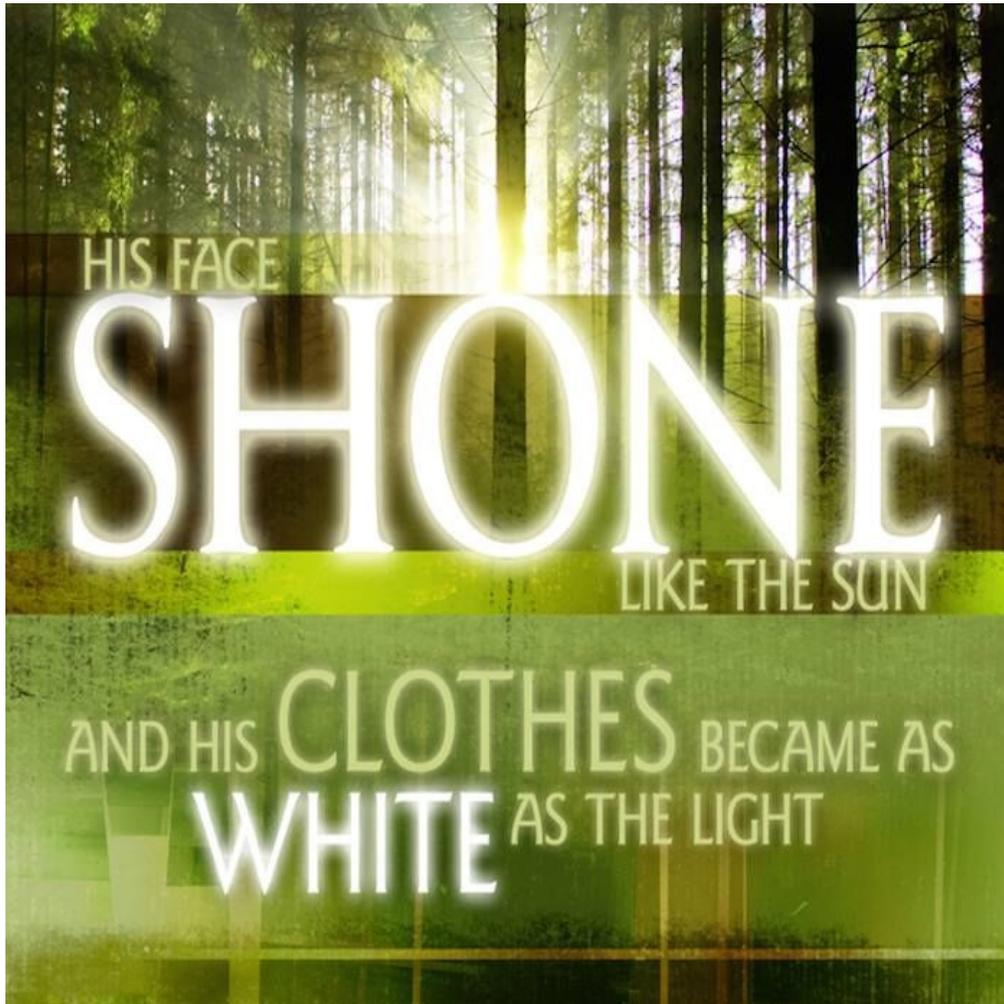


The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

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*

† † †

February 19, 2023
Transfiguration Sunday
10:15am

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.

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.

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}*



www.sprucc.org



Free WiFi

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

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.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND 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)

God of holiness and brightness, may your brilliant light shine upon us and through us so we may not only reflect your living light but magnify it. In the name of Jesus we shine. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Christ, Whose Glory fills the Skies"

A Hymn for Transfiguration

by J. G. Werner, 1815; arr. for piano by Cindy Berry

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"We Have Come At Christ's Own Bidding"

NCH #182

One License #A-728042

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

*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 *from Psalm 2, Contemporary English Version*

The Lord's Chosen King

Leader: Why do the nations plot, and why do their people make useless plans?

People: The kings of this earth have all joined together to turn against the Lord and his chosen king.

Leader: They say, "Let's cut the ropes and set ourselves free!"

People: In heaven the Lord laughs as he sits on his throne, making fun of the nations.

Leader: The Lord becomes furious and threatens them.

People: His anger terrifies them as he says, "I've put my king on Zion, my sacred hill."

Leader: I will tell the promise that the Lord made to me:

People: “**You are my son, because today I have become your father. Ask me for the nations, and every nation on earth will belong to you.**”

Leader: Serve and honor the Lord; be glad and tremble. Show respect to his son because if you don't, the Lord might become furious and suddenly destroy you.

People: **But he blesses and protects everyone who runs to him.**

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)

O God of the mountains - the mountain of the Ten Commandments, the mountain of the Sermon on the Mount, the mountain of the cross, the mountain of Transfiguration - thank you for each of these mountains. Sometimes we feel as though you have lifted us right to the top. Sometimes we feel as though we are in the canyon because of our sinful actions or because of our neglect. Forgive 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)

Our Lord does not keep us in darkness long because his love for us is so great. May we find happiness in the Lord's light. May we yearn for it and reach for it. This happiness will wrap itself around us and creep into our souls. May it be so. And the Lord's people say: **Amen.**

***CALL TO PRAISE ⑩**

Leader: The true light of Christ, which enlightens everyone, has come into the world.

