

**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)

### Order of Worship

Sunday, September 24, 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.*

### Prelude

### Welcome, Announcements & Opening Prayer

**\*Gathering Music** *Every Time I Hear the Spirit* (vs 1)      **NCH #282**  
**Words Projected**

**Refrain: Ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it  
mov-ing in my heart I will pray.  
Yes, ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it  
mov-ing in my heart I will pray.**

Up-on the moun-tain my God spoke,  
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.  
Looked all a-round me; looked so fine;  
I asked my God if all were mine.      **Refrain**

### \*Call to Worship

One: How lovely is God's dwelling place.

**All: Our souls yearn for God's presence; our hearts  
and our flesh cry out for the Living God.**

One: The Mighty One is a sun and a shield.  
God bestows favor and honor.

**All: We seek God and God answers us.  
God delivers us from our fears.**

One: Come into God's house.

Here, even the sparrow finds a home,

**All: even the sparrow has a nest near God's altar.**

One: Come all you who thirst, all you who are heavy laden.  
Come take refuge here.

(1)



**Do you Want to Learn More about Scripture ?  
Need a Safe Place to Ask Questions about Discuss  
what God has to Say to Us in Scripture ?**

Pastor Cindy is going to offer a Bible Study if enough interest is expressed. Depending on who is interested will determine the time and day such a study will be offered (either during the day/evening).

Please reach out to Pastor Cindy with a text, voicemail (507) 420-9707 or email her @ [pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org)

**We need to hear from you no later than TODAY!**

**A food drive for Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf** will be held Thurs., September 28th from 3-6 pm at Dietz Foods.



### Harvesting God's Many Gifts

We are in need of several people sharing various items to grace our chancel area in the front of the church such as—Pumpkins, dried wheat bundles, a bushel of apples, a bale or two of hay/straw, bundles of corn stalks, potted mums, baskets of plastic fruit and any produce you are willing to share.



The harvest display will grow each week, so keep in mind we need these items through 10/29. On that day we will celebrate the *Harvest of God's Many Gifts* and all we have to share by offering to God our own *Estimate of Giving for 2018*.

**Contact Pastor Cindy or Sheila in the office** if you are willing to donate the afore mentioned items.

Thank you for your consideration.

May our display exhibit the abundance God has blessed us with!

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### If you have a Pastoral Emergency

Pastor Cindy Mueller can be reached at [pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org)

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### In Our Prayers

- ♦ Jack Madsen in hospice care at Pathstone in Mankato
- ♦ Thanks and praise to all who serve in the leadership of our church. Help us to pray and thank them for their service to you.

(6)

## The United Church Calendar For this Week

Tues., Wed., & Thurs. 8 a.m.—Noon—church office hours

- TODAY**     **9:30 am Worship**  
**10:30 am Congregational and Foundation Mtgs.**  
**Open Invitation to See the Parsonage;** kitchen remodeled
- Mon., 9/25     8:00 am—**Newsletter items due into church office**
- Tues., 9/26     6:30 am—Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder  
10:00 am—2:00 pm *Cindy's Office Hours*  
1:00 pm—Quilting Group
- Wed., 9/27     9:00 am—12:30 pm *Cindy's Office Hours*  
7:00 pm—**Search Committee Mtg.**
- Thurs., 9/28     10:00 am—2:00 pm *Cindy's Office Hours*
- Sun., 10/1     **9:30 am Worship w/Communion & Special Offering**  
**10:30 am Holy Conversation—***Do we need a full-time or part-time Pastor to live out our mission? What do we expect of our Pastor?*

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### Next Week's (10/1) Worship & Fellowship Leaders

**Intentional Interim Minister:** *Rev. Cindy Mueller*  
**Lay Reader:** *Joyce Johnson*  
**Hospitality Team:** *Lanny and Kathy Cox*  
**Organist:** *Jola Walker*  
**Sound System:** *Gary Fritz*  
**Power Point:** *Konnor McCutchen*  
**Coffee Fellowship Donations:** *Council*  
**Local Mission Jar:** *Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf*



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### Sunday School/Faith Formation We Need Substitute Teachers!

Please contact Sharon  
at (507) 340-3769  
if you are willing to help.



