

Union Congregational United Church of Christ



At Union, we are all the body of Christ together:
Through our voices, Christ is still speaking
Through our hands, Christ is still serving
Through our hearts, Christ is still loving



April 14, 2024

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the T-coil in your hearing aid. If you do not have a T-coil, you can request a portable receiver from an usher.



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

While the CDC is scaling back its reporting of COVID data, it is still important to consult with your healthcare provider to make sure you are engaging in best practices regarding masking, distancing, receiving vaccines/boosters, and other COVID best practices, particularly if you or someone you live with have health concerns. We continue to encourage those who have cold or flu symptoms to worship from home as a tangible way that we can love our neighbors and ourselves.

Welcome to Union Church!

- Today's service is being live streamed via Facebook and YouTube.
- During the Children's Moments, the live stream will display a graphic, in order to protect our children's privacy.
- Please see an usher if you would like a children's activity packet or if you need help finding the nursery.
- Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card at the usher's station or email office@unionucc.com to receive our weekly email newsletter.
- Visitors, if you would like more information about our church, please take home one of the yellow "Welcome to Union Church" folders, located at either sanctuary door. If you have trouble finding them, ask one of our friendly members to help you locate one!

Interested in Learning More About Union Church?

Interested in learning more about Union Church and discerning whether this is the right church home for you? Our Membership and Inreach Ministry will be hosting two classes to help people get to know Union, our community, and each other on **Thursday, April 25 at 6:00 p.m.** and on **Wednesday, May 1 at 5:30 p.m.** It's helpful to participate in both sessions.

After those sessions, people who would like to join the church will be received into membership during worship on **Sunday, May 19.**

Please contact the church office at office@unionucc.com or 920-437-9266, to register.

Serving Christ . . . Loving Each . . . Affirming All

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

PRELUDE: "Sarabande" --from *Pour le Piano* C. Debussy

With music and silence we begin worship, praying quietly and opening our hearts to God.

THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome! Please share Announcements, Ministry Opportunities, Joys and Concerns.

PRAISING OUR GOD

THE BOND OF UNION (in unison)

Giving our all as we have been given all...

We accept the religion of love and service which Jesus lived and taught, and declare it our purpose to strive to do the will of God, and to make the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.

* CALL TO WORSHIP: (in unison)

In this Easter season, we welcome love's return.

Our hearts are lifted. We open our eyes. We welcome love.

The tomb is empty. The stone rolled away.

Risen One, stand among us. Speak your words of peace.

Release us from our fears. Heal us of our wounds.

Forgive our betrayals, our denials of your love, that we may live united with you.

* EASTER SEASON AFFIRMATION: (in unison)

This is the Good News: The grave is empty, Christ is risen. Alleluia!

This is the Good News: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

This is the Good News: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

* PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

* HYMN NO. 238:

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

(see page 5)

NOËL NOUVELET
The New Century Hymnal

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Romans 12:9-21

p. 162

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Children are invited to gather on the chancel steps and bring their offering.

Following Children's Moments, all children are welcome to remain in worship.

Additionally, parents are welcome to accompany their children to our "playground" in the south transept to play and pray quietly or to drop them off downstairs to play in the nursery with our paid nursery staff. Activity bags with crayons, etc. are available from an usher.

CHORAL ANTHEM:

"In This Moment of Remembrance"

Dale Wood

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 24:36b-48

p. 91

THE SERMON:

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN NO. 242:

"The Strife Is O'er"
(see page 8)

VICTORY
The New Century Hymnal

THE OFFERING

Offertory:

"The Gift of Love"

arr. Lanier/Hemminger
The Uncalled Four

*Praise Response:

"Halleluja"

HALLELUJA

Traditional

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

- L. The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;
- All. **You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, if ever.**
- L. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have fallen short.
- All. **Come, all who seek to follow Christ's way. It is Christ who offers to encounter us here.**

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

- L. The Lord be with you.
- P. **And also with you.**
- L. Lift up your hearts!
- P. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- L. Let us give thanks to God Most High.
- P. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

CONGREGATIONAL SANCTUS:

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Richard Proulx

ALL SING

*Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord,
God of pow-er and might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry!
Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est!
Blest are they who come in the name of the Lord!
Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est!*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion servers will pass trays of bread, red wine, and white grape juice through the pews. Please let an usher know if you would prefer to commune with the prepackaged Communion elements, and they will bring one to you. Please hold the bread and cup until all are served so that we may commune together. Gluten-free bread is in the paper cup in the center of the tray.

The host at this table is Jesus Christ. In Christ's name and spirit, we invite all to partake of God's grace. Children may participate according to their parents' wishes.

PRAYERS OF CONSECRATION, OF THE PEOPLE, AND OF OUR LORD

Please join us in praying the Lord's Prayer in these words or a translation meaningful to you.

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Freedom comes beyond the cross. Peace comes beyond the violence.

Friendship comes beyond betrayal. Life comes beyond the crushing of life.

Holy and everloving God, bless our offerings and all of the ways we live our faith.

By your grace, may all of our resources be dedicated to building up Jesus' new and better way. With Easter joy we pray. Alleluia and Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 249:

"Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"
(see pages 6-7)

PEACE, MY FRIENDS
The New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

"Mvt. 1" --from Suite Bergamasque

C. Debussy

Thanks to all who helped lead today's service including our reader, **Megan Gleason**, **Ed Tucker** who offered our Children's Moments, and **The Uncalled Four**, a musical quartet.

The Uncalled Four

Tracey Klickman (clarinet), **Phil Klickman** (French horn);
Ray Thompson (piano), and **Mary Hemminger** (hammered dulcimer)

Our written prayers today are adapted from
"Easter Celebration from Holy Rood House" by Elizabeth Baxter
published in Eggs and Ashes: Practical and Liturgical Resources for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

Now the Green Blade Rises

Tune: NOËL NOUVELET 11.10.10.11.

