

## 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.*

*All of our Communion elements are gluten free. During the serving of the bread, Pastor Ashley will walk through the Sanctuary to offer a pastoral blessing if you or your child(ren) choose to not receive Communion today.*

### \*Closing Hymn

*"They'll Know We Are Christians" #595*

### \*Benediction

*Kylie Black*

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

### Postlude

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

## How to Contact Pastor Ashley

Pastor Ashley's cell phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is [pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org). Her usual weekly schedule includes these times and places. *Monday* Sabbath. *Tuesday* 9:00-11:00 a.m. church office, noon-1:00 p.m. Pastors' Preaching Text Study Group in Mankato, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Maple River Youth Center. *Wednesday* 9:00-11:00 a.m. church office, noon-1:00 p.m. Maggie J's Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours) 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m. G.I.F.T. *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. church office, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study. *Friday* Sermon writing. At other times, she may be making pastoral visits or be serving elsewhere in the community. Please feel free to contact her for a visit or meeting!

## 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)

Our Mission:

*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 15th, 2016

Pentecost Sunday

Confirmation Sunday

### Prelude

### Welcome, Announcements

*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!*

### \*Call to Worship

*Ally Bruegger*

One: On this day of welcoming and celebration,

**Many: Fill us with joy, Lord.**

One: As the promises made in baptisms are confirmed,

**Many: Fill us with happiness, Lord.**

One: With new energy and ideas entering into our congregation,

**Many: Fill us with life, Lord.**

One: Let us turn to God and

**All: be filled with joy!**

### \*Opening Hymn

*"For the Beauty of the Earth" #40*

### \*Prayer of Invocation

*Annalivia Bair*

### \*Gloria Patri

*Sung a whole step lower than printed in hymnal*

*"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!

**\*Sharing Grace and Peace**

*Brady Walters*

One: God’s Word is a word of forgiveness, assurance, and grace.

**Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

One: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

**Many: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another in fellowship.

**Message for God’s Children**

*After the Message for God’s Children, children PreK-2nd grade may attend Sunday School in the upstairs classroom (between the Sanctuary and the Nursery, opposite the office).*

*All children may remain in their pews during worship, use the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or use the Nursery if they are younger than Kindergarten age. Worship Bags, “The Sunday Paper” coloring pages, and Ministry Card making kits are available in the back of the Sanctuary.*

**Mission Moment**

*Carolyn Becker*

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Adult Choir

*The Choir’s music is an offering to God, not a performance for our entertainment. Please do not applaud to show your appreciation. Instead, please try saying “Amen” or thanking them individually after worship.*

**\*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**

*Abby Bruegger*

**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)**

**Prayers for the People**

*Brady Walters*

**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**

“We Are God’s People” #547

**Scripture**

Matthew 28:20

**Confirmation Message**

*Abby Bruegger*

**Scripture**

Jeremiah 29:11

**Confirmation Message**

*Kylie Black*

**Scripture**

Colossians 3:23

**Confirmation Message**

*Ally Bruegger*

**Scripture**

Colossians 3:23

**Confirmation Message**

*Annalivia Bair*

**Scripture**

Romans 8:28

**Confirmation Message**

*Brady Walters*

**Rite of Confirmation and Prayer for Confirmands**

*Please turn to the bulletin insert titled “Rite of Confirmation.”*



## Serving Us Today: Sunday, May 15th, 2016

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Confirmands

Organist—Jola Walker

Guitar/Vocals—Laura F., Marissa P., Sheila S.

Sound System—Dick Dietz

Hospitality Team Lead—Confirmands

Coffee Hour Host—Youth Center

### Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship

9:00 a.m. Nursery/Toddler Care (*upstairs north end of hallway in the Nursery/Toddler Room*)

9:15 a.m. Sunday School during worship for grades PreK-2nd (*classroom A, upstairs across from office*)

Today's *Call to Worship* is by Christ Congregational Church of Silver Spring, Maryland (<http://www.cccsilverspring.org>).

After a **Choral Offering**, please refrain from applause, which traditionally follows a performance meant for entertainment in our culture, whereas the choir's music is offered to God in a spirit of worship. If you would like to show your appreciation, please say "Amen" after their offering, or thank them individually after worship.

