

The United Church of Mapleton

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201 Troendle St SW, PO Box 413

Mapleton, MN 56065 (507) 524-3141 www.unitedchurchmapleton.org

Order of Worship

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Our Mission:

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

*The * symbolizes an invitation to rise in body or spirit. If you are a visitor today, please fill out the welcome card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate later in the service so that we can get to know each other!*

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements & Gathering Prayer

*Gathering Song

“Lord Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary” Blue #482

*Claiming Our Brokenness

All: Compassionate God, what a gentle and healing balm it is to come to you with our secret thoughts, our sad discouragements, and our noblest dreams and find you here to listen, to forgive and to renew us! We confess our reluctance to understand your will and our hesitancy to act upon it. We are quick to blame others and slow to accept responsibility for ourselves. We seek simple fixes when grander paradigm shifts are in your plan for us. We wish for smooth sailing rather than be challenged to turn over the reins to your desire for our lives. It is hard to let go of control. Help us to work on trusting you this Lenten season; free us from the trap of believing we are always right or feeling we have need to defend our position rather than open ourselves to your Holy Spirit. Submerge us in your Spirit, and grant us faith to perceive good arising amidst what may appear to us to be merely spinning our wheels. Help us to sense your immediate presence within the solitude of this endless space. Amen.

(1)

Today's Worship & Fellowship Leaders

Intentional Interim Pastor—Cindy Mueller

Lay Reader—Carolyn Becker

Hospitality Team—Shirley, Larry and Joe Bowen

Organist/Pianist—Jan Lange

Guitar/Vocals: Laura Fritz, Marissa Pfeffer, Sheila Samuelson

Sound System—Dick Dietz

Today's Fellowship Hosts:

Odd Fellows Pancake Breakfast -Donations to Youth Camp Fund

The United Church News, Announcements & Church Calendar For this Week

Tues, - Thurs., 8 a.m.—Noon are the church office hours

Pastor Cindy will be in the office Monday—Wednesday from 10:00 am –2:00 pm

<u>TODAY:</u>	9:30 a.m. Worship w/Faith Formation for our Children
	10:30 a.m. Oddfellows Pancake Breakfast
Tues., 3/7:	6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 1:00 p.m. Quilters
Wed., 3/8:	6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Holy Conversation
<u>Sun., 3/12:</u>	9:30 a.m. Worship w/Faith Formation for our Children

Next Week's Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Karen Stanton

Hospitality Team: Cindy and Warren Allevan

Organist/Pianist: Jola Walker

Sound System: Dick Dietz

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The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, March 5, 2016

Odd Fellows Pancake Brunch

“Pancakes with a Purpose” will be held **TODAY** from **10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a delicious breakfast 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. What a wonderful and delicious way to help out some of our local youth!

One Great Hour of Sharing

We will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing mission offering during the month of March. This money funds health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response. Your contribution can be put in the offering baskets Sunday mornings or mailed to the church. Please consider this prayerfully and give generously. The money received is divided evenly between our two affiliations, the American Baptist Churches and United Church of Christ. *“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” 1 John 3:18*

Maple River Loaves & Fishes

The March, MN Food Share Campaign, is the only statewide food and fund drive that raises more than half the food distributed by the 300 food shelves.

The “**Pack the Pews**” event will be the weekend of **March 24-26**. You are encouraged to bring a grocery bag of non-perishables to your worship service to be donated to Loaves and 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. Thank you! Maple River Loaves and Fishes.

Community Closet UCM Workday

The United Church is serving the Community Closet Saturday, March 11th from 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. We need two volunteers from the church. One per each shift. Shift one is from 9:00 a.m.-noon, shift two is from Noon—3:00 p.m. Please call Gay Rice at 524-4040.

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***Assurance of God’s Unconditional Love and Forgiveness**

One: Before God hears our cries from the wilderness,
God’s love is available to us. Grace is abundant.

All: During this Season of Lent,

we will choose to trust God’s guidance.