### \*Claiming Our Brokenness in Song     Words Projected

*God of Justice, God of Mercy*

**TUNE:** (*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*) Hyfrydol 87 87 D

From *A Singing Faith*. Words © 1983 Jane Parker Huber.

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God of justice, God of mercy, make us merciful and just!  
Help; us see all your creation as from you a sacred trust.  
And when people cry in anguish for their own or others' pain,  
Show us ways to make a difference.  
O dear God, make us humane!

#### Verse 2

How can we, as people chosen by your grace for service here –  
how endure another's hardship without offering hope or cheer?  
God, forgive us, we beseech you, when our love fails to empower.

Teach us how to be more faithful in their present crucial hour.

#### Verse 3

So the vision you have planted in each human mind and heart  
now becomes the spark of action calling us to do our part.  
Keep that vision clear before us: men and women girls and boys,  
valued in response and witness, sharing challenges and joys.

### Offering Our Gifts

#### \*Singing Our Praise to God     **TUNE:** Old Hundred

From all who dwell beneath the skies,

Let the Creator's praise arise!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung

Through every land, by every tongue! Amen.

### \*Blessing Our Gifts

**All: Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your compassion, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.**

**\*Extending the Hand of Christian Fellowship**

**Faith Forming Moment**

**Faith Stories Shared**    *Portions from the Book of Esther*

**\*Song**            *Into the Hills and Valleys Long Ago*

**Words Projected**

**TUNE:** Finlandia 10.10.10.10.10.10 (*Be Still, My Soul*)

From *A Singing Faith*. Words © 1981 by Jane Parker Huber.  
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*In-to these hills and val-leys long a-go  
Came pi-on-eers of faith with vi-sion clear  
Of farms and towns and neigh-bors liv-ing so  
That vil-lage, home, and church might flou-rish here.  
God grant such vi-sion now to us, we pray,  
To make their dreams our own in this new day.*

(Verse 2)

*Move us with con-fi-dence toward that to-morrow  
For which we dare to hope through Christ the Lord,  
When peace and joy shall con-quer hu-man sorrow  
And plow-shares van-quish gun and bomb and sword.  
So make us one hu-man-i-ty, and then  
Teach us to sing a grand and sure "A-men!"*

**Message**

**Prayers of the People**

Response after each prayer, "**Hear Our Prayer, O God.**"

**The Prayer Jesus Taught**

*Our Father, who is in heaven, holy is your name.  
Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the  
kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

**\*Song**            ***We Are a New Creation***            **Words Projected**

**TUNE:** Lancashire 76 76 D (*Lead On, O King Eternal*)

From *A Singing Faith*. Words © 1981 Jane Parker Huber.  
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*We are a new cre-a-tion, of Christ, the liv-ing Word.  
Our songs of ju-bi-la-tion shall ev-ery-where be heard.  
New life blooms fresh and glor-ious for those who heed the call  
Of Christ, who reigns vic-tor-ious o'er sin and death and all.*

**Verse 2**

*We are a new cre-a-tion of God for this new day.  
As part-ners let us fol-low the life, the truth, the way.  
Christ bids us work to-ge-ther as col-leagues, old and young.  
As wo-men, men and na-tions, God's folks of ev-ery tongue.*

**verse 3**

*We are a new cre-a-tion by God's own gra-cious hand,  
Old bur-dens cast be-hind us, a dar-ing fu-ture planned.  
In min-is-try and mis-sion, u-ni-ted let us live,  
In Christ a shin-ing vi-sion to God's wide world to give*

**\*A Blessing As We Go Forth**

**\*Sung Response** *We Are Marching in the Light of God*    **NCH #526**  
*(sung through 2 times)*            **Words Projected**

**\*Music to Send Us Forth**

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**This Week's Worship Leaders**

**Intentional Interim Minister:** *Rev. Cindy Mueller*

**Lay Reader:** *Darlene Fezler*

**Hospitality Team:** *Ron and Judy Olson*

**Organist:** *Jola Walker*

**Sound System:** *Dick Dietz*

**Power Point:** *Gary Fritz*

**Local Mission Jar:** *The Backpack Program*