

**You gave orders to the morning and showed the dawn its place,  
you molded the earth until it took shape.**

You alone know the springs of the sea,  
you alone comprehend the vastness of the universe,  
you alone know the laws of heaven.

***Lord, give wisdom to our hearts  
and understanding to our minds.***

**Scripture** Luke 8:22-25

**Story**

**\*Song** "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" #74

**Litany** *Based on Psalm 148*

Praise the Lord from the heavens, and in the high places;

**all you great cloud of witnesses, praise the Lord!**

Sun and moon, and star strewn cosmos,

**edges of the universe, and echoes of creation, praise the Lord!**

Praise the name of the Lord,

**who commanded and they were created;**

who set them in place for ever and ever;

***whose glorious name will never fade away.***

**Scripture** Matthew 6:25-33

**Story**

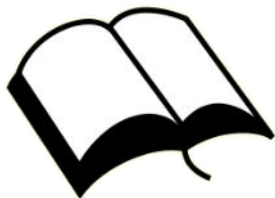
**\*Song** "This Is My Father's World" #21

**\*Benediction**

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

**Postlude**

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



## **The United Church of Mapleton**

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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, September 20th, 2015

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

A Service of Scripture, Story, and Song

For our Call to Worship and Litany readings,  
please note that regular text is read by the worship leader,  
**bold** font is read by the congregation,  
and ***bold italic*** font is read by all.

**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!*

**Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Call to Worship**

*Based on Psalm 103*

Come, let us bless the Lord!

**For the Lord is truly gracious,**

compassionate and merciful,

**filled with endless love.**

God forgives our sins,

**surrounds us with love and mercy,**

and fills our souls with abundant life.

***Let's worship the Lord together!***

**Scripture**

Psalm 150

**Story**

**\*Song** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #71

## \*Moment of Fellowship

### Message for God's Children

*After the Message for God's Children, children are invited to return to their pews, 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.*

### Litany

*Based on Psalm 104:1-5*

Praise God, O my soul!

We stand in awe at Your greatness, O God.

**You are indeed great, robed in honor and majesty.**

For covering, you choose light;

**for Your clothes, You wear sunset and moonrise.**

For a tent, You stretch out the heavens;

**for Your roof, You pitch the sky.**

You make Your messengers like the winds;

**the breeze whispers Your words.**

You placed the earth on its foundations—

**it will never shaken.**

How great are Your works, O God!

*We stand in awe at all that You have done.*

### Scripture

Job 26:1-5, 8-14

### Story

\*Song "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" #31

## Mission Moment

### 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

*Based on John 10, Psalm 23, and 1 Peter 2*

We have gathered together to worship God,

**the Shepherd of our souls.**

The one who has created us,

**who sustains us,**

who redeems us,

**who restores us,**

who walks beside us in good times and bad,

**and who calls us to follow.**

### Scripture

John 20:1-18

### Story

#### \*Song

"In the Garden" #300

### 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.

### Litany

*Based on Job 38*

Lord, you laid the earth's foundations  
and you placed its cornerstone.

**While the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels shouted for joy,**

you set limits for the sea and said,

"This far and no further!"

*Continue*

## Serving Us Today: Sunday, September 20th, 2015

Lay Readers—Marian and Sean Mallory

Greeters—Delbert and Ella Conrad

Head Ushers—Wally and Joyce Johnson

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*)

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

The **altar flower arrangement** is in honor of Hugo and Pat John's 65th wedding anniversary.

Today's **Call to Worship** is by Rev. Christine Longhurst at [re-worship.blogspot.com](http://re-worship.blogspot.com).

All Scripture selections for readings are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of *The Holy Bible*.

The Litany based on Psalm 104:1-5 is by Rev. Christine Longhurst at [re-worship.blogspot.com](http://re-worship.blogspot.com).

The Litany based on John 10, Psalm 23, and 1 Peter 2 is by Rev. Christine Longhurst at [re-worship.blogspot.com](http://re-worship.blogspot.com).

The Litany based on Job 38 is by Michael Perry at [jubilate.co.uk](http://jubilate.co.uk).

The Litany based on Psalm 148 is by Jeff Shrowder at [thebillabong.info](http://thebillabong.info). © Jeff Shrowder 2000, 2012.

All information for the stories related to each hymn is from [www.hymnary.org](http://www.hymnary.org) and *Then Sings My Soul: 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories*, written by Robert J. Morgan, published by Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2003.

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.*

## 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.). Finished cards may be placed back on the children's creative supply table in the basket that is provided.