We are grateful that we do not walk alone

and that you have blessed us with guides to lead us.

***Sung Response**

“Glory Be to the Father”

Blue #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.*

***Sharing Grace and Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another in fellowship.

Sharing Our Gifts

*All adults are invited to share any spare change with the children so they may participate through the offering.
Children are invited to place their offering
in the offering basket or the jar.*

*For the month of **March**, the Mission Jar offerings (from both front and back jars) will go to **Jackson Foster Home***

***Doxology**

Tune Old Hundredth

*God of our lives whose call comes clear
Through Jesus Christ your presence near.
By Spirit led, your will we heed,
Your grace to show in word and deed. Amen.*

***Blessing Our Gifts**

All: From the abundance entrusted to us, we offer up the best we can give. Guide our use of this precious trust, that it may be spent in ways you choose, in places where you would send us, for the sake of the common good of all. May we bear witness to your abiding love, not only with money but with dedicated lives. Allow us to be instruments of assurance and compassion in our homes and wherever our journeys lead. Amen.

(2)

Message for All of God's Children

The Children are now free to attend Sunday School.
For children PreK through K please go to Classroom A.
For those in 1st – 5th grades please head to the Youth Room.
Both classrooms are found down the hall upstairs.
Children of any age are invited to remain in worship with their parents in their pews, in the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or in the Nursery (if they are younger than Pre-Kindergarten age).
Worship Bags, "The Sunday Paper" coloring pages, and Ministry Card making kits are available in the back of the Sanctuary.
The Service is piped into the Overflow Room and the Nursery.

Scripture Deuteronomy 26:1-11 & Matthew 4:1-11

***Song** "Forty Years the People Wandered" (see screen)
TUNE: Beach Spring

Message

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

You are invited to take a "Prayer Requests and Praises" card from the pew rack (in front of you) to write your joys and concerns. These will be collected by the ushers in a short while & shared.

Congregational Response:

All: God is our companion in times of need.

Celebrating Holy Communion

Song of Preparation "We Come to Your Feast" (see screen)

Invitation to the Feast

Singing our Praise to God "Holy, Holy, Holy" **Blue #737**

Remembering The Last Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: In this season of transition as snow begins to melt and reveal the grass beneath it and our hearts cling to the warmth of lengthening days, once again we are reminded, new possibilities can rise from our failures or disappointments.

**All: We give thanks for all the influence in our lives that have helped us to see beyond the present:
That teaches us to combine labor and rest,
That brings us the cycles of time and season,
That sustain us when we are in need.**

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**God loves us; God cares through us;
God laughs with us;
God cries with us as nowhere else.**

One: Especially we give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth, gatherer of folks, teller of stories, breaker of bread, pourer of wine, weaver of lives.

All: In his life, wisdom, stories and social vision we recall the words he spoke to call forth in us love, care, and respect for one another: And we believe the same Spirit of God that came in Jesus, yearns for expression in us.

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Communion Song "Eat This Bread" **Blue #697**
(words found on screen)

Communion Song "Jesus Remember Me"
(words found on screen)
(the guitar group will sing through this once.)
We are invited to join in this chant as the cup is shared)

***Closing Song** "Lead On Eternal " **Black #573**
(Words can be found on screen) (verses 1 & 2 only)

***Blessing to Send Us Forth**

***Sung Response** **Blue #748**
"Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" (verse one only)

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

In Our Prayers This Week

Members living in Care Facilities:

- Norma Baack, Kathy Cramer, and Alberta Samuelson

Others to hold in our prayers:

- Of healing for the family who lost a loved one
- Of thanks for God's love and healing
- Pray for the healing of souls and body's everywhere, and comfort for those who suffer losses. Grant us peace.
- Thanks Pastor Cindy for the challenges



If You have a Pastoral Emergency or Need ~

You can contact Pastor Cindy Mueller at
pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org
Please check your weekly bulletin
for Pastor Cindy's office hours.

Email secretary at secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org

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