

## Service Notes

The **paraments** are **green** following Epiphany to signify the theme established on Epiphany Sunday: the spread of the Good News of Jesus Christ to all nations on earth. The theme of this season continues in the season after Pentecost, so both seasons together can be called the "Ordinary Time of the Church." The traditional liturgical color for this season, green, is the color of growth. *Information from ucc.org.*

The **Nursery/Toddler Room** for infants and toddlers is available throughout the morning worship service and is located at the end of the hallway opposite the Sanctuary. Sunday School is available for children PreK– 5th grade after the Message for God's Children, and children can meet their teachers at the back of the Sanctuary at that time. Children's Worship Bags with creative supplies are available in the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

### How to Contact Pastor Ashley

My office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. In the afternoon, I may be in the office, or I may be out in the community for pastoral care or outreach. If you'd like to stop by to visit another time, just email or call. Monday and Saturday are my days off.

My email address is: [pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org). If I'm not in the office, my phone number is (507) 381-8199.

### Pastoral Care Connections

If you or a family member is ill, in the hospital, is homebound, would like a pastoral care visit for any reason, or would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, **please let the church know!** Feel free to contact Pastor Ashley, a Deacon, or the church office to let us know so that we may serve you.

The church phone number is (507) 524-3141 and Pastor Ashley's phone number is (507) 381-8199. Thank you!

## The United Church of Mapleton

201 Troendle St SW; PO Box 413

Mapleton, MN 56065

(507) 524-3141

[www.unitedchurchmapleton.org](http://www.unitedchurchmapleton.org)

[secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org)

The United Church of Mapleton is a Christian fellowship of mission, worship, and faith formation dedicated to the Maple River community.

## Order of Worship

Sunday, February 9th, 2014

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

#### \*Call to Worship

One: We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

#### **Many: We are salt of the earth.**

One: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

#### **Many: We are the light of the world.**

One: We are called to follow the new commandment of Christ:

#### **Many: to love God and to love one another.**

One: Come, let us be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

*All: Let us join together in the love of God to worship and follow Jesus!*

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Stand Up and Bless the Lord” #11

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Gloria Patri**

“Glory Be to the Father” #734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen!

**\*Moment of Fellowship**

**Message for God’s Children**

**Mission Moment**

Karen Stanton

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** “There’s Something About That Name” Adult Choir

**\*Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #34  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Sharing Prayer Requests and Praises**

*You are invited to take a Prayer Requests and Praises sheet from the pew rack in front of you to write your prayer requests and praises.*

*These will be collected by the ushers in a moment and shared with the congregation anonymously before our Preparation for Prayer.*

**Preparation for Prayer (Moment of Silence)**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord’s Prayer**

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**\*Hymn**

“As a Fire Is Meant for Burning” #551

**Scripture**

Matthew 5:13-20 (NRSV)

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

“Salt and Light and Life”

**\*Closing Hymn**

“We Are God’s People” #547

**\*Benediction**

***Please be mindful of others who continue to worship through the Postlude.***

**Postlude**

***\*Please rise in body or spirit.\****

## Serving Us Today: Sunday, February 9th, 2014

Pastor—Rev. Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Sue Prenzlou

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Dan and Sue Prenzlou

Head Usher—Wally Johnson

Coffee Hour Host—Women's Fellowship

### About Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship (*Sanctuary*)

9:00-10:30 a.m. Nursery Childcare (*Babies-Toddlers*),

Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs

9:15-10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School

(*PreK-1st Grade*), Classroom A, upstairs

(*2nd-5th Grade*), Classroom E, downstairs

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Youth Sunday School (*6th-12th Grade*),

Youth Lounge, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and Fellowship (*Fellowship Hall*)

10:05 a.m. Choir practice

10:10-11:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Classroom B, downstairs

Our **Scripture Response** honors the ways in which we know and receive the Word of God: through Scripture, in community, and through our personal faith in God. Thanks be to God!

Our **Call to Worship** today was written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell at [rev-o-lution.org](http://rev-o-lution.org) and is based on Matthew 5:13-20.

### In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Well Youth Center, Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf
- The leaders of our church: local, regional, and national
- The ministers and missionaries of the world
- Those anticipating surgery, recovering from surgery, or undergoing medical procedures, tests, or treatments
- Those living in assisted living or in a nursing home
- Those who are homebound and those who are caregivers

#### Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Bill Brice, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson, Lorraine Stanton
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All those who are grieving and mourning
- Pastor Deb Celley of First Congregational UCC of Mankato, who is now receiving home hospice care after fighting two kinds of lymphoma for nearly a year. We pray for Pastor Deb and her family (husband Richard and daughters Julia and Jennifer)
- Kathie Treanor, who is recovering at Country Neighbors from a recent accident at work

#### The prayer requests and praises shared with the congregation during last week's worship service include:

- Todd Jaeger, who is recovering from heart valve surgery
- Bill Keller, who is coping with health problems
- Hugo John's sister, who was hospitalized last week and is recovering from illness in Idaho
- Hugo's brother-in-law, who died in Idaho this week of a sudden and unexpected heart attack
- Jola Walker's brother, John Anderson, who was unexpectedly taken to the hospital in Rochester late on February 1st
- Prayers for future job opportunities and thanksgiving for all the blessings received
- Thanksgiving for all the kind support and prayers at the time of the loss of my loved one

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church go to the family and friends of Bill Keller, who has been in our thoughts and prayers recently, who passed away on February 4th, 2014. Bill's funeral was February 8th at St. John's Lutheran Church of Mapleton.

