

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, August 13, 2023
11th 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](https://www.sprucc.org) at [sprucc.org](https://www.sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [Our YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
[Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](https://www.sprucc.org) 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)

Alive God, in the quiet of this moment, speak to us. Assure us of your love and influence and, yes, even interference in our lives. It is all for the good. Protect us from the evil one. Thank you for your quiet joy and for the fireworks joy!

PIANO PRELUDE

"A Friend Indeed"

*by Charles C. Converse;
arranged for piano by Terry Osman*

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Be Still My Soul"

*♪ Red #87
One License #A-728042*

*INVOCATION

Leader: We worship 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 85*

Leader: I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;

People: for you speak peace to your faithful people

Leader: and to those who turn their hearts to you.

People: Truly your salvation is very near to those who fear you,

Leader: that your glory may dwell in our land.

People: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth.

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)

God of patience, when are we quiet enough to listen? When are we still enough to receive your peace? Open our hearts to believe that Jesus is Lord; that Jesus died and lived again so that we may have eternal life in heaven. Yes, we proclaim loudly in the silence, "Jesus is Lord!"

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

♪ *Red #226*

*John Greenleaf Whittier, Frederick C. Maker
Public Domain*

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

Fellow believers, God's assurance that Jesus died for you and for me may come in the silence of a valley with encircling echoes or from the mountaintop with long stretched-out echoes. We are responsible to keep this assurance alive. We must not let the echoes stop. The word is to be shared, not kept in secret places.

*CALL TO PRAISE

Leader: O Lord, open our lips

People: **And our mouths shall show forth your praise.**

***SUNG PRAISE**

"Come, Let us Praise the Lord"

W&R #9

*Timothy Dudley-Smith; John Darwall
One License #A-728042*

**Come, let us praise the Lord, with joy our God acclaim,
His greatness tell abroad and bless his saving name.
Lift high your songs before his throne to whom alone all praise belongs.**

{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

The Old Testament Reading: [1 Kings 19:9-18](#)

The New Testament Letter: [Romans 10: 5-15](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: [Matthew 25:22-33](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"Mid all the Traffic of the Ways"

Red #232

Public Domain

MINI-MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S SONG *"Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him in the Morning"*

Traditional

**Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him in the morning, Praise Him in the noontime.
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him when the sun goes down.**

SERMON

"In the Quiet"

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)** *United Church of Christ Statement of Faith* ①
(Section One about God)

**All: 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}

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

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 Lord, Hear My Prayer”

W&R #484
One License #A-728042

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
come and listen to me.**

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: Jesus said as he walked on water,

People: "Do not be afraid. It is I. Take heart"

Leader: As we decide how much to give to this offering,

People: "Let us not be afraid. Take heart."

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 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}.

VOCAL OFFERTORY

“Touch the Earth Lightly”
Soloist: Sheri Rowe

Words: Shirley Erena Murray
Music: Colin Gibson

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

“As Saints of Old Their First-fruits Brought”

W&R #570

Words: Frank von Christierson
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams
One License #A-728042

**As saints of old their first-fruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield;
so we today our first-fruits bring: the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩ (Leader)**

Oh generous God, we took heart. We are trusting that our gifts please you. In the belief that you know all about our circumstances, we thank you for your mercy. Bless these gifts and direct us in their use, whether for mission or maintenance. For your guidance, we give thanks. In the name of the one who died and rose again, 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: In the quiet,

People: God has spoken.

Leader: In the quiet,

People: God has provided.

Leader: In the quiet,

People: let us go and serve!

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"I Surrender All"

W&R #474
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

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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 - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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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

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz - PastorMotz@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - mestme@aol.com - 610-659-2775 (C)

Music Minister: The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

Bell Choir Director: Miriam Borkert

Office Secretary: Geri Gammel - Office@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Sextons: Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

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, August 13, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 *and* Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b *or* **1 Kings 19:9-18 *and* Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33**

The Book of First Kings

During the Middle Ages, the Book of Kings was divided into two parts. The first book provides a history of the Israelite people and their theological struggles from the death of King David (970 B.C.), through the reign of King Solomon, to the division of Israel into the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah, to the death of King Ahab, to the rule of his son Ahaziah (850 B.C.).

Psalm 85

This OT song is a prayer of lament, asking God for His divine favor and blessing. God responds to the prayer with an oracle of salvation. The Korahites were singers and one of the four divisions of the priestly Levite tribe of Israel.

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, August 20, 2023, Lectionary Reading for 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 *and* Psalm 133 *or* Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 *and* Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

His Providence and Love

KATHARINA VON SCHLEGEL, 1752
Tr. JANE L. BORTHWICK, 1855

10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10.

FINLANDIA

JEAN SIBELIUS

In flowing rhythm

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side; . . . Bear pa-tient-ly the
2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take . . . To guide the fu - ture
3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has-tening on . . . When we shall be for

cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide; . .
as He has the past. Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake; .
ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone, . .


In ev - ery change He faith - ful will re - main. Be still, my soul: thy
All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the
Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored. Be still, my soul: when

best, thy heavenly Friend Through thorn-y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
change and tears are past, All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last. A-MEN.



The Christian Life

JOHN OXENHAM, 1917


C.M.

ST. AGNES
JOHN B. DYKES, 1866*In rather slow time*


1. 'Mid all the traf - fic of the ways— Tur - moils with - out, with - in—
 2. A lit - tle shrine of qui - et - ness, All sa - cred to Thy - self,
 3. A lit - tle shel - ter from life's stress, Where I may lay me prone,
 4. A lit - tle place of mys - tic grace, Of self and sin swept bare,

Make in my heart a qui - et place, And come and dwell there - in:
 Where Thou shalt all my soul pos - sess, And I may find my - self;
 And bare my soul in lone - li - ness, And know as I am known;
 Where I may look up - on Thy face, And talk with Thee in prayer. A - MEN.



Words used by permission of John Oxenham.

I Surrender All

474

Db Gb Db Ab7 Fm Ab7 Db Gb Db Ab7 Fm Db

1 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, all to him I free-ly give;
 2 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, hum-bly at his feet I bow,
 3 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, make me, Sav-ior, whol-ly thine;
 4 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, Lord, I give my-self to thee;

Db Gb Db Ab7 Fm Ab7 Db Gb Db Ab7 Fm Db

I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres-ence dai - ly live.
 world - ly pleas-ures all for-sak - en: take me, Je - sus, take me now.
 may thy Ho - ly Spir - it fill me, may I know thy power di - vine.
 fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless-ing fall on me.

Refrain
 Db Gb Db Ab7 Ab Fm Ab7 Db

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,
 I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,

Db Gb Db Ab Gb Db Ab7 Db Ab7 Db

all to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.