

## Service Notes

The **green paraments** symbolize Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church liturgical year, which is a continuation of the Season of Epiphany that began the Sunday after Epiphany and ended with Ash Wednesday. Ordinary Time begins on the Sunday after Pentecost and ends with Reign of Christ Sunday, the Sunday before Advent begins. Since it explores the mission of the church, the traditional color for this season is green, symbolizing growth. Ordinary Time also focuses on the important issue of how we can continually grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

*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.

**Children's Worship Bags** with creative supplies are available at the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

## 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, July 13th, 2014

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

*Based on Psalm 89*

One: I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever!

**Many: Young and old will hear of your grace.**

One: Your unfailing love will last forever.

**Many: Your faithfulness is as eternal as the heavens.**

One: Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship,

**Many: for they will walk in the light of your presence.**

One: Let us worship God together, for God is our strength and our protection,

**All: the One in whom we trust!**

### \*Opening Hymn

“Come, Let Us Praise the Lord” #9

**\*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**

Geri Howieson

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

**\*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**

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” #419

**Scripture**

Genesis 18:20-33 (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**

**\*Closing Hymn**

“Take Time to Be Holy” #483

**\*Benediction**

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

**Postlude**

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

## Serving Us Today: Sunday, July 13th, 2014

Pastor—Eric Swanson

Lay Leader—Jack Madsen

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Randy and Linda Cumming

Head Usher—

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

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

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 is by Christine Longhurst at [re-worship.blogspot.com](http://re-worship.blogspot.com).

The **floral arrangement** on the altar is in honor of Lorraine Stanton's 95th birthday.

### 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: Norma Baack, Bill Brice, Colleen Lindemann, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All those who are grieving and mourning
- Hutch Cramer, who is recovering from hip surgery at the Mapleton Community Home
- Benjamin Brockmann of Lake Crystal, age 6, a family friend of the Allevens, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia
- Isaac Kolstad, who suffered a severe head injury early on May 11th in Mankato, was recently transferred to a rehab facility. The Kolstads are friends of Joe and Sheila Samuelson. You may visit Isaac's Caring Bridge site at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/isaackolstad>.
- Louis Fritz, who was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Radiation treatment has ended and chemotherapy will begin in late July, after a period of rest for Louie.
- Tucker Shuck, Sharon Shuck's grandson, who has begun thirteen weeks of US Marine Corps Boot Camp in San Diego, and for his family during this time of limited communication with him
- Hugo John, who had heart valve replacement surgery on June 25th in Rochester, and who is now recovering at home
- Linda Whitney, who had surgery for uterine/endocervical cancer on July 3rd in Rochester, and who is now recovering at home. Linda received very good news after the surgery, that the cancer was caught early and that it has not spread to her lymph nodes or other areas.
- Dawn Dietz, who recently learned that her lymphoma has recurred. Dawn is waiting to hear from her doctors about a treatment plan.

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

- Of thanksgiving for all our military servicemen and servicewomen for protecting our freedoms
- Of thanksgiving to see Louie and Mary Beth Fritz, as well as all those who recently had health events, in worship together. Thanks be to God!

## **The United Church News and Announcements**

### **Sunday, July, 13th 2014**

#### **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.

#### **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!

## **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, July 13th, 2014**

Monday, July 14th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, July 15th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in GT

**Wednesday, July 16th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting**

**Sunday, July 20th, 10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting**

#### **Planning Ahead**

Tuesday, July 22nd, 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in GT

Tuesday, July 29th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in GT

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, July 13th, 2014**

**Head Ushers Needed**

The United Church is in need of Head Ushers for the months July through October. Please consider signing up to help by calling the church office at 524-3141.

**Office Hours**

During the week of July 14th, the Administrative Assistant will be in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

The Official Board has endorsed proposed Constitutional amendments to be voted on by the congregation as a whole. These amendments mainly concern membership clarifications, numbers of committee/board members, and board/committee member terms. A special meeting for consideration of these amendments has been called for Sunday, July 20th immediately after worship in the Sanctuary.

The proposed amendments are available in hard copy in the narthex and online at [www.unitedchurchmapleton.org](http://www.unitedchurchmapleton.org) under the “Resources” tab. If you have any questions, please speak to Dick Dietz, Moderator.

