

Service Notes

The **paraments** are **white** on Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, which is the culmination of the season of Epiphany and is also the final Sunday before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. The color white helps invite the church to reflect on the incarnation (embodiment) of God as a human being: “And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory” (John 1:14). In Christ, God enters human history and identifies fully with the human condition. The color white symbolizes joy in the light of God. The color white is also customary on holidays that celebrate the glory and power of Christ, such as the Transfiguration.

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. 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

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, March 2nd, 2014

Transfiguration Sunday

Prelude

“Surely The Presence” St John and United Church Combined Choir

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

One: We have seen the light of God

Many: on high mountains of celebration and in the joyful embraces of love.

One: We have seen the light of God

Many: in valleys of shadow and lonely places, too.

One: We have seen the light of God

Many: with eyes that were once blinded, with eyes that have been opened.

One: Let us worship together, for it is true:

All: We have seen the light of God!

***Opening Hymn**

“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding” #245

***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

Sharon Shuck

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** “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd” #99

Scripture

Matthew 17:1-9 (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

“Our Own Transfigurations”

Communion Service

At the United Church of Mapleton, the Communion Table is open to all without restriction. This is not our table, but it is God’s, and it is open to all of God’s children.

Today, we will participate in communion by passing two sets of plates that contain the elements of bread and juice. Please hold each element until all have been served so that we may celebrate communion together after each element has been shared.

***Closing Hymn**

“Be Thou My Vision” #502

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

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

Serving Us Today: Sunday, March 2nd, 2014

Pastor—Rev. Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Bruce Stanton

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Mabelle Larson

Head Usher—Warren Allevan

Coffee Hour Host—Diaconate

About Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Communion and Loaves & Fishes Collection (*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 Katherine Hawker at liturgyoutside.net and is based on Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, and Luke 9:28-36.

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
- Hutch Cramer, who recently fell and had surgery for a broken hip, is now recovering at the Mapleton Community Home

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

- Prayers for Laura Fritz, who had a heart attack scare last week and is still coping with some pain
- Prayers for the See family (Tricia and sons Payton and Chandler) at Pat's recent and tragic death
- Prayers for a quick recovery for Ruth Daly who fell last week
- Prayers for a friend, Kali, on the loss of her grandmother
- Prayers for healing for the daughter of a friend, Kellie
- Thanksgiving for Laura Fritz's gift of a beautiful voice and her willingness to share it with others in worship

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, March 2nd, 2014

**Maple River Coaches Scholarship &
Wrestler Pancake Breakfast**

Sunday, March 2nd, 2014 from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
there will be a Pancake Breakfast **held in the Maple River High School Commons** to help the Maple River Coaches Scholarship & Maple River Wrestlers.

The cost for age 6 to adult is \$6.00 and under 6 eat free. Donations are welcome! Matching funds by Blue Earth Co. Thrivent. Take outs are available.

At 10:30 a.m. we will be honoring our State Tournament wrestlers.

All You Can Eat Pancake Supper

St. John Lutheran of Good Thunder is having their Annual All You Can Eat Pancake Supper on Sunday, March 9th from 4:00—7:00 p.m. We will be serving pancakes, sausage patties, applesauce, and beverages.

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.

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, March 2nd, 2014

Monday, March 3rd, 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
Tuesday, March 4th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, March 5th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting
Wednesday, March 5th, 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 5th, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation
Thursday, March 6th, 3:00 p.m. Bible Study
Thursday, March 6th, 6:00 p.m. Wrestling Banquet

Planning Ahead

Monday, March 10th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship
Tuesday, March 11th, Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, March 12th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting
Wednesday, March 12th, 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service
Wednesday, March 12th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons
Wednesday, March 12th, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation
Thursday, March 13th, 3:00 p.m. Bible Study
Saturday, March 15th, 2:00—5:00 p.m. Pinewood Derby

The United Church News and Announcements **Sunday, March 2nd, 2014**

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

Remember: Sunday, March 2nd, 2014 we will collect donations for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf. Please consider giving monetary gifts and/or non-perishable items to this meaningful mission.

The United Church supports Loaves & Fishes in this way on the first Sunday of each month.