238

John M. C. Crum, 1928; alt. Matt. 27:57-28:7; Luke 23:50-24:12

French noel, 15th century
Harm. Martin F. Shaw, 1928

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain;
2 In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

Wheat that in dark earth for man - y days has lain;
Think - ing that their Love would nev - er wake a - gain,
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life a - gain,

Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Refrain
Love is come a - gain like wheat that ris - es green.

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29

Tune: PEACE, MY FRIENDS Irr. with refrain Ray Repp, 1967

Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

Refrain

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,
 2 Take my hand and be at peace;
 3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
 the spir - it of our love I send.
 that lone - li - ness is at an end.

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
 And with this love you will be free,
 Re-joice, my friends, al - though I go,

F#m G A7 *to Refrain*

un - til I come a - gain.
 un - til I come a - gain.
 for I will come a - gain.

All music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE,
 License # A-736814. All rights reserved.

Refrain (before st. 1 and after st. 4)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their

ry of life is won; The song of tri - umph
le - gions has dis - persed: Let shouts of ho - ly

has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia! *to Refrain*

Sunday Adult Education

Gather in Bagby Chapel at 9 a.m. for these informative and inspiring conversations:

April 21—Sara Williams, JOSHUA

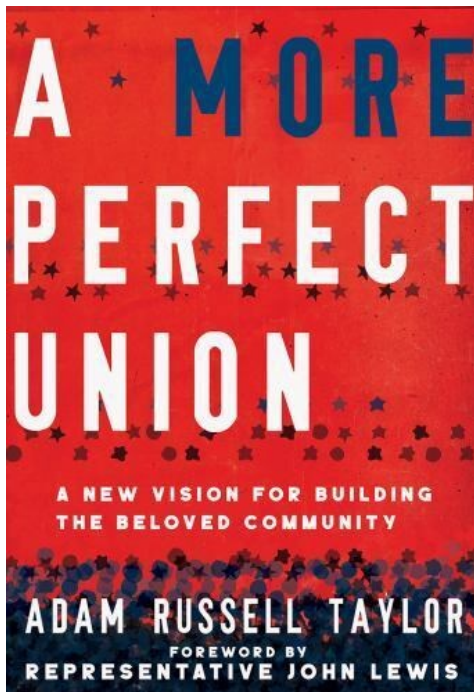
Gather with JOSHUA's new community organizer, Sara Williams, to hear about the meaningful justice work they're undertaking around the areas of transformational justice, housing, immigration, and environmental justice.

April 28—Rev. Daniel Cooperrider

UCC pastor Rev. Daniel Cooperrider will lead our commemoration of Earth Day. A graduate of the University of Chicago and the University of Chicago Divinity School, Daniel writes at the intersections of theology, environmental ethics, poetry, aesthetics, and climate justice. Daniel will share insights from his 2022 book "Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You."

May 5—Students of Black Theology

Over the past semester, five St. Norbert College students in Dr. Craig Ford's Black Theology class have been learning about Union's history around racial justice. In this adult education session, they will share some of their learnings from class, as well as some ideas of how Union might continue its anti-racism journey.



JOSHUA Big Read of *A More Perfect Union*

The JOSHUA Spiritual Leaders invite you to a Big Read of *A More Perfect Union* by Adam Russell Taylor.

All are invited to obtain a copy of *A More Perfect Union* and begin reading on the anniversary of Rev. Dr. King's assassination, April 4, 1968. The Big Read will then gather readers throughout the community in Zoom sessions as we discuss Section 1 on May 2 and Section 2 on May 30. We will culminate by finishing the book and Zooming with Rev. Taylor on June 20. All Zooms are at 7 p.m.

There is no need to register, simply join us for one or all of the sessions using the link that will appear in your This Week at Union Church Friday email.

Weekly Planner

April 15—20

Monday:

11:30 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch

Tuesday:

12:00 p.m. Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry
5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Wednesday:

5:45 p.m. Dinner
6:15 p.m. Youth Group
6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

Saturday

11:00 a.m. Lon Johnson visitation
1:00 p.m. Lon Johnson funeral

NEXT SUNDAY: April 21 **Fourth Sunday of Easter** **Jazz Worship**

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Sara Williams
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
OR stream it online

Ladies Lunch Bunch Meets April 15

**Join us at 11:30 a.m.
at the Village Grille in Allouez**

**Questions? Contact Sue Zanzig
at 920-494-4172**

Union Congregational United Church of Christ

Union Congregational United Church of Christ is an **Open and Affirming Congregation**. We are a Christian fellowship where diverse perspectives may live together in the Spirit of Christ and where all persons are precious children of God without qualification or discrimination because of ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

e-mail: office@unionucc.com
church office: 920-437-9266
website: www.unionucc.com

Used Book Sale

The church library will hold our used book sale in the church hall on Sundays, May 5 and May 12, before and after church. Most books are \$1. Mass market paperbacks and some children's books will be 50 cents. Please bring your book donations to the library. Thank you!

Our Church Staff

Senior Minister..... Bridget M. Flad Daniels
Administrative Assistant..... Eric Goska
Financial Secretary..... Katrina Catteruccia
Building & Maintenance Supervisor... Brad Dorin
Music Director..... Haley Steele
Interim Pianist..... David Hassel
Handbell Ensemble Director..... Linda Cook
Librarian..... Cathy Putman
AV Coordinator Eric Harkoff

Nursery Attendants:

Jenna Stevens, London Graham, Jenna Carrao