**Pastor Ashley’s Schedule**

I will be out of town for conferences from Monday, July 7th through Saturday, July 19th. If you have a non-urgent message, please email me ([pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org)) or call the church office at 524-3141 and I will address it when I return. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please contact Ruth Cumming, Chair of the Diaconate, at 524-3666. Thank you!  
Blessings, Pastor Ashley

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, July 13th, 2014**

**The Well Youth Center**

Please stop by and support your local youth center at any of these fundraising events.

**Saturday morning, July 26th:** Community Closet fundraiser

**Friday, August 1st and Saturday, August 2nd,**

**10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.:** Dietz Brat Wagon

**Saturday morning, August 23rd:** Community Closet fundraiser

**Loaves & Fishes**

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf is open Tuesdays from 3:00—6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.—Noon.

Volunteers are always welcome!

**Community Closet**

Open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.—Noon.

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.

Please leave donations at the top of the stairs close to the closet door, if you are able, but if that area is full you may leave them downstairs.

We are having great success with the \$3 bag sale on clothing and shoes. Right now there are lots of collectables and dishes, etc. Thank you for your donations of items as well as your time if you have worked there. It is much appreciated!

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, July 13th, 2014**

**Collections for The Well Youth Center**

Remember, Sunday, July 20th, the Memorial Jar will be placed in the back of the Sanctuary for your loose coin donations to The Well Youth Center. The United Church supports The Well Youth Center in this way on the third Sunday of each month.

**Prayer Chain**

The United Church Prayer Chain is now active! If you have a prayer request, please call Karen Stanton at (507) 327-8168 or Joyce Johnson at 524-3727. Please let them know your prayer request, including the name of the person to pray for if applicable, and whether or not you would like your request included in the church's public prayer list or if you'd prefer the request be kept privately within the prayer chain.

**Birthday Celebration—Today!**

Lorraine Stanton turned 95 years of age on July 10th, 2014. Please join us for birthday cake in the Fellowship Hall after church, **today, Sunday, July 13th.**

**Open House Bridal Shower**

An Open House Bridal Shower will be held in the Fellowship Hall at the United Church for Jacob Fritz and Tricia Gunsolus on Saturday, July 26th from 9:30—11:30 a.m.

The couple is registered at Kohl's and Target, but would always welcome gift cards to Lowes and Menards.

**Newsletter Articles**

Please submit your August newsletter articles and reports into the church office by Tuesday, July 22nd. Thank you!

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

**Scripture for the Week:** God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:9

### **Sunday:**

Paul writes: I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. Romans 1:11-12

Thank you blessed Savior for all that you have done and continue to do this day for your children. We will keep our knees bent and our faces looking upward as we receive all of your most gracious blessings. Hear our prayer, exalted Lord. Amen.

### **Monday:**

All his works are truth, and his ways are justice; and he is able to bring low those who walk in pride. Daniel 4:37

Give us patience to wait on your holy and divine providence. We trust you, O Lord, as you direct us closer to you. We lay our lives in your arms. Strengthen our hearts and fortify our minds, precious Lord. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant. Psalm 86:16

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" Luke 17:5

We pray for the poor, the homeless, those who have had their faith shaken, and those who are afraid and without hope. Cover us all, O Lord, that we may be strengthened. Increase our faith! Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:4

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

### **Wednesday continued:**

We pray for the leaders of the world, our nations, our states and provinces, our cities, our neighborhoods, and our church. Each one has their own challenges—be with them as they work out these difficulties. You are their salvation and you are our salvation. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen.

### **Thursday:**

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. Psalm 118:14

The Father has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.

Colossians 1:13

Thank you, blessed Savior, for all of your many blessings. We pray that you will continue to bless us believers so we may be a blessing to others. We thank you for your son, Jesus, whose blood was shed for us. Amen.

### **Friday:**

My heart exults in the Lord. 1 Samuel 2:1

Abide in my love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. John 15:9,11

Praise God, praise God, praise God. We love you, we honor you, we sing to you praises of joy. Praise God, praise God, praise God. Your mercy, compassion, and grace are our strength and anchor. Hear our songs, O Lord. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

The Lord is a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel. Joel 3:16

We will never let go of your hand, Lord Jesus, for you are our lifeline and our refuge. We are tethered to you and we will never lose our way. We only have to hold fast and pull ourselves, inch by inch, closer to you. Amen.

*Continue*

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*