



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Just Peace Open & Affirming

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**No Matter Who You Are Or Where You Are
On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!**

LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 10, 2013

*Means those who are able please stand

Songs: SP & P - Sing, Prayer & Praise; NCH - New Century Hymnal

Bold face indicates where the congregation is invited to join in saying the words

Ring the Bell

***Greeting One Another**

Centering Music

Prelude on "Dulce Carmen"

Latin/E. Meade

Allow the music to help focus your soul for worship as you listen in silence.

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 27:4, Hebrews 2:14, 1 Peter 2:10)

Cong'l Response: "Alleluia!"

***Gathering Song** NCH #38

"Lift Up Your Hearts!"

Woodlands

Opening Prayer

Readings from the Bible

Psalm 100 (p. 679 in the OT of your pew Bibles)

Luke 4:14-30 (p. 74-75 in the NT of your pew Bibles)

Sung Response

"Morningstar" vs. 2

D D/F# G D/F#

2. In dry and wear - y lands, You give us wa - ter,
life breath - ing Spir - it, hope from the moun - tain.
We sing for joy of You, while our souls cling to You.
You are the Morn - ing - star.

Children's Message

"Looking for Jesus"

Hannah Hannover

Prayers of the People

You are invited to offer joys and concerns aloud for which the whole congregation will pray. If you have something to share, simply raise your hand and a deacon will bring the microphone to you.

Pastoral Prayer

The minister will offer a series of prayers each followed by "Amen," concluding with "The Lord's Prayer."

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer comes from Matthew 6:9-13. Here is a contemporary translation, which we will all pray together.

Our Creator, who is in heaven,

Your name be sanctified!

Your reign come!

Your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven!

Give us today what we need to face the future.

Release us from our debts to you,

as we have released our debtors.

Bring us not to a time of testing, but rescue us from evil.

For all good things on earth flow from you, O God, now and forever. Amen.

Offering of Gifts

"Sing to the Lord a New Song"
Chancel Choir

Thomas Keesecker

***Sung Response**

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

One God, Triune, whom we adore.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.

***Song NCH #476**

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

Endless Song

Sermon

"The Year of the Lord's Favor"

Jonathan Page

Prayer

***Closing Song NCH #495 "Called As Partners in Christ's Service"**

Beecher

***Sending Blessing**

Parting Music

Today's Worship Leaders

Liturgist: Ken Birt

Preacher: Jonathan Page

Minister to Children & Youth: Hannah Hannover

Youth Director: Emily Kenneke

Music Director: Lesley Lackore

Organist: Karen Stewart

Next Week of February 17:

Children's Sunday School: Pre-K (ages 3-5) & Rotation (grades K-6)

Youth Group: Meet in the Youth Room with Emily

Learning Center: Getting ready for Theologian in Residence

Sermon: "Jesuit Spirituality - Contemplative Action" Jonathan Page

Texts: Psalm 111, Genesis 39:1-23

Announcements:

ALOF Lent Program: Runs Monday nights *only* at 7:15 p.m. from Feb. 18 through March 25. The course will be on James Martin's *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*. Please buy a copy, or borrow a copy from the Ames Public Library. Contact Jonathan Page if you need assistance covering the cost of the book. Assignment for Feb. 18: Chapter 1, optional reading: Chapter 3.

Annual Meeting & Potluck Today! The church officers will present their reports to the congregation and we will vote on the bylaw changes for the new governance structure. A potluck will precede the business portion of the meeting.

Ash Wednesday February 13 at UCC: 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper; 7:00 p.m. Worship with communion. Child care provided.

Theologian-in-Residence Weekend, February 23-24

Copies of the schedule for the weekend may be picked up from the table at the back of the sanctuary. Gary Dorrien, our 2013 Theologian in Residence, does a masterful job in *The Remaking of Evangelical Theology* (1998) in describing both historically and recently how the word "evangelical" applies to various faith traditions. One of the keystones for conservative evangelicals has been the Bible is without error. In fascinating ways, he points out how their scholars and denominations have tried to interpret what biblical inerrancy means and the problems that results. "Evangelicals are prone to fret that everything will be lost if they have no ground of absolute certainty or no proof that Christianity is superior to Islam or Buddhism. This fear drives them to impose impossible tests on Christian belief." His response? Dorrien says, "It is enough to claim the living Word of God, Jesus Christ, as our foundation in a lost and tormented world, without thinking that this claim has to be ground in a deeper universal foundation." (p. 201)