

PRAISE

**THE
HOLY
ONE**



**UNION CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*We welcome all people to experience God's love,
grow spiritually and engage in meaningful service.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

130TH ANNIVERSARY CHORAL CELEBRATION

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

November 17, 2024

**Please stand as you are able.*

This service is livestreaming. Thank you. ♥



ENTER TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"

*When you hear the music, please gather. Be seated and prepare for worship.
Lighting the Candle, we remember God's presence with us.*

PROCESSIONAL PRELUDE "Halle-Halle-Hallelujah"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Words of Welcome & Announcements

INTROIT "This is the Day"

**This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made,
we will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the
day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it; this is the day,
this is the day that our God has made.**

Greeting One Another

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

*Chorus:

***We are one in the bond of love; we are one in the bond of love, we have joined our
spirits with the Spirit of God, we are one in the bond of love.***

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, let us give thanks to God.

**All: We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak and hears
the prayers of the forgotten.**

One: Come, let us give thanks to Christ.

**All: We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are
empty, who hunger, who are alone at this time of year.**

One: Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit.

All: We gather together to exalt the One who prompts us to love, not only our family and friends, but the guests among us.

***INVOCATION**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Handbell Choir

Christ is with us!

Christ is in our midst!

O God, you are the source of our life and the hope of our hearts. We are filled with wonder and we worship you. Every living cell of this universe is filled with your Spirit and every moment of our lives is full of your life-giving presence. You amaze us. Our desire for you is unending. In this time of worship accept our praise, and open us to experience the challenge of your word. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Praise to the Living God”

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS/BAPTISM

Frank Byrd, Teresa Byrd, Thomas Richards, & Patti Yacks

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.



PASTORAL PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Dr. Bryan Ijames

OFFERTORY MOMENT

“Imagine Together”

Jane Grandusky
TRUSTEES TEAM

Song: **“This Little Light of Mine”**
(Call and Response with Soloist)

Brandon, Soloist

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine..let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Won't let the Satan blow it out... I'm gonna let it shine... Won't let the Satan blow it out... I'm gonna let it shine... Won't let the Satan blow it out... I'm gonna let it shine..let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, **I'm gonna let it shine...** Everywhere I go, **I'm gonna let it shine...** Everywhere I go, **I'm gonna let it shine...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

This little light of mine, **I'm gonna let it shine...**This little light of mine, **I'm gonna let it shine...**This little light of mine, **I'm gonna let it shine..let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

***DOXOLOGY** (*Deacons Vanessa & Isaac to bring offerings forward.*)

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 AND COMMITMENT**

As we present our offerings today, we are reminded of your great love for us. Your love knows no bounds and is beyond measure. Help us to reflect your love in all that we do, including our giving. May these gifts be used to spread your love to others, bringing hope and healing to a world in need.

(All children and youth are welcome to attend the Sunday School Class.)

READING OF SCRIPTURES

1 Samuel 1:4-20

Every year this man went from his hometown up to Shiloh to worship and offer a sacrifice to GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies. Eli and his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, served as the priests of GOD there. When Elkanah sacrificed, he passed helpings from the sacrificial meal around to his wife Peninnah and all her children, but he always gave an especially generous helping to Hannah because he loved her so much, and because GOD had not given her children. But her rival wife taunted her cruelly, rubbing it in and never letting her forget that GOD had not given her children. This went on year after year. Every time she went to the sanctuary of GOD she could expect to be taunted. Hannah was reduced to tears and had no appetite.

Her husband Elkanah said, "Oh, Hannah, why are you crying? Why aren't you eating? And why are you so upset? Am I not of more worth to you than ten sons?" So Hannah ate. Then she pulled herself together, slipped away quietly, and entered the sanctuary. The priest Eli was on duty at the entrance to GOD's Temple in the customary seat. Crushed in soul, Hannah prayed to GOD and cried and cried—inconsolably. Then she made a vow: Oh, GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies, If you'll take a good, hard look at my pain, If you'll quit neglecting me and go into action for me By giving me a son, I'll give him completely, unreservedly to you. I'll set him apart for a life of holy discipline.