People: **We praise God, for the light shines and overcomes all darkness.**

***SUNG RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

♪ *Red #43*

Public Domain

**When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer, To Jesus I repair;
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

{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 24:12-18](#)

Second Lesson: [2 Peter 1:16-21](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: [Matthew 17:1-9](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"Sing A New Church"

W&R #577

One License #A-728042

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

MINI-MESSAGE

CONGREGATION SINGS

"Praise Him, Praise Him"

Anonymous

**Praise him! Praise him! Praise him in the morning; praise him at the noontime.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him when the sun goes down.**

SERMON

"Fellowship in the Light"

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 Two and Three: Jesus and the Holy Spirit

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, you have
come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and
reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of
Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues,
and races.**

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

{Please be seated}

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Merciful God,

People: receive 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 *"O Thou Who Hearest Every Heartfelt Prayer"*

*♪ Red #503
Public Domain*

**O Thou who hearest every heartfelt prayer,
With Thy rich grace, Lord, all our hearts prepare;
Thou art our Life, Thou art our Love and Light,
O let this Sabbath hour with Thee be bright.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: Our own expenses are very high.

People: Does God care about our personal expenses?

Leader: Should we take a chance on giving more and decreasing what we will have left after giving to God?

People: God's covenant with us includes a component of trust from us. It is exciting to see what God does in our lives! Amen.

CHORAL OFFERTORY

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

*Text by Timothy Dwight (1752-1817);
Set to an original tune by Lani Smith.*

Online Giving

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

*{As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.
A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed
when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.*

*Whether worshiping in person or online,
the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church
is through our secure [Online Giving](https://sprucc.org) option on our website at sprucc.org. [Click Here](#)
Offerings may also be mailed to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

"Because I Have Been Given Much"

♪ *Red #259*
Public Domain

**Because I have been given much, I, too must give:
Because of Thy great bounty, Lord, each day I live,
I shall divide my gifts from Thee with every brother that I see
Who has the need of help from me.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩ (Leader)**

Always-listening God, always-shining God, our gratefulness is made manifest in our gifts for your kingdom. We yearn for your guidance in the giving of our tithes and offerings. We seek your wisdom in the use of these gifts. May these gifts magnify your light for the world. In the holy name of Jesus we pray. **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: It is time once again to leave this building.

People: Our hearts have been replenished with the light and love of God.

Leader: May this light and love explode as we fellowship with each other.

People: May God lead us in this endeavor!

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
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*SENDING HYMN

"You Call Us, Lord"

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*{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): iamheretosome



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 worshipping 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



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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
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 - 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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About Today

Church Season: Epiphany - Season of the manifestation of God incarnate to the world. In Greek “phan” is “shine” or “manifest,” and “epi” is “upon.” The season of Epiphany continues from January 6 until Ash Wednesday.

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

White - symbolizing the defeat of death and the darkness of sin with the resurrection to eternal life.

Green- symbolizing this season of mission - the incarnate Christ has been made manifest to us on Epiphany and we are to go into the world and share his Good News.

Sunday, February 19th- Lectionary Reading for Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 *or* Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

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 2

This is a royal OT song, which was probably used for the coronation of a king. Within this song, the king of Israel is to strive to be God’s ideal king, who submits to God’s rule and seeks to serve God.

The Second Letter of Peter

This NT Epistle (letter) is attributed to the Apostle Simon Peter and composed circa 64-65 A.D. However, some scholars, it may have been penned in his name by a writer in 80-90 A.D. seeking to write down Peter’s teachings. Following the ascension of Christ, Peter (“the rock”) was the head of the Christian Church. Peter was martyred in Rome. This letter was sent out from Rome, and is a final testament of how Peter would like his teachings to be remembered. It contains teachings of Christian morals and ethics, and it expresses a hope in the gospel despite opposition and critics.

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, February 26th- Lectionary Reading for 1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

182 We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

In his commentary on the text, hymnwriter Carl P. Daw, Jr., describes the "implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the disciples on the Mount of the Transfiguration and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship."

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Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1844
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Sing a New Church

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

1 Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di-ver-si-ty,
 2 Ra-diant ris-en from the wa-ter; robed in ho-li-ness and light,
 3 Trust the good-ness of cre-a-tion; trust the Spir-it strong with-in.
 4 Bring the hopes of ev-ery na-tion; bring the art of ev-ery race.
 5 Draw to-geth-er at one ta-ble all the hu-man fam-i-ly;

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

gath-ered in the name of Je-sus, rich-er still in u-ni-ty:
 male and fe-male in God's im-age, male and fe-male, God's de-light:
 Dare to dream the vi-sion prom-ised sprung from seed of what has been.
 Weave a song of peace and jus-tice; let it sound through time and space.
 shape a cir-cle ev-er wid-er and a peo-ple ev-er free.

Refrain

$\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{A7}{E}$ D F#m G D $\frac{G}{D}$ D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{A7}{E}$ D F#m G A7 D

Let us bring the gifts that dif-fer and, in splen-did, var-ied ways,

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

sing a new church in-to be-ing, one in faith and love and praise.

You Call Us, Lord

F Dm $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{Gm7}{Bb}$ C F $\frac{Bb}{D}$ Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

1 You call us, Lord, to be a peo - ple set a - part,
 2 You call us, Lord, to care for self and neigh - bor too,
 3 You call us, Lord, to be good stew - ards of the earth;
 4 You call us, Lord, to serve: to die that we may live,

F Dm Csus C F $\frac{Bb}{D}$ Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

to feel with thought - ful mind and think with ten - der heart.
 to take the risk, and dare to show what love can do.
 to tend it as a place of bless - ed - ness and worth.
 to know we best re - ceive when joy - ful - ly we give.

Refrain

$\frac{C}{E}$ F Dm $\frac{F}{A}$ Bb F C $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{Bb}{D}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ $\frac{C}{Bb}$

Thus cho - sen, now, O Lord, we ask for faith in your

$\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{C7}{G}$ F C $\frac{C}{Bb}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ C F Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

un - fail - ing grace to make us e - qual to the task.