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, Dawn Dietz, Janie Firstbrook, Aubrielle Howley, David Keller, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen, Stan Solie
- Former President Jimmy Carter, a lifelong Baptist, who announced that he has cancer in his brain and is undergoing treatment
- Gabe Samuelson, who is in basic training for the Army Reserves
- Darlene Fezler, who is traveling to visit family
- Mary Beth Fritz, who is recovering from a successful surgery
- All those affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria and the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the Middle East
- All those who continue to be affected by the aftermath of the September 11th, 2001 attacks on our nation, especially all those who lost their lives, their loved ones, and all of the first responders

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

#### Prayers:

- For the youth of our community that they may find strength in faith in God

#### Thanksgiving:

- For a nice evening last night for a 5k glow run benefitting Camp Sweet Life for kids with Type 1 diabetes
- To everyone who made it possible to meet our goal on the Capital Campaign pledge drive

## 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, September 20th, 2015

Sunday, September 20th, 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, September 22nd, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

### Planning Ahead

Tuesday, September 29th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Thursday, October 1st, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, October 6th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, October 6th, 1:00 p.m. Quilters

Wednesday, October 7th, 6:00-7:00 p.m. G.I.F.T.

*(Generations In Faith Together)*

Thursday, October 8th 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

### 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* noon--1:00 p.m. Maggie J's Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours may change occasionally and will be announced here), 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m. G.I.F.T. *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-noon 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 News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, September 20th, 2015**

**Choir Practice**

Today, Sunday, September 20th, Adult Choir practice will begin immediately following our worship service. We will meet in the sanctuary.

**Youth Center**

Today, Sunday, September 20th, our Mission Jar and Coffee Hour collections will go to support the local youth center.

**Nursery Room**

We are in need of volunteers to help paint the Nursery Room. **Two times have been set:** Wednesday, September 30th starting at 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 1st starting at 3:00 p.m. You may arrive whenever it is convenient for you. Please bring along a paint roller and roller pan and your favorite trimming paint brush.

Any questions, please contact Sheila at 507-995-8194. Thank you!

**Garden of Eatin' - Weekly Update**

So far this year, the United Churches Garden of Eatin' has produced **241.5 pounds** of fresh raw vegetables for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf. Thank you to all who are helping make this much needed local mission such a success!

**Quilters Schedule Update**

The Quilters will not be meeting for the rest of September. They will begin again **Tuesday, October 6th at 1:00 p.m.**

**Sign-Up for Lay Readers and Ushers**

**Please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the main office.** Thank you in advance for your service.

If you would like more information, please contact Marian Mallory or any member of the Diaconate.

**Newsletter Reports and Articles**

Please submit your October newsletter reports and articles into the church office **no later than Friday, September 25th.** Thank you!

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, September 13th, 2015**

**65th Wedding Anniversary!**

On Saturday, September 26th, Bob and Georgia Wilson will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary! You may send a congratulation card to Bob and Georgia Wilson, 45283 230th St, Delavan, MN 56023.

**65th Wedding Anniversary!**

Pat and Hugo will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary with an Open House (tent) on Sunday, September 20th from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at 501 4th Ave SE, Mapleton, MN. You are invited to drop-in and join us in celebrating this happy event!

Light hors d'oeuvre and beverages will be available. Your presence is your gift.

**Local Missions**

**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! Please bring donations to church on the first Sunday of each month.

**The Maple River Youth Center:** The mission jar will be in the back of the Sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month.

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

**Scripture for the Week:** Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. James 1:19

### **Sunday**

I am merciful, says the Lord; I will not be angry forever. Only acknowledge your guilt, that you have rebelled against the Lord your God. Jeremiah 3:12–13

The Lord is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

Eternal God, we cannot fathom the depth and width of your grace. We strive to earn that which is freely given. We sin when judging our neighbors' souls. Your patience with us is our salvation. Amen.

### **Monday:**

Many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary?" Mark 6:2–3

How amazing are your ways, O God. We marvel at your designs. In Christ you have shown us the awesome, divine presence that is ours. May our heavenly humanity be a witness to your earthly divinity. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

With my mouth I will give great thanks to the Lord; I will praise him in the midst of the throng. Psalm 109:30

Redeemer of the world, we come before you with praise and thanksgiving for your everlasting love. May we carry the news of your salvation to all those we meet. Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. Acts 2:46–47

Christ, you are our true foundation. Build our community of believers and call us to join together as one: in our homes, in our churches, in the world. In your name. Amen.

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

### **Thursday:**

He, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. Philippians 2:6–7

Servant God, help us remember that you sent your Son to lead through humility, not might. Give us the desire to serve, not to be served. Amen.

### **Friday:**

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created. Revelation 4:11

Creator and Sustainer of all, we are awed and blessed by all you have made. May the whole of creation, to the ends of the earth, praise you forever! Amen.

### **Saturday:**

In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10

Eternal God, we thank you for your steadfast love. We often fall short of the life we are called to live, yet your mercy and grace are never lost to us. Let the love you show us be in the love we show others. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

*Continue*