It so happened that as she continued in prayer before GOD, Eli was watching her closely. Hannah was praying in her heart, silently. Her lips moved, but no sound was heard. Eli jumped to the conclusion that she was drunk. He approached her and said,

“You’re drunk! How long do you plan to keep this up? Sober up, woman!” Hannah said, “Oh no, sir—please! I’m a woman hard used. I haven’t been drinking. Not a drop of wine or beer. The only thing I’ve been pouring out is my heart, pouring it out to GOD. Don’t for a minute think I’m a bad woman. It’s because I’m so desperately unhappy and in such pain that I’ve stayed here so long.” Eli answered her, “Go in peace. And may the God of Israel give you what you have asked of him.” “Think well of me—and pray for me!” she said, and went her way. Then she ate heartily, her face radiant. Up before dawn, they worshiped GOD and returned home to Ramah. Elkanah slept with Hannah his wife, and GOD began making the necessary arrangements in response to what she had asked. Before the year was out, Hannah had conceived and given birth to a son. She named him Samuel, explaining, “I asked GOD for him.”

PSALM 16

Protect me, O God,

for in you I take refuge.

I say to God “You are my God;

I have no good apart from you.

As for the holy ones in the land,

they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

Those who choose another god

multiply their sorrows;

their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out

nor take their names upon my lips.

God is my chosen portion and my cup.

you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

I have a goodly heritage.

I bless God who gives me counsel;

in the night also my heart instructs me.

I keep God always before me; because God is at my right hand,

I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

my body also rests secure.

For you do not give me up to Sheol,

Or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy;

in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Mark 13:1-8

As he walked away from the Temple, one of his disciples said, “Teacher, look at that stonework! Those buildings!” Jesus said, “You’re impressed by this grandiose architecture? There’s not a stone in the whole works that is not going to end up in a heap of rubble.” Later, as he was sitting on Mount Olives in full view of the Temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew got him off by himself and asked, “Tell us, when is this going to happen? What sign will we get that things are coming to a head?”

Jesus began, "Watch out for doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, 'I'm the One.' They will deceive a lot of people. When you hear of wars and rumored wars, keep your head and don't panic. This is routine history, and no sign of the end. Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. But these things are nothing compared to what's coming.

Thanks be to God!

SONG OF PREPARATION "Praise His Holy Name" Arr. Mary McDonald
130th Anniversary Celebration Chorus

SERMON "Praise The Holy One" Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

***CLOSING HYMN** "Blessed Assurance"

CHORAL BLESSING: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Carly, Bryan,
Pastor Sheila, Ralph & Tom

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE "Halle-Halle-Hallelujah"
DEPART TO SERVE



WELCOME DR. BRYAN IJAMES, TODAY'S MASTER CONDUCTOR

Union is please to welcome back Dr. Bryan Ijames as today's Master Conductor for our 130th Anniversary Choral Celebration. Dr. Ijames currently serves as the Assistant Professor of Music for the Bower School of Music & the Arts in the College of Arts & Sciences at the Florida Gulf Coast University.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – November 17, 2024

Frank Byrd is married for 18 years. Enjoys watching football. His favorite food is fish. His hobbies are sports and fishing. Frak's favorite Hymn is Bless the Lord."

Teresa Byrd has been married to Frak Byrd for 18years. Her interest include reading and walking. Teresa's favorite Hymn is "This Little Light of mine" and favorite Bible Passage is Psalm 23.

Thomas (Tom) Richards is from Michigan. His interests include, music, travel, concerts and food. Tom has a Bachelor & a Master degree in music. His favorite hymn is "How Great Thou Art". His Life Motto: No matter who tries to knock me down, God will lift me up!