The **paraments are red** on Pentecost Sunday, the day that represents the birth of the Christian community. According to Acts, it was a day when some 3,000 were added to the community as a result of the preaching of the Apostles. The miracle of the day was that these strangers, of many different "tongues" were able to understand and respond to the proclamation of the Gospel. If Easter is God's resurrection *moment*, Pentecost marks the beginning of God's resurrection *movement*. With the dramatic appearance of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost came the power to restore right relationships with God, one another, and all creation. Thus, the redemptive power activated at Pentecost is the power to mend the rips within our social fabric, to restore splintered relationships, to repair broken communities. Pentecostal power is the power to stand in the cracks, to face hostilities without fear, to confess, repent, and repair – to be agents of healing even as we have been healed. *Information from ucc.org.*

## Worshipping With Children

**Children are always welcome** at The United Church!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matthew 19:14)

During worship, several options are available for children:

*The Sunday Paper* is a coloring page based on the Scripture reading for each Sunday. Two versions are available, one for older and one for younger elementary aged children.

Ministry card decorating kits are also available, and a sign next to these kits lets children know to whom their card will be sent (e.g. homebound members, Treats for Troops recipients, etc.).

Worship Bags with creative supplies are located at the back of the Sanctuary.

The Nursery/Toddler Room for infants and toddlers (Kindergarten and younger) is available throughout the morning worship service and is located at the north end of the upstairs hallway.

The Family Space, located in the Overflow Room at the back of the Sanctuary, is for our families with infants and small children.

This space is available for families in addition to the Nursery so that families can both see and hear what's going on in worship.

### Care Connections

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.

If you or a family member would like a **pastoral care visit** for any reason, or would like to be added to our **weekly prayer list**, please let us know! Feel free to contact Pastor Ashley, a Deacon, or the church office. The church phone number is (507) 524-3141. Pastor Ashley's phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is [pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org).

If you have a prayer request for the **Prayer Chain**, please call Karen Stanton at 327-8168 or Joyce Johnson at 524-3727. Please let them know your prayer request, including the name of the person to pray for, and whether 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. There is also a prayer request submission form available on The United Church website under the "Ministries" tab.

## In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Maple River Youth Center, Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf
- The local, regional, and national leaders of the church, including all ministers and missionaries
- Those anticipating surgery, recovering from surgery, or undergoing medical procedures, tests, or treatments
- Those living in assisted living, a nursing home, or who are homebound, and all those who are caregivers
- Those who are grieving and mourning
- Those affected by mental illness, including anxiety and depression



### Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Kathy Cramer, Janie Firstbrook, Mary Beth Fritz, Marian Mallory, Sean Mallory, Lloyd Mitchell, Stan Solie,
- Those recovering from recent health concerns or procedures: Kathy Byram, Jack Madsen
- All those affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria and the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the Middle East
- Jennifer Sickler, cousin of Jeremy Walters and granddaughter of Marge Walters, who is very ill

**The prayer requests and praises shared during last week's worship include:**

### Thanksgiving:

- For all those who are so willing to serve as Lay Leaders, Hospitality Team Leads, and Sunday School teachers

### Prayers:

- For healing for my sister-in-law, Linda Karels, who had surgery on Friday, and for her spouse, Jim Karels
- Of blessings for my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

## 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 15th, 2016

Tuesday, May 17th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT; 1:00 p.m.

Quilting; 3:00 p.m. Planting of the Garden of Eatin'

Wednesday, May 18th, 6:00-7:00 p.m. GIFT; 7:00 p.m. **Church Council**

Friday, May 20th, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Relay for Life Dinner in Fellowship Hall (total use from 2:00-7:00 p.m.)

### Planning Ahead

Tuesday, May 24th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT; 1:00 p.m.

Quilting; 3:00-6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes workday; 6:00-9:00 p.m. Kilties in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 25th, 7:30 p.m. **Pastoral Relations**

Saturday, May 28th, 9:00-noon Loaves & Fishes workday

### Talent Team Member Needed

The United Church Council is seeking a third Talent Team member. The Talent Team meets as needed to assist all members of the congregation in identifying their spiritual gifts and passions for ministry and finding ways to pursue those passions, in addition to helping the Church Council identify members for the Council itself as well as ministry teams or committees as needed. If you are interested in being part of this team, please let Moderator Dick Dietz, the two current Talent Team members (Louise Webb and Ruth Cumming), or Pastor Ashley know. Thank you!

### Confirmation Sunday!



Five students will be confirmed today at the United Church of Mapleton. These students are: **Annalivia Bair, Kylie Black, Ally and Abby Bruegger, and Brady Walters**. We extend our congratulations and fellowship to you all. God bless you!

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 15th, 2016**

**Sign-Up for Sunday Lay Ministries!**

Please consider helping by signing-up to be a **Lay Leader, Hospitality Team Leader, Communion Server, and Sunday School teacher** for Sunday worship services. Sheets are posted on the bulletin board outside the main office. Thank you in advance for your service!

