



Welcome to Worship

March 17, 2024

9:30 AM



Rev. Alex Molozaui, Pastor

WELCOME

We're glad you're here!



If you're seeking a church home and would like to know more about us, please ask an usher for a welcome packet. We'd love for you to join us!

Please sign in on the friendship pads at the end of each pew so that we may have a record of your attendance.

WE'VE PREPARED

a place for you!



Hearing Loop—Those with compatible hearing aids should switch them to the 'T Coil' setting.



Large Print Bulletins are available for those with challenged eyesight.

THIS MORNING'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please stand (if you are comfortably able) for portions of the service marked with an asterisk ().*

WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Why are you here?

**ALL: I am seeking God with my whole heart,
with my entire mind,
with a fire burning in my bones.**

LEADER: I see it! You're in the right place!
This is God's house. The door is open to you.

ALL: Why are *you* here?

LEADER: I am seeking God with my whole heart,
with my entire mind,
with a fire burning in my bones.

**ALL: We see that in you! You're in the right place.
This is God's house. The door is open to you.**

LEADER: Let us worship God.

ALL: Let us learn from the Spirit.

*OPENING HYMN

"Where Charity and Love Prevail" 396

WE PREPARE TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Holy God,

We long to be lifelong learners.

We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind.

Instead, we often live as if we know best.

We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.”

Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious.

Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best.

Forgive us for the moments when we imagine

that our learning is done and that we have all the answers.

Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask,

“*How many times should we forgive?*”—make us brave.

Spark a desire in us to learn,

and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters.

With hope and humility we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Passing the Peace of Christ is a ritual as old as the New Testament. It is a time to recall that we are called to be one in the Body of Christ, rather than a time to greet friends. Traditionally, one will say “The peace of Christ be with you.” The customary response is “and also with you.”

*GLORIA PATRI

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the

Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalter reading.....	Psalm 119:9-16	Page 535
<i>The ordinances of God are not presented as a strict set of rules and regulations in this Psalm, but a way of life or approach to being that brings one closer to God.</i>		
Gospel reading.....	Matthew 18:15-22	Page 19
<i>Jesus spends his time teaching his disciples how to disagree and, more importantly, how to reconcile. Peter is humble and open to learning, even if he’s surprised by the lesson.</i>		

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Children of all ages are welcome to come, with or without a parent, to the front of the church to join in a time of learning and prayer especially for kids.

SERMON

Rev. Alex Moložaiy

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“Love Your Neighbor and Forgive”		tune: <i>Go to Dark Gethsemane</i>
1. “Love your neighbor and forgive”	3. Love is risky, peace is faint	
Words so simple yet so hard	And forgiveness feels naïve	
We have wounds because we’ve lived	All are sinners, all are saints	
Calluses enfold our hearts	And we all God’s grace receive	
Jesus reaches out to touch	So we follow mercy’s way	
Wounds and hearts that hold too much	Softening our hearts to grace	
2. Sounds of bombs and bullets ring		
War is all we’ve ever known		
Pacifists are framed as weak		
We rely on might alone		
Jesus paves the paths of peace		
Even as the threats increase		

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

LEADER: We believe that questions are a building block of faith.

ALL: “How many times should I forgive?”
“Jesus, where are you going?”
“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”

LEADER: We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.

ALL: “Where does it hurt?”
“What do you need?”
“How can I help?”

LEADER: We believe that God is a teacher.

ALL: “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”
“Here I am.”
“Send me.”

LEADER: We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,

ALL: with all our heart,
with all our mind,
with all our strength.

LEADER: We believe. Help our unbelief.

ALL: In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.



SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Anyone who wishes may share the name of a person or group in need of prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Please use “sins” and “those who sin against us.”

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY



***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow: Praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host:
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

We dedicate these offerings to the proclamation of your Word,
the teaching of your ways, and the living of your will for all creation.
We reach out with joy and gladness to offer your love to the world.
May these gifts enable the sharing of your presence with many who
have not experienced your reconciling and healing love.
In covenant with you, we share the joys and obligations of ministry
for we follow in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus
and offer everything, even this prayer, in his name. Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO LIVE THE WORD OF GOD

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” 498

***BLESSING AND SENDING**

***POSTLUDE**

You may exit the sanctuary at your leisure after the candles are extinguished and the acolyte has returned up the main aisle. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



Latin hymn, "Ubi caritas et amor," 9th century
Paraphr. by Omer Westendorf, 1961; alt.

1. Where char-i-ty and love pre-vail,
there God is ev-er found;
Brought here to-geth-er by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.
2. With grate-ful joy and ho-ly fear
true char-i-ty we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and strength
now love Christ in re-turn.
3. For-give we now each oth-er's faults
as we our faults con-fess;
And let us love each oth-er well
in Chris-tian ho-li-ness.
4. Let strife a-mong us be un-known,
let all con-ten-tion cease;
Be Christ the glo-ry that we seek,
be ours Christ's ho-ly peace.

