

Fifth Sunday of Lent



United Presbyterian Church
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COMMUNION SUNDAY

April 7, 2019

10:00 a.m.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Alex Sandor

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

*INTROIT

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden
of the day. (#216, stanza 1)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather, O God, during this Lenten season, at the foot
of Jesus' cross.

All: **We come to contemplate the meaning of his
suffering and death.**

One: We come to ponder our own lives and our own faith.

All: **We come because God has sought us and invited us
to be part of this community.**

One: Let us worship God and praise God.

*HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

#438

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Let us pray.

All: **You, O God, are our Rock and our shield. You
provide a hiding place when we are in trouble, a
shelter when life overwhelms us, and a defense
when we are assailed by our own guilt. Forgive us
when we think we can manage life on our own.
Forgive us when we turn away from your embrace.
Invite us once again to your feast and let us rejoice
in your presence. Amen.**

All: (please remain seated to sing)

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us

#575

One: God has mercy on us and does not give up on us.
Through Jesus Christ, God forgives us. When we have
wander off, God welcomes us home. When we isolate
ourselves, God searches for us. God invites us all into
community. May we joyfully accept God's invitation.

All: **Amen. Amen.**

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*You are invited to share the blessing of Christ's peace with those
near you by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you."*

*HYMN

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Blessed Jesus, at your word,
We have come again to hear you;
Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
And in glowing faith be near you.
By your gospel true and holy,
Teach us, Lord, to love you solely. (#395, stanza 1)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Christy Willmore

*Prayer cards may be sent to the front with
youth and children who come forward.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament Reading
Gospel Reading

Jane Wester
2 Corinthians 5:16-6:1
Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

*HYMN *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* #418

SERMON *An Unfinished Parable* Rev. Charlotte Frantz

*HYMN *Amazing Grace* #649, stanzas 1, 3 and 4

OFFERING

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CASDA

OFFERTORY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

For the life that you have given,
For the love in Christ made known,
With these fruits of time and labor,
With these gifts that are your own,
Here we offer, Lord, our praises,
Heart and mind and strength we bring,
Give us grace to love and serve you,
Living what we pray and sing.

(#717)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Let us give thanks.

All: For all you have given us, O God, we give you thanks. We return a small portion to You for the work of this congregation. Bless us that we might be a light in this community, a sign of your inclusive love and welcoming embrace. *Amen.*

ANTHEM

Remember Me
By Cindy Berry

Chancel Choir
Jane Wester, Director

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God most High.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Gracious God, our hearts rejoice in your presence . . .

LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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.**

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

You are invited to participate in this sacrament regardless of age or church affiliation. We use gluten free bread and non-alcoholic juice. Please come forward down the center aisle. Eat and drink as you are served. Return by a side aisle. If you prefer not to come forward, a server will be happy to bring the elements to you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Let us give thanks.

All: **With this bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ and bound us to each other. Now send us out, empowered by your Holy Spirit, that we may be your light and love in the world. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT OUR LIFE TOGETHER

*CLOSING HYMN *There is Now a New Creation* #774
stanzas 1, 2, 3 and 5

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

NEW TESTAMENT READING *2 Corinthians 5:16-6:1*

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

GOSPEL READING *Luke 15:1-2, 11-32*

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’

Then Jesus said, ‘There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who

sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” So he set off and went to his father.

But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’” But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’” Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’” Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY 4/7

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:00 a.m. Sunday School Happy Birthday – Tim I

10:00 a.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. UPC Volleyball

6:00 p.m. Scouts Meeting

MONDAY 4/8

4:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting

5:15 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting

Happy Birthday – Halie M & Kevin O

TUESDAY 4/9

Happy Birthday – Ann L & Lisa P

WEDNESDAY 4/10

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

4:45 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper

6:15 p.m. Worship Gathering

6:30 p.m. Holy Conversations/Youth Conversations

THURSDAY 4/11

10:30 a.m. Quilting Group

Happy Birthday – Erin L & Janet H

FRIDAY 4/12

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 221 Fish Fry

Happy Birthday – Bob G, Devin Z,
Nicholas A & Dennis B

SATURDAY 4/13

Fellowship Hall Reserved 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Lisak)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING THIS WEEK

Personnel Comm Mtg

Monday, April 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday, April 10 at 9:00 a.m.

Finance Committee Mtg

Wednesday, April 10 at 4:45 p.m.

Quilting Group

Thursday, April 11 at 10:30 a.m.

EASTER FLOWERS

Today is the last day to turn in the Easter Flower Order Forms for our Easter Garden. Order forms are located on a back table in the Narthex.

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

UPC will be having **Lenten Soup Suppers** during the season of Lent on Wednesday evenings beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a brief Worship Gathering in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. followed by **Holy Conversations** beginning at 6:30 p.m.

YOUTH GRADES 6-12

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent for a series called "I AM". We will gather at about 6:30 p.m. following the soup dinner (5:30 p.m.) and opening worship (6:15 p.m.)

FISH FRY

Boy Scout Troop 221 will be having a Fish Fry here at UPC every Friday through April 19th. The Friday Fish Fries will be from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$10, for children (ages 4-11) \$7, and children 3 and under are free.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be **no** Sunday School classes on Easter Sunday.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

UPC will be holding a spring church rummage sale on Friday, May 3 and Saturday May 4. Start setting aside those items that you would like to donate to the sale.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BBQ RIB DINNER

The annual BBQ Rib Dinner is quickly approaching. If you would like to contribute a food item to the dinner, sign-up sheets are now located on a back table in the Narthex. If you would like to “sponsor” an item, or part of an item for the dinner please contact the church office or place your contribution in the offering on a Sunday and mark the envelope RIB Dinner. A cost for items for the dinner is printed in the April UPBeat.

CASDA

The CASDA shelter is designed as a safe place for individuals needing to escape or take time out from a violent home. It is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and can house residents up to 45 days or more. Unfortunately, the shelter is running low on supplies and has reached out to those in the area that may be able to provide some help. Donations may be dropped off at the church with a note stating that the items are for CASDA. Their wish list includes: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Conditioner, Lotion, 42+ Gallon Heavy Duty Garbage Bags, Cold Medicines, All-Purpose Cleaners, Bleach, Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, Pine Sol, Hand Soap, Dryer Sheets, Windex, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Dish Soap & Deodorant. Gifts will be dedicated during the worship service on April 14.

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- ✦ Join us for a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
- ✦ Pick up a copy of *The UPBeat*, our monthly newsletter, from the table in the narthex.
- ✦ Call the church office at 715-392-4751.
- ✦  Follow us on Facebook.

HELPFUL TO KNOW

- ✦ We have large print bulletins.
- ✦ We have hearing assistance devices.
- ✦ There are children’s activity sheets available in the narthex.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the Prayer Time during each worship service. Prayer Request cards are located in the pew slots in each row and on the table by the main entrance. Cards will be collected during worship service or may be placed in the offering plate.

The Prayer Chain may be activated by calling
Jan Letsos at 715-394-6009
or
Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

GUEST PASTOR

Reverend Charlotte Frantz

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Wayne Phelps &
Mary Kay Coone