Patti Yacks is from Rose City, Michigan. Patti has 2 daughters and one grandson. Her hobby is gardening. Patti's favorite hymn is "Amazing Grace" and her favorite Bible Passage is John 3:16. Her Life Motto: "Reach one, teach one."





We **WELCOME** each of you to this celebration of worship. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our Guest register in the Narthex. Offering envelopes are found in the pocket on the back of the chairs in the sanctuary for your convenience.

Participating in Today's Service:

Readers

Rebekah Guy, George Gerson, Dorothy Bates

Assisting

Vanessa Nuñez

Union's Joys & Prayer Concerns

Joys: All Birthdays in November! Our Church Family! Union's Choral Celebration! New Member Sunday! Stewardship Moment!

Concerns:

Pastor Sheila's family and friends; Ada Harvey's grandson, Grant; Doug Cornwell; Tom Richards; Melanie Shepherd; Marjorie Hanson's family and friends; Rosemarie Lightfoot's father, Tom; Richard Lightfoot; Ada Harvey and family; Beth White; Louise's friend, Martha; Susan Harrell's husband, George; Vanessa's grandfather & cousin, Elsa Velez; John Webster family and friends: Rev. Marion Harrison; David's family members, Evelyn Soza, Jerman Rodrigues, Carmen, Malgarita; Donna's brother, Clevert; Adelaida Hernandez; Linda DiPaola's family & friends; George Gerson's Brother, Michael; Gail Fei's friend, Helga's daughter, Katya; Melanie's Friend, Donna; Alice Payne; Borjana's son, Petar; Ruth Deischer's sister-in-law, Susan Deischer; Renna McGinnis; George Gerson's friends, Diane & Timothy Scott; Wayne Johnson; Karen's friend, Kris; George Gerson's nephew, Glenn; Ruth Cassidy's husband, Bill; Doug Cornwell's family; Billie Wilson; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; Jan Mark; Rod Jennings; Jan Mark's son, Gary; Justice & Peace efforts; grieving, depression and anxiety; all refugees; Ukraine War; Puerto Rico; Haiti; Gun violence everywhere; Environmental concerns; Maui, HI, Florida; Israel conflict; Hurricane victims



Flowers are presented by John Webster in loving memory of his wife, Nancy Louise Webster.



Sunday School Highlight

God is always with us! Join us in Sunday School as we explore ways to help us remember that God is always with us. Life can be hard and challenging, fun and joyous! Where is God in each of these moments? Come and share your thoughts and wisdom with each other!