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain:

Je-su, Je-su, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1. Knelt at the feet of his friends,
si-lent-ly wash-ing their feet,
Je-su, you act-ed as ser-vant to them.

Refrain:

2. Neigh-bors are rich and poor,
var-ied in col-or and race,
neigh-bors are near and far a-way.

Refrain:

3. These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neigh-bors to us and you.

Refrain:

4. Lov-ing puts us on our knees,
show-ing our faith by our deeds,
serv-ing the neigh-bors we have from you.

Refrain:

5. Kneel at the feet of our friends,
si-lent-ly wash-ing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.

Refrain:



Children's Bulletin

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Wandering Heart: "Teach me"

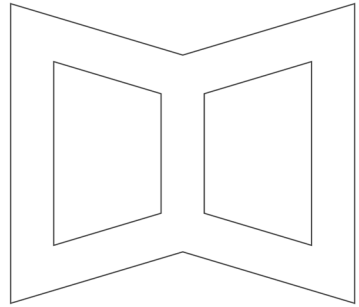
MATTHEW 18:15-22



Main Idea:

Jesus teaches us how to take care of each other.

Color the book icon red to represent forgiveness.



Find Color the words from Matthew 18:15-22 as you hear them in the worship service!

two TELL ONE earth WILL sister
heaven TIMES BROTHER
sins listened SEVEN truly WITNESSES
WHATEVER refuses said CHURCH
you POINT forgiveness THREE

Search

The disciples often called Jesus their teacher, because he was always teaching them about the way God wants us to live. Who else do you learn from? Draw them below!

Pray

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to teach us how to take care of each other. Help me to say sorry when I've hurt someone and to forgive others when they hurt me. In Jesus' name, amen.

COMMUNITY PROTESTANT CHURCH

418 N Prairie Ave Mundelein, IL 60060-1797
phone: (847) 566-4000 fax: (847) 984-9349
website: www.communityprotestant.org
Church Office hours: Mon—Thu 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

a congregation of the
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

www.ucc.org

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers
The Members of Community Protestant Church

Pastor
Rev. Alex Molozaiy.....pastoralex@communityprotestant.org

Church Musician
Margot Downey.....margotdowney8@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant
Bill Balmer.....bill@communityprotestant.org

SERVING YOU TODAY

Trustee.....Patt Clymer

Saturday Deacon.....Rick Clymer

Sunday Deacon.....Rick Clymer

Reader.....Deanne Moore

Song Leader.....Christyn Hannigan

Fellowship Host.....

LAST WEEK’S IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

Sunday 9:30am.....47

LAUGHING IN CHURCH...



THE CHURCH WEEK AT A GLANCE

Live links to the Zoom meetings listed are available on our website at communityprotestant.org/calendar

Today, March 17th, 2024

8:15 am	Adult Ed	Zoom #847 566 4000
9:30 am	Sunday School	201
9:30 am	Worship	Live or Online via Website or Facebook
10:30 am	Fellowship	101
11:30 am	Jubilee Church Worship	201

Monday, March 18th, 2024

Nothing scheduled

Tuesday, March 19th, 2024

6:00 am	Jubilee Prayer Meeting	201
8:00 am	Woodcarvers Club	103
7:00 pm	Council	Zoom #8475664000

Wednesday, March 20th, 2024

6:00 am	Jubilee Prayer Meeting	201
6:15 pm	Soup & Bread	101
7:00 pm	Wandering Heart Bible Study	103

Thursday, March 21st, 2024

6:00 am	Jubilee Prayer Meeting	201
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Friday, March 22nd, 2024

6:00 am	Jubilee Prayer Meeting	201
8:00 pm	Jubilee Worship	201

Saturday, March 23rd, 2024

Nothing scheduled
Ian Clymer's birthday

Next Sunday, March 24th, 2024 Palm Sunday

8:15 am	Adult Ed	Zoom #847 566 4000
9:30 am	Worship	Live or Online via Website or Facebook
10:30 am	Palm Sunday Brunch	101
11:30 am	Jubilee Church Worship	201
	Amy Stramich's birthday	

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please welcome guest organist **Allan Koetz** to worship today as he fills in for Margot, who is out of town.



Our **Lenten Soup and Bread Suppers** have returned on Wednesdays at 6:15pm from February 21st through March 20th! Come enjoy a simple meal and fellowship throughout the season of Lent. If you'd like to help host our meal, find more details and available dates online at: tiny.cc/soupsignup



If you're able, plan to stay for our group exploration of the **upcoming Sunday's scriptures in our Wandering Heart worship series at 7pm**, led by Pastor Alex.



The devotional book accompanying this series is available online at: tiny.cc/wanderingheart and a small number of printed copies are available at the church for those who prefer it on paper.