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church go to the family and friends of Marilyn Ek, mother of Jon Ek, former church choir director of The United Church, who passed away on February 5th, 2014.

## **Welcome to The United Church of Mapleton!**

This announcement insert includes information about upcoming church, community, and area events.

Please also take advantage of the many opportunities listed here to serve our community!

### **This Week at The United Church of Mapleton Sunday, February 9th, 2014**

Monday, February 10th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, February 11th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

**Tuesday, February 11th, 7:00 p.m. Board of Christian  
Education**

Wednesday, February 12th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

**Wednesday, February 12th, Deacons**

**Wednesday, February 12th, Trustees**

Wednesday, February 12th, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, February 13th, 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study

### **Planning Ahead**

Monday, February 17th, 6:30—8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Tuesday, February 18th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, February 18th, 3:00—6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes work  
day at St. John's Lutheran Church

Wednesday, February 19th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, February 19th, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, February 20th, 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study

Saturday, February 22nd, 9:00—11:30 a.m. Kilties

Saturday, February 22nd, 9:00—Noon Loaves & Fishes work day  
at St. John's Lutheran Church

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, February 9th, 2014**

**“Sweets for Your Sweet” Cookie Fundraiser**

Cookie orders are available for **pickup in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 9th**. Thank you!

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit The United Church Camp Scholarship Fund. This year, we plan to attend Quest Youth Camp in Green Lake, Wisconsin in June.

**Thank You!**

Thanks to everyone for all your prayers, cards, and concerns since my accident. It means so much to me that everyone cared. I really appreciate it! *Bruce Stanton*

**The Well Youth Center Fundraiser**

The Well Youth Center will host a “Hotdish Smorgasbord” on **Sunday February 9th from 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**, 106 Main St. NE, Mapleton. Please stop in for a delicious, hot meal while supporting your local youth center.

**The Well Youth Center**

**Next Sunday, February 16th**, Coffee Hour and the Mission Collection jar will go towards helping support our local youth at The Well Youth Center.

The United Church supports The Well Youth Center in this way each month.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, February 9th, 2014**

**Community Closet**

The Community Closet thrift store, located above the Plaid Piper in Mapleton, will continue to be open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. We will be continuing to offer the \$3 bag sale on clothing and shoes.

If you would like to volunteer as a worker at the Closet, we are there every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and can always use your help.

If you have a non-profit group that would like to take advantage of profits from the Closet, please call Gay Rice at (507) 524-4040 for more information..

**Minnesota Lake Ambulance Service**

The Minnesota Lake Ambulance Soup and Pie Supper will be held on Sunday, February 9th, 2014. Serving will be from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Minnesota Lake.

This fundraiser will help defray some of the expenses of equipment and training for the ambulance personnel.

**Sunday Morning Wheelchair Assistance**

If you are in need of wheelchair assistance on Sunday mornings, please let us know by calling the church office at (507) 524-3141 ahead of time to make arrangements **or** you may have an usher assist you on Sunday morning when you arrive at the church.

There is a ramp located on the east side of the church which can be utilized by parking in the east parking lot. If it is too difficult for you to push a wheelchair up the ramp, please feel free to contact an Usher or Deacon for assistance.

## **Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion**

**Scripture for the Week:** For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

### **Sunday:**

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. Psalm 145:9

Through the cycles of our lives, you have blessed us with sunshine, clouds, snow, wind, rain, warmth, and cold. For the beauties of the earth that are gifts from you, we thank you. Help us to be good stewards of your gifts. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Monday:**

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage. Psalm 84:5

Heavenly Comforter, plant in our hearts the willingness to care for your children as you are continually caring for us. As we navigate the difficult times of our lives, give us strength to show your love always. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! Revelation 2:8-9

As we count our blessings, let us remember that there are many among your children who have yet to realize that you walk with all of us and carry us in your arms when we can no longer carry ourselves. Help us to show the light of your promise and support today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

He changes times and seasons, deposes kings and sets up kings. Daniel 2:21

When you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Luke 21:31

*Continue*

## **Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion**

God of clarity, God of order, take out of our paths those obstacles that cause us to doubt you and divert our attention from your holy leading. Keep our eyes fixed only on your kingdom and the knowledge that through the sacrifice of our Savior, our place will be with you forever. Amen.

### **Thursday:**

Rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Proverbs 12:18

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Ephesians 4:29

God of transformation and change, let your servants be mindful of the effects of the spoken word. Help us to remember to use gentle words and kinder tones. Change our intolerance into patience. Transform our words into a healing salve, drawing the listener closer to you as they see the evidence of your light shining in each of us. In the name of your holy Son. Amen.

### **Friday:**

Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you! Psalm 82:8

Almighty God, one day each of us will be judged. We hear your call to us. Show us your way of love. Help us to live as faithful servants until that glorious day when we will stand with the great multitude before your throne, offering praise for our salvation. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. 2 Corinthians 4:16

Faithful God, you provide for our needs. No matter our age, you sustain us through many trials and afflictions. Even when our mortal body begins to fail, the spirit of faith within assures us that one day we will arise from the dead and live with you. Let us not despair, but ever put our trust in you. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

