

Service Notes

The **paraments** are white during the Easter season (which is from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday) to invite the church to remember that, instead of finding a sealed tomb, the women who came at dawn on Easter Sunday were surprised by an angel who announced astonishing news: "Jesus has been raised from the dead!" (Mt 28:7) The heavenly messenger invited the mourners on that day as well as Christians of all time to see the empty tomb and then go and tell the world that the Crucified One is alive!

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.

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The United Church of Mapleton

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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, May 11th, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 8

One: O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Many: We sing your glory across the world,

One: and your glory is proclaimed from the mouths of children.

Many: When I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers,

One: what are people that you are mindful of them,

Many: mere mortals that you care for them?

One: Yet you crown us, your children, as a little less than divine,

Many: and entrust us to rule over the works of your hands.

One: You are our sanctuary and our shield, now and forevermore.

All: O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

***Opening Hymn**

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission” #592

Verses 1, 2, 4, 5

***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

Mary Beth Fritz

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**

Litany: The Wide Spectrum of Mothering

Please turn to your bulletin insert to join in this responsive litany.

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**

“Happy the Home When God Is There” #607

Scripture

Matthew 28:16-20 (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

“With You Always”

***Closing Hymn**

“We All Are One in Mission” #552

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

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

Litany: The Wide Spectrum of Mothering

One: To those who gave birth this year to their first child,

Many: we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year, **we mourn with you.**

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains, **we appreciate you.**

To those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away, **we mourn with you.**

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment, **we walk with you.**

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms, **we need you.**

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children, **we celebrate with you.**

To those who have disappointment, heartache, and distance with your children, **we sit with you.**

To those who have lost their mothers, **we grieve with you.**

To those who experienced struggle or suffering at the hands of your mother, **we acknowledge your pain and experience.**

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the many tests of motherhood, **we are better for having you in our midst.**

To those who are single, long to be married, and mothering your own children, **we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be.**

To those who stepparent, **we walk with you on these complex paths.**

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren, yet that dream is not to be, **we grieve with you.**

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year and near future, **we both grieve and rejoice with you.**

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising, **we anticipate with you.**

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering in its many forms is not for the faint of heart, and we are blessed to have your leadership in our midst.

All: We honor you in joy and gratefulness.

Continue

Serving Us Today: Sunday, May 11th, 2014

Pastor—Rev. Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Linda Whitney

Organist—Kathy Byram

Greeters—Doug and Laura Fritz

Head Usher—Pat Carter

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. Coffee Hour

10:05 a.m. Adult Choir practice

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 based on liturgy from *Psalms for All Seasons*.

"The Wide Spectrum of Mothering" was written by Amy Young at messymiddle.wordpress.com

Adult and Youth **Sunday School** are now on break for the summer. The last day of **Children's Sunday School during worship time** will be Sunday, May 18th. We will resume all classes in the fall.

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 is recovering from recent hip surgery at the Mapleton Community Home
- Norma Baack, who is recovering at Oak Lawn Nursing Home in Mankato after a recent fall and hospitalization
- Benjamin Brockmann of Lake Crystal, age 6, a family friend of the Allevens, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia

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

Thanksgiving:

- For safe travels
- For the 7th birthday of Aiden, grandson of the Clarks, on Friday, May 2nd
- To God for our mothers and all the sacrifices they made for us! Bless their memories!

Prayers:

- For those undergoing medical testing and for those who perform the tests
- For a young man facing surgery
- For the family and friends of Cheri Rose, friend of the Clarks, who died on Friday, May 2nd of cancer at age 40
- For Hugo John, who is coping with health issues
- For Tony Osmundson, who is in the hospital with kidney problems

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 11th, 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. 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, May 11th, 2014

Monday, May 12th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship
Tuesday, May 13th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, May 14th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting
Wednesday, May 14th, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation
Wednesday, May 14th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons
Thursday, May 15th, 3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Planning Ahead

Monday, May 19th, 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
Tuesday, May 20th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, May 21st, 1:00 p.m. Quilting
Wednesday, May 21st, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 11th, 2014

United Church Directories

Our new United Church of Mapleton directories are here! Please take **one directory per household** as you leave the Sanctuary today.