Please order your **Altar Flowers** well in advance so we can give the florist ample notice to provide them.



CPC Office Admin Bill Balmer will be performing in "**Victorious, Eternal, Light—A Jazz Passion**" **today at 4:00 pm** at First Church of Lombard (UCC), 220 S. Main St. Lombard. **Admission and parking are FREE.** This is an original setting of the Passion of Christ, composed by members of the band, which features some of the best jazz musicians in Chicago history. Visit churchjazz.com for more information.



Fremont Township Food Pantry Needs— taco shells, taco seasoning, sloppy joe sauce, pancake syrup, soup, jello/pudding, spaghetti sauce, cornbread mix, juice, coffee, hot cocoa, toilet cleaner, body wash, laundry detergent, razors, bathroom shampoo/conditioner, bathroom cleaners, lotion, and mouthwash. Thank you for your generosity!

Palm Sunday & Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

9:30 am—Worship with procession of the palms

10:30 am—Palm Sunday Potluck Brunch

Easter Sunday, March 31

9:30 am—Easter Worship

WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns

Vicki Brouwer.....	Sister In-Law of Wanda Knautz.....	Health Concern
Michael Carberry.....	Brother of Patt Clymer.....	Health Concern
Dot Fox.....	Grandmother of Maddie Fox.....	Health Concern
Carol Horn.....	Church Member.....	Health Concern
Debbie Kious.....	Church Member.....	Health Concern
Kevin Kious.....	Church Member.....	Health Concern
Clark Patenaude.....	Friend of Jen Popowitch.....	Health Concern
Tim Schrimpf.....	Son of Anne Schrimpf.....	Health Concern
Jerry Shelato.....	Friend of Lorraine Kocian.....	Health Concern
Leslie Underwood.....	Friend of Patt Clymer.....	Health Concern
Masoumeh Wall.....	Church Member.....	Health Concern

Remember to complete a prayer request if you have someone you'd like to add!

- **If you wish to share your joy or concern in print** (i.e. in this space and in The Beacon), please complete a prayer request card and place it in the offering. Please do so even if you choose to share your prayer joy or concern aloud during prayer time.
- **If you want to share a joy or concern, but do not want it in print** you can share it aloud during joys and concerns. If you do not complete a prayer request card, your joy or concern will not appear in future bulletins or in The Beacon.
- **Duration of Prayer Requests** Names submitted with concerns will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks. Joys will be shared for one week and in The Beacon. If the need for prayer continues, simply fill out another card at the end of the 4 week period.

In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Mary Jane Denison.....	10 Hawthorn Pkwy #3008, Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1437 224-566-0156
Judy Helge.....	Radford Green Health Center at Sedgebrook Room 236, Lincolnshire, IL 60069 847-566-8894
Dorothy Janda.....	97 W Phillip Rd #402 Vernon Hills 60061
Doris Nehmer.....	180 W Half Day Rd #208 Buffalo Grove IL 60089-6522

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Jeremiah 31:31-34

DEEP IN OUR HEARTS

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Jeremiah 31:32

One of the distinct features of many United Church of Christ conferences, associations and congregations compared to other faith communities is their commitment to become Open and Affirming (O&A). O&A is a stance of radical welcome to LGBTQIA+ people. Because church communities have historically been places of hurt and exclusion, it is even more imperative that churches who are Open and Affirming take a strong and public stance.

A little over a year ago, the ONA Coalition welcomed a new executive director, The Rev. Katrina Roseboro-Marsh. According to a UCC news story that came out at the time,* She is the first Black woman to head the coalition. "I am honored and excited for this opportunity," she said. "I realize how important my selection is, and I recognize the magnitude of what this opportunity will mean for the LGBTQIA+ community. I accept this challenge because the coalition has laid the sturdy groundwork to make its next steps forward in reimagining and revisioning, with regeneration as a goal."

Roseboro-Marsh has more than 16 years of experience as a clinician. Her particular focus has been working with clients who identify as LGBTQIA+, as well as those who also identify as African American with an active religious and/or spiritual practice.

"We are excited to welcome Dr. Katrina to our team because of her unique voice, energy and experience," said search committee chair and Coalition Leadership Team member the Rev. Derek Terry. "With the current attack on queerness in schools and communities across the country, we feel an obligation to protect and ensure the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community."

Terry added that "while some work to erase the experiences of BIPOC people from the pages of history books," Roseboro-Marsh will "increase our advocacy work through an intentionally more intersectional approach."

Roseboro-Marsh is ordained clergy and holds ministerial standing with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. She is married to the Rev. Tana Roseboro-Marsh; they reside on the east coast with their Morkie, Xola Darling Roseboro-Marsh.

**<https://www.ucc.org/new-ona-director-global-ministries-exec-among-recent-hires/>*