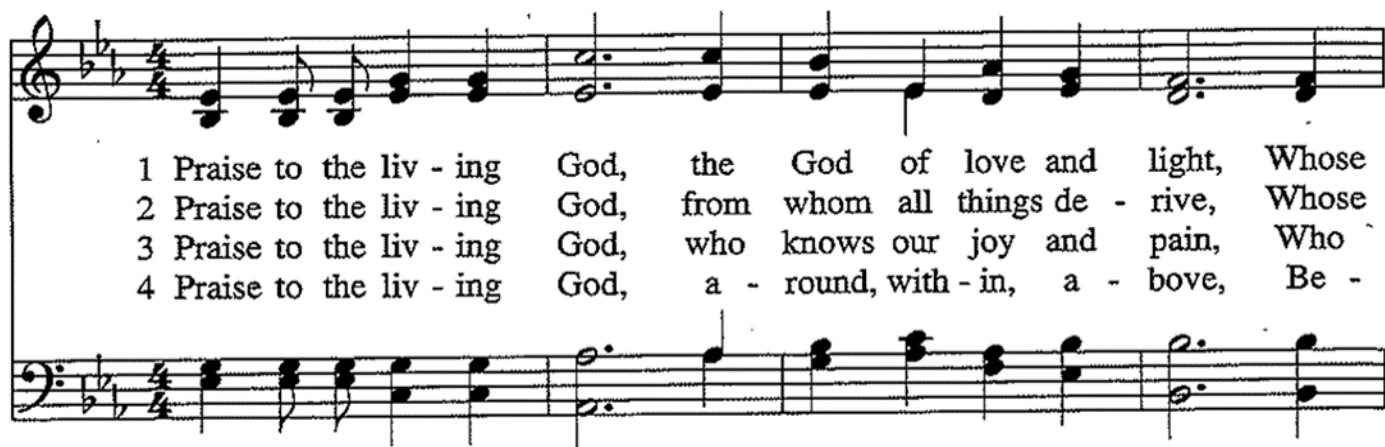
SILENT AUCTION ITEMS



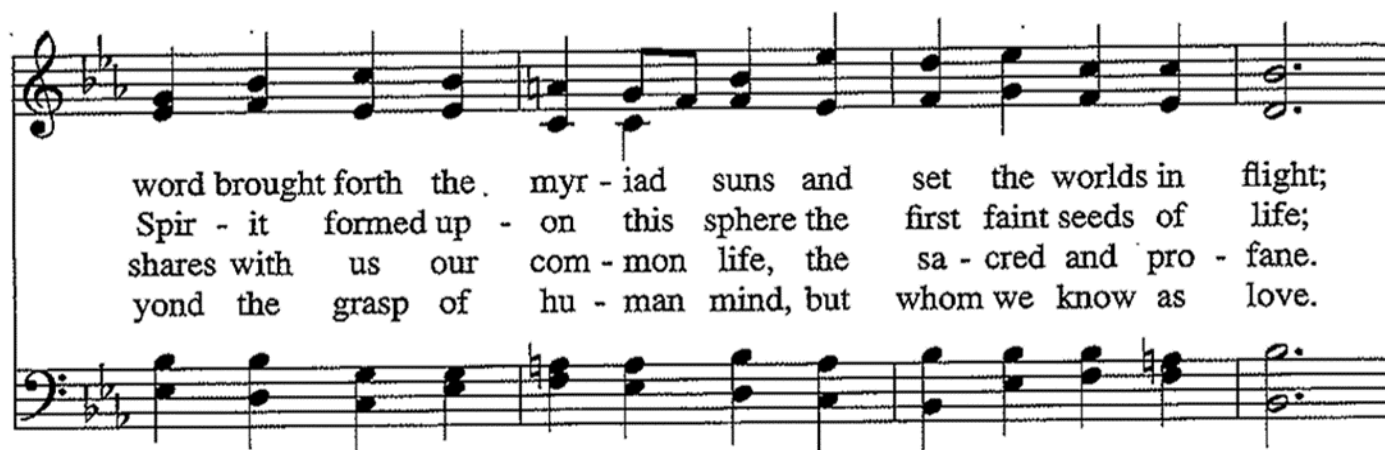
If you are interested in any of the Silent Auction items, fill out the bid sheets in person or virtually by sending an email to zaida@unionucc.net with your bid. The Silent Auction will close on Sunday, November 24, 2024, during the Celebration Luncheon. Your support is appreciated. Spread the news!

