

## Order of Worship

February 25, 2018 — Second Sunday in Lent

\*Please stand ... in body or in spirit, as you are comfortable.

**Bold words are spoken in unison**  
***Bold Italics are words sung in unison***

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP

#### MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*There is a Balm in Gilead*

Arr. Hayes

*Jason Aquila, Organist*

#### ENTRANCE OF LIGHT OF CHRIST, a symbol of Jesus' presence

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Is the God you come to worship a God of inclusive love  
or a God of anger and condemnation and judgement?

*[period of silence for each to reflect on this question]*

Is the Jesus you desire to follow one who loves some but not  
others?

*[period of silence for each to reflect on this question]*

What does it mean to you when the Apostle Paul writes,  
“faith, hope, and love abide, but the greatest of these is love!”?

*[period of silence for each to reflect on this question]*

Come my friends, let us worship and reflect together  
on these and other important questions as we journey together.

**We come to worship, to learn, to grow, to serve, to evolve,  
perhaps to migrate as we live together under the brand  
called Christianity.**

#### \*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 8

*Praise to the Living God*

## Please Keep the Following People in Your Prayers

The family of Connie Stover (former long-time member)  
Pearl Wood  
Konnie Wenneman  
Paula Deal  
Marilynn Wheeler (friend of Diane Schwing)  
John Michelich  
Pamela Bloomingdale (niece of Konnie Wenneman)  
Bob Patzwahl  
Carol Adams  
Marge Hall  
Paulette Taylor (friend of Jane Huml)  
Nola Branch  
Chuck Hughes  
Karen Farmer  
Chuck Zaugg  
Jay Welch (friend of Carol Peddie)  
Jim Gartner (son of Ruth Gartner)  
Gail Rattray and son Brian (relatives of Sandy Evans)  
Lyda Dacek (friend of Marcia Powles)  
Andy Bischof  
Nola Branch  
Katie Gartner (granddaughter of Ruth Gartner)  
Joyce Droescher  
Jane Huml  
Julie Simpson (daughter of Carole Adams)  
Jeremy Steinbrick (grandson of Andy & Jan Bischof)  
Annette Keen (friend of Karen Farmer)  
Jon Fields (frind of Chuck & Carol Mealy)  
Steve Kneale (son of Jane Huml)  
Bonnie Everett (niece of Rich & Debbie Shank)  
Megan Mealy  
Bob Waidman (brother of Jeanne Long)  
Duncan Simpson (grandson of Carole Adams)  
Lydia Chan (friend of the Kvasnickas)

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

### Today, February 25

Second Sunday in Lent  
First Small Group Meeting on  
Constitution and By Laws  
Caregivers meet after church

### Monday, February 26

Yoga, 11:15 a.m.  
Consistory 7:15

### Tuesday, February 27

Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, February 28

Carillon Bell Choir, 7 p.m.  
Chancel Choir, 8 p.m.

### 3rd Sunday in Lent, March 4

UCC Women's Week

### SPECIAL THANKS THIS MORNING:

**Liturgist:** Julie Barnes

**Acolytes:** Ben and Victoria Miller

**Flowers:** Today's altar flowers and bulletins are sponsored by Emma Kozar, in memory of her daughter, Deborah Anne.

**THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER** The next Thursday Night Gathering will be March 1 at 5 p.m. at King Wah, 20668 Center Ridge. Sign up in the Gathering Room.

**CLEAN-UP DAY** The next Redeemer CLEAN-UP DAY will be March 3, from 9 a.m. to noon, with LUNCH served at noon. Please plan to be there to help give a spring cleaning to our church building!

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS SMALL GROUP MEETINGS** will be held after worship today and March 4 in the Lounge. Review the documents and come to either meeting with your questions.

**YOGA CLASS** meets Mondays from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY** Jim Stone facilitates study on favorite Bible passages every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

**BULLETIN PRAYER LIST** The Sunday bulletin prayer list is cleaned out approximately every four weeks. If you wish to have someone remain on the current list, please notify Emma Kozar (440-899-6221) by Feb. 28 for the March bulletins.

**EASTER LILY ORDERS** Order your Easter lilies! See the order form in this bulletin or on the info table in the Gathering Room. Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 18.

### \*WE PRAY TOGETHER

Let us pray together:

**God, help us not to be afraid to question and re-examine all that has been handed down throughout the ages regarding our understanding of God our creator and Jesus whom we follow. Forgive us when we use our faith to create fear and division and judgement for that is not the Way of Jesus. Help us in this Lenten Season as we struggle to go deeper into our faith, into what you call us to be and to do. Reveal to us the Way of Life — the Way of Love. Help us to learn and share and teach the profound art of loving as God and Jesus loves. Amen.**

### \*WE SING PRAISE TO GOD

***Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,  
Three in One; as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

### WE LISTEN FOR OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD

#### MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

*My Two Blankets*

Margaret Borrelli, Faith Formation Minister

*(Following these moments, our children recess to their Sunday Morning Program. Our nursery is available for infants, and there is a lounge opposite the sanctuary where the service may be heard. You may wish to join in blessing the children as they go by singing:)*

***Go now in peace; go now in peace.  
May the love of God surround you  
ev'-ry-where, ev'-ry-where you ... may ... go.***

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR CHANCEL CHOIR

*I Surrender All to You*

McDonald

*Carol Peddie, Director*

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR SCRIPTURE

John 2:13-22 (Message); Matthew 22:36-39 (NRSV, p. 900);  
John 13:34-35 (NRSV, p. 982)

Our God is still speaking:  
**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*The Great Spiritual Migration from a System of Beliefs  
to a Way of Life based on Love*

The Rev. James Cunningham  
Interim Pastor for Worship & Pastoral Care

**WE RESPOND TO OUR STILL-SPEAKING GOD**

THE PASTOR'S PRAYER

WE PRAY TOGETHER THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

**Our Father (God), 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.**

WE OFFER OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN GRATITUDE TO GOD

Invitation and Offering

In response to God's love for us and the love Jesus  
demonstrated for us let us offer our lives and gifts as a  
demonstration of our call to love as we are loved.

Offertory Music

*Grave in E Minor*  
Alcock  
Jason Aquila, Organist

\*WE SING OUR SONG OF PRAISE

No. 780

***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.***

\*WE DEDICATE OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

Let us pray together:

**God we are grateful for the love from which you created us  
and the love we experience in you abiding presence with us**

**on our journey. Make of our lives and these gifts a life of  
love that bears faithful witness to who you are and how  
Jesus taught us all to live. Amen.**

\*WE SING TOGETHER

No. 533

*Children of God*

THE PASTOR OFFERS FINAL WORDS AND A BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*Fugue in G Minor*

Händel

Jason Aquila, Organist

DEPART TO BE THE LOVE OF GOD IN THE WORLD

**ASSIGNMENTS THIS WEEK:**

1. How do your beliefs influence the behavioral choices you make each day? How can you learn more about the profound art of truly being loving? Who can you ask to help you learn what words you use/omit, what non-verbal language you show, or what behaviors you exhibit that might not be perceived as "loving?"

2. If you are reading "The Way of Life," I invite you to read Chapter 2 for next week. If you are reading "The Great Spiritual Migration," I invite you to read the three chapters under "Part II."

**For reflection:**

A rabbi said, "that's something about you Christians that never made sense to me as a Jew. We don't read stories in the Bible looking for beliefs. We read them for meaning.... And we never let one interpretation end the conversation. We see our sacred stories as bottomless wells of meaning" (The Great Spiritual Migration, p. 25).

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**Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ**

is an Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation

**All are Welcome**

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