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.

Mission Kits

Thank you to all who donated to the Baby and Hygiene kits and to those who gave of their time and helped pack the kits! Your generous donations will help many in need of these items.

The United Church was able to pack and send 14 Baby kits and 33 Hygiene kits.

Book Donations

The church has books that are boxed up and ready to donate to the Wellcome Manor or Theresa House in Mankato. The boxes of books are in storage the Mail/Computer room.

We are looking for volunteers who could stop by the church to pick up the boxes of books and deliver them to these organizations. Please call the church office at (507) 524-3141 or email to secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org to let us know if you could volunteer to help the church in this way. Thank you!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 11th, 2014

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.

Local Missions

The Well Youth Center

The Well Youth Center is open for grades 4th through 12th from 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays when school is in session.

We always welcome adult volunteers to help supervise, present a life-skill to our youth or help with fundraising events. Please call (507) 524-3839 or Sheila at (507) 995-8194.



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!



The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 11th, 2014

Called to Care Visitation Training

One of the goals and needs that came out of our visioning process was a trained lay pastoral care visitation team to help make sure that all of our at-home members and members with long-term care needs receive the care and support they deserve from The United Church. Pastor Ashley will be leading training sessions based on the “Called to Care” curriculum for all who would like to become caregivers in this context. The Diaconate will coordinate this ministry with Pastor Ashley. There are five training sessions, and caregivers will need to attend all five sessions to be commissioned. Each hour-long training session will be offered twice: once on a Sunday after worship and once on a Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

Session One: Wednesday 5/28, Sunday 6/1

Session Two: Wednesday 6/4, Sunday 6/8

Session Three: Wednesday 6/18, Sunday 6/22

Session Four: Wednesday 6/25, Sunday 6/29

Session Five: Wednesday 7/2, Sunday 7/6

If you have any questions or are interested in Called to Care, please talk to Pastor Ashley or Ruth Cumming. Thank you!

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Order a T-Shirt of The Well Youth Center

The Well will be placing an order for T-Shirts through a local business.

T-Shirts are a deep Turquoise color with a large white imprint of The Well logo on the back and a smaller imprint on the front upper left.



The cost of each shirt will be \$10 (please pay when you order) and may be ordered by contacting or calling Sheila at (507) 995-8194, (507) 524-3839 or by a sign-up sheet at church posted on the bulletin board. **Last day to order will be Wednesday, May 28th.** Make checks out to The Well Youth Center.

Wearing these T-Shirts is a great way to promote our communities local youth center and **a great encouragement to our youth when they see you wearing them!**

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. 1 Peter 1:23

Sunday:

Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you will abide in the Son and in the Father. 1 John 2:24

Almighty God, may your words be our guide to live according to your will. As Jesus abides in you, may we also abide in Jesus and so prove to be your disciples. Amen

Monday:

God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations. 1 Corinthians 12:28

Spirit of God, we thank you for the gifts you have given to us for the work of ministry. Every gift is important—encourage us to work together to build up the body of Christ. Amen.

Tuesday:

He has made his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate. Psalm 111:4

God of all the wonders of earth, instill within us the strength we need to run the race set before us. May we feel your presence, Lord, in both times of trial and times of triumph. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Wednesday:

Know that all lives are mine. Ezekiel 18:4

God of guidance, may we put our trust in you. May you guide our paths when we meet temptations. We wish to be people of your spirit. Amen.

Thursday:

It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13

Creator God, may we abide by your word and care for your creation. As your son Jesus Christ cared for us, may we care for those who are in need today. Amen.

Friday:

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Psalm 25:16

The Lord is compassionate and merciful. James 5:11

Be near us, Lord Jesus, and hear our prayers. O Lord, as we call for you, may our own ears listen. Amen.

Saturday:

You are the Lord, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. Nehemiah 9:6

Lord, we long for a world of togetherness and love. In days of struggle and misdirection, we pray that you make us whole. Amen.

Continue

Source: Moravian Daily Texts