Ps. 84:1-2

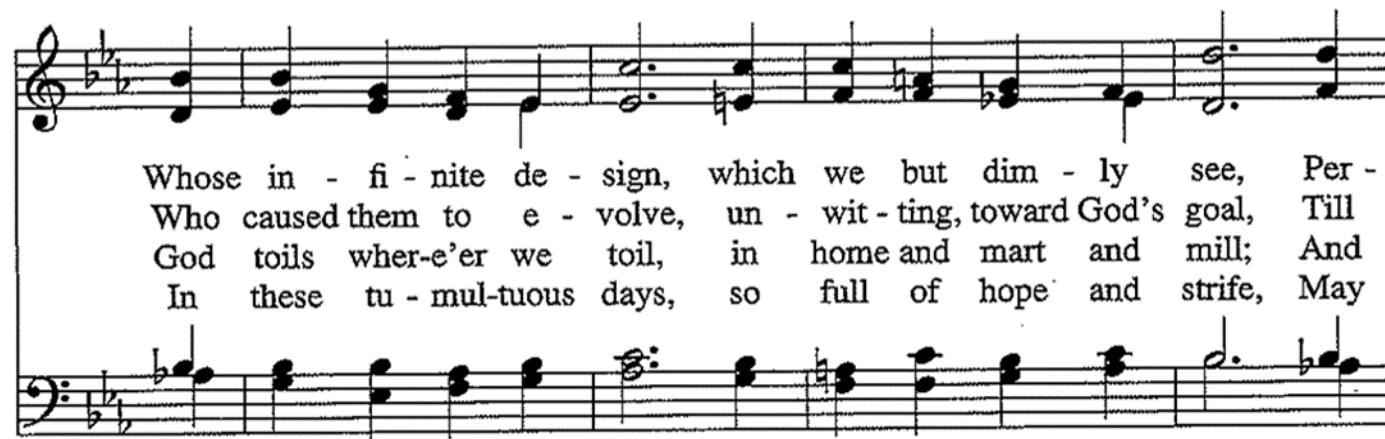
Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.



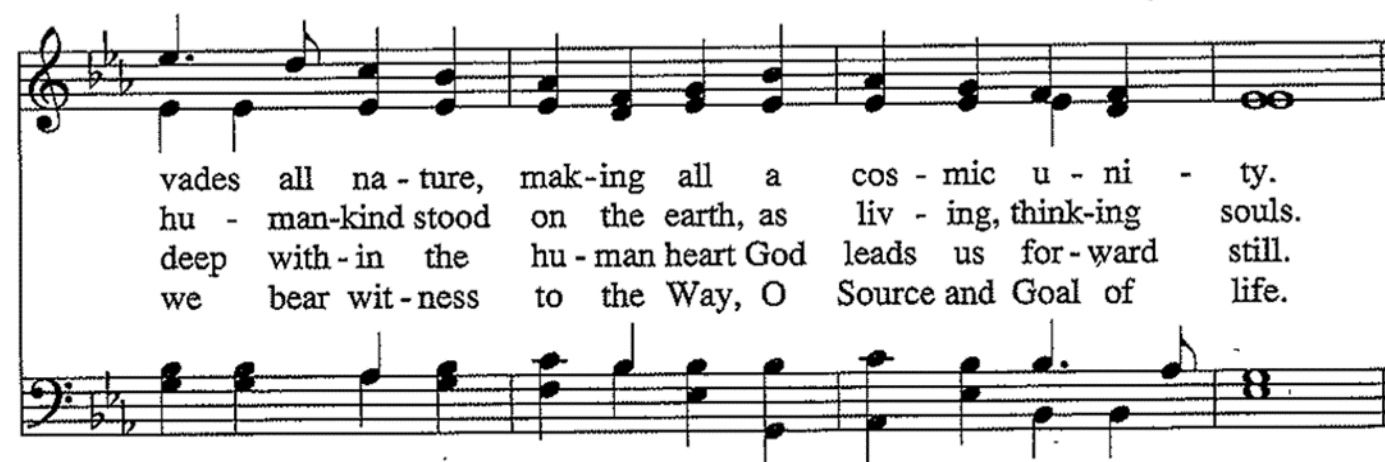
1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
 2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
 3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
 4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -



word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
 Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
 shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
 yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.



Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
 Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
 God toils wher - e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
 In these tu - mul - tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May



vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
 hu - man - kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
 deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
 we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Acts 17:30-31; Rev. 7:9-14

Fanny Crosby, 1873; alt.

1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

God, born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 above, ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 above, filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.



THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Fellowship is accepting monetary donations for Thanksgiving gift cards so the family can purchase their own Thanksgiving Meal. We would like to set a goal this year for 8 Meals of \$50 each. You can call the church office to arrange for drop-off time between 10 am to 12 pm Tuesday through Friday. You also can send monetary gifts via mail to 5088 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach FL 33415 or through our website at Unionucc.net and hit the "Give Now" button.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

**How can I
give to
Union UCC?**

MOBILE:
Scan this
Code



ONLINE:
UNIONUCC.NET (GIVE)

ENVELOPE:
CASH AND CHECKS MADE
PAYABLE TO UNION UCC



A NOTE FROM WAMM

Union is seeking a Live-Streaming Technician for Sunday Worship. Please contact the office via email at: zaida@union.com.

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
5088 SUMMIT BLVD, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415**

Ministers of the Church

All of Us

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

Music Director

Donya Lane

Guest Master Conductor

Dr. Bryan Ijames

Email Address:

Pastor Sheila

sheila@unionucc.net

Office - Zaida Pacheco

zaida@unionucc.net / office@unionucc.net

Union Congregational Church, UCC:

unionucc.net

Florida Conference, UCC

www.uccfla.org

National UCC:

www.ucc.org

Office Phone: 561-686-0330 - please leave a message.

Go to www.unionucc.net to see more of our news.

Office Hours are: Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00AM – 1:00 PM.

THIS WEEK AT UNION UCC

Sunday, November 17, 2024 – New Member Sunday & Choral Celebration!

10:30 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:45 AM Diaconate Meeting



Tuesday - Friday - Prayer Room is Available

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Open during office hours!

Sunday, November 24, 2024 – 130th CELEBRATION SUNDAY!

10:30 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Celebration Luncheon & Silent Auction – Sign-up TODAY!



**Church
Anniversary
Celebration**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Choral Celebration Ft. Bryan Ijames - Nov. 17

Come, listen to Union's Singers and Handbell Players!

Celebration Luncheon & Silent Auction - Nov. 24

Many ways to support Union: Become a Sponsor,

Give \$1 for each year, Turn in a Pledge/Commitment Card,

and Participate in our Amazing Silent Auction!

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 17, 2024

1 Samuel 1:4-20

Praise the Holy One

Are you weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care, precious Savior still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer.

Joseph M. Scriven knew what it was like to be cumbered with a load of care. Early on, Scriven had to drop out of military school due to poor health. Then, in 1844, on the eve of this wedding his fiancé drowned. After moving to Canada, Scriven found — and lost — love again. His fiancé died this time after a short illness.

Yet through it all, Scriven kept believing that there was a Heavenly Ear listening to his cries. In 1855, he expressed that belief in the ever-popular hymn, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.”

Scriven’s reminder to take our sorrow-riddled sighs and desperation-filled whys to God is one we need today. We live in a time where we no longer know how to wait for anything — let alone God’s answer to prayer. We live in an on-demand society expecting God to be an on-demand God.

God, though, never forgets us. It might seem like God keeps us waiting in our sorrow, questions and trials, but God’s timing is not like ours. In the waiting, we need to draw closely to God and remain persistent with our prayers.

Hannah is the poster child for being persistent. Although her load of care — her infertility — was breaking her heart, she kept asking God to “open her womb.” Hannah’s husband, Elkanah, was kind to her, but Peninnah, the other wife, loved to flaunt her fertility in front of Hannah.

Years of societal shame, marital failure and personal grief, would have taken its toll on any person of faith. Hannah, though, kept praying.

In the end, Hannah’s prayers were heard. She conceived a son and, as promised, to show her praise to the Lord, she gives the child to the service of the priest, Eli.

What are the unanswered prayers you are carrying this day? How long have you been lifting them to God? Whatever you do, don’t stop praying. For you just can’t see how close you really are to receiving God’s answer.

Dear God, grant us the persistence we need this day to keep on praying, knowing that You are not only listening but that You are working on the most beautiful answer to our deepest desires. Thank you for the answered prayers that we know will come — in your perfect timing. Amen.