa - ther for His lov - ing kind - ness; Ten - der - ly
2. Praise ye the Sav - iour, great is His com - pas - sion; Gra - cious - ly
3. Praise ye the Spir - it, Com - fort - er of Is - rael, Sent of the

cares He for His er - ring chil - dren; Praise Him, ye an - gels,
cares He for His cho - sen peo - ple; Young men and maid - ens,
Fa - ther and the Son to bless us; Praise ye the Fa - ther,

praise Him in the heav - ens, Praise ye Je - ho - vah.
ye old men and chil - dren, Praise ye the Sav - iour.
Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise ye the Triune God. A-MEN.

Pass It On

D Em7 F#m G $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{F\#m}{A}$ A

1 It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,
 2 What a won-drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,
 3 I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that I've found—

D Em7 F#m G $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{F\#m}{A}$ A

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;
 the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;
 on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

$\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ Em7 F#m Bm

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:
 that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:
 I'll shout it from the moun-tain top, I want my world to know:

Bm Em $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G A A7 D

you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.
 you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
 the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

444 I Love to Tell the Story

Those who had been scattered preached the Word wherever they went. Acts 8:4

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry; More won - der - ful it seems
 3. I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 4. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.
 Than all the gold - en fan - cies Of all our gold - en dreams.
 What seems each time I tell it More won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry Be - cause I know 'tis true.
 I love to tell the sto - ry; It did so much for me,
 I love to tell the sto - ry, For some have nev - er heard
 And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,

It sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else can do.
 And that is just the rea - son I tell it now to thee.
 The mes - sage of sal - va - tion From God's own ho - ly Word.
 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

TEXT: A. Catherine Hankey
 MUSIC: William G. Fischer

HANKEY
 7.6.7.6.D. with Refrain

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY

Refrain

Chord symbols: G, D, D7, Bm/D, G⁴, G, G/B, C, C/G, G, G, G/B, Am/C, C, G/D, D7, G.

17 I love to tell the sto - ry! 'Twill be my theme in glo-ry

18

19

20

21 To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.

22

23

24