**Youth Center**

**Today, Sunday, May 15th** we will collect donations in the Mission Jar at the back of the Sanctuary for our local youth center. The United Church supports this mission in this way each month.

**Garden of Eatin’**

The mission garden for Loaves & Fishes will be planted **Tuesday, May 17th at 3:00 p.m.** **Anyone is welcome to help!** There are sheets posted for you to sign-up and volunteer throughout the season to tend, water, pick and deliver produce. **On any given week, produce can be delivered Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.** This garden has been a great success in the past couple of years. Let’s continue to grow and love in our community with this great mission!

**Donations Needed!**

We are looking for donations for our June and July *Film, Fun & Faith* movie nights which will be held every Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 p.m. and held in the Fellowship Hall. **Please sign-up on the bulletin board or call the church office at 524-3141** to donate pails of vanilla ice cream and 2 liter root beers. Thank you!

**Jazz in the Park**

Jazz in the Park, featuring the Maple River Jazz Band with special guests Bass Brand Brass Band will be held in the Mapleton Library Park on **Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m.** This event is free and open to the public! Food is sponsored and served by the Mapleton Sertoma Club beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a free-will-offering. Root beer floats and plant sale will be sponsored by the Maple River Youth Center (The Well). In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Maple River Commons.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 15th, 2016**

**Town & Country Days Silent Auction**

Our church has been asked to contribute items for the Silent Auction at Town & Country Days which will be held **Saturday, June 11th from 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.** Please bring your items to the church Fellowship hall **by Tuesday, June 7th.** Place a value on your items and designate where you want your bid money to go (United Church, youth center or T&C Days fund). Items can be hand made, unique theme baskets, antiques, small furniture, and almost new items. If you need to have an item picked up, please call Joyce Johnson.

In order for our church to receive the bid money, we need to fill two one hour shifts. Volunteers have already filled our 9:00-10:00 a.m. and 6:00-7:00 p.m. shifts, for which I thank them. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Johnson at 524-3727. Thank you in advance for your participation.

**Free Community Workshop**

A free workshop will be held **Thursday, May 19th, 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** at 2060 Commerce Drive, North Mankato, MN. This workshop includes: Legal Tools—which documents should we have in place? Medical Assistance—how can I protect my money from the nursing home? Funeral & Cremation Planning—explore your options and get the facts. Pre-register by calling 507-388-2288. There is a flyer on the bulletin board with more information.

**St. John Spring Sale Extraordinaire**

**Saturday, May 21st,** St. John’s Lutheran Church, Mapleton will host a handcrafted items, plant and bake sale from 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. A salad luncheon will be available, door prizes and free coffee in the morning. Available space to rent for crafters/small businesses for \$10 a table. Please contact Caryl O’Brien at 524-4091.

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

**Scripture for the Week:** Jesus says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” John 14:27

### **Sunday:**

I will give them a heart to know that I am the Lord.  
Jeremiah 24:7

Father, you constantly remind us that you will never leave us or forsake us. Help us give our hearts to you so that you may fill them with your grace and mercy. Amen.

### **Monday:**

For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.  
2 Corinthians 5:21

Father, in a world where there is so much sin, we humbly bow before your throne, beneath the cross of Jesus, to seek your forgiveness. Help us to forgive others as you forgive us in our times of need. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

Jesus said, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” Mark 1:15

Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy. When we seek the good news of the kingdom, you always show us how to let the Holy Spirit lead. Help us to put our trust in you for all your promises. Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Matthew 13:43

We pray, O Father, for justice on the earth. When no justice can be found, help us to know that justice will ultimately triumph because you are a God who will judge with complete fairness. Thank you, God. Amen.

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

### **Thursday:**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. Psalm 46:1–2

With praise and thanksgiving in our hearts we thank you, God, for your saving grace and help. Your constant love continues to outpour on us each day. May we freely give to others as you give to us. Amen.

### **Friday:**

The Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient, correcting opponents with gentleness. 2 Timothy 2:24–25

In your unfailing love, O God, help us to never forget that you are our Fortress and Strength. Each day we will sing of your new mercies and the joy that you bring to us. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Matthew 7:21

All-powerful God, real help comes from you alone when situations seem out of control. But we know that you can do mighty and great things when we leave it to you, our God, to order and provide. Help us, we pray, to still our souls and wait upon you. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

*Continue*

# Film, Fun, & Faith

*Free!* ~ Every Wednesday ~ June and July ~ 6:00p.m.

United Church of Mapleton ~ Fellowship Hall



- Bring a lawn chair or a comfy blanket to sit on!
- Free popcorn and root beer floats!
- Guess the movie each week and be entered to win a door prize!
  - All movies are PG or G rated

*All are welcome!*