United Church Directory

The Board of Deacons is getting ready to publish our new United Church print directory! We plan to have directories ready for pickup in time for Palm Sunday and Easter. Do you remember whether or not you returned your “Member Information” form back to the church? Don’t worry, it was a while ago, we know! The Deacons now have a list of who has returned their forms and who we still need updated information from. Check with Ruth Cumming for more information. More Member Information forms are available in the Fellowship Hall and a “draft directory” is also available to check out.

Daylight Savings Time

Please remember to turn your clocks forward one hour on **Saturday, March 8th, 2014**. Spring Forward!



The Well Request

The Well Youth Center is requesting donations of empty gallon milk jugs (please rinse well) and empty gallon water jugs.

You may drop the plastic containers into the blue container outside of The Well, west entry of The United Church of Mapleton or call Sheila at 995-8194 for pickup.

Youth will be learning a life-skills project “Winter Sown Seeds” presented by Carolyn Becker, Master Gardner.

The United Church News and Announcements **Sunday, March 2nd, 2014**

Odd Fellows Pancake Brunch

“Pancakes with a Purpose” will be held on **Sunday, March 9th, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall of The United Church of Mapleton. You can enjoy a delicious brunch of pancakes and more from our Mapleton Odd Fellows!

All proceeds will go to help sponsor our local youth’s attendance at Camp FaHoCha, (Faith, Hope, and Charity) located at German Lake, southeast of Cleveland MN. What a wonderful and delicious way to help out some of our local youth!

Loaves & Fishes

We’re focusing on a new event called “**Pack the Pews**” the weekend of **March 21-23**. You are encouraged to bring a grocery bag of non-perishables to your worship service to be donated to Loaves & Fishes.

The March campaign also matches the dollar amount donated throughout the month of March. Remember, for every dollar you donate, we can buy \$10 worth of food using our network which includes Second Harvest, Dietz Foods, and other organizations.

What to collect:

Food Donations – Food shelves need all types of food, paper, personal hygiene and cleaning products.

Cash Donations – Easier to collect and deliver. Cash also gives us more flexibility to acquire perishable items like fresh produce, meat, and dairy products. Thank you!

Maple River Loaves & Fishes, (507) 524-3046

Community Closet

All Fall and Winter clothing and shoes are still good for \$3 a bag. Lots of nice Easter décor is available. 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.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 3:11

Sunday:

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Luke 2:36,38

Lord, through the ages you have offered hope and salvation to us. Anna in her elder years recognized the infant Jesus as the long anticipated Savior; so Lord, we worship you and give thanks that you came to earth to redeem each of us. Thank you for loving us and for forgiving our daily sins, if we but call upon you. Amen.

Monday:

You who are the hope of Israel, its Savior in times of distress, why are you like a stranger in the land, like a traveler who stays only a night? Jeremiah 14:8

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. Luke 24:15-16

Lord Jesus, how often you come to us and we are unaware. Jeremiah described the Savior as a stranger in the land, and Luke wrote that when Jesus came near the eyes of the disciples did not see. Open our eyes that we may see you in the faces of those in need and in the opportunities for service. Make us your servants, Lord. Amen.

Tuesday:

In Christ Jesus we may approach God with freedom and confidence. Ephesians 3:12

Loving Savior, we look to you when troubles arise, when our spirit grows faint. You, Lord, are our safe haven and our protector. Help us not to be discouraged when sufferings occur, but to come to you with freedom and confidence. Thank you for always being our strong support. Amen.

Continue

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Wednesday:

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken.
2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Merciful God, let your light shine from our hearts. Although we may be hard pressed on every side, help us not to despair. May our faith grow stronger, knowing that you will walk beside us while on earth and that one day you will take us to be with you in heaven. Amen.

Thursday:

The God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. Ephesians 1:17

Sovereign God, you are the one true God, our Savior. You sent your Son to earth, to live among us and to redeem us. Grant us the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to know you more fully each day. Give us thankful hearts for your many blessings. Amen.

Friday:

When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me. I acknowledged my sin to you. Psalm 32:3-5

Lord, we confess that we sin daily. We hear you calling us to repent. We come asking for your forgiveness. Help us to turn from ways that are evil. In our walk with you we pray that we may put on a new self and grow more like you. Amen.

Saturday:

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God.
Hebrews 12:15

Lord, we often go about our daily lives forgetting to seek your guidance. Turn us back to you and forgive our waywardness. Help us to live in peace with all people and to share your message of grace. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

