

The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*

† † †

Sunday, July 28, 2024
10th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*



Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month (from September to June), following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator. The third toilet stall in each of our four restrooms has a high toilet and handrails.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am from the Sunday after Labor Day to the Sunday before Memorial Day.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2nd and last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Young Children & Family Ministries

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia. For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

More Information....

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: * = if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*

Virtual Worship Service

Online: **Live Stream** at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **Our YouTube Channel**
Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



www.sprucc.org



Free WiFi

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

*{If you have not already done so,
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad
to the person next to you.}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP *(Unison)*

Trustworthy God, increase our trust in you so that we can move through each day with freedom from worry and anxiety. Help us to trust you when the waves roll over us; when the bank account drops lower and lower to minus, when our relationships seem to be sour. You are light, O God, powerful light. Shine through the darkness and give us hope. Amen.

This service was prepared by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.

PIANO PRELUDE

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Lowell Mason

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Trust and Obey"

*♩ Blue #571
Public Domain*

*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen**

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 145*

Leader: You, Lord, are faithful in all your words,

People: and loving in all your works.

Leader: The Lord upholds all those who fall

People: and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Leader: The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,

People: and you give them their food in due season.

Leader: You are near to all who call upon you,

People: to all who call upon you faithfully.

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Lord, when we lose hope, lift us. When we see no bright light, shine upon us. When we are walking along the wrong path, pull us back to your path. When despair arrives at our front door, help us to open the back door to see the sun rising on a new day; a new day when we find ourselves obeying your will for each of us. Thank you for your mercy, and thank you for transforming us. Amen.

*SILENCE

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Unison) Psalm 23 (King James Version)

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.
He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.**

*CALL TO PRAISE

Leader: Let us sing praise to God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit!

People: **We praise you, Triune God!**

*SONG OF PRAISE

"We Praise You, O God"

♩ Red #19

**With voices united our praises we offer.
And gladly our anthems of worship we raise.
Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,
To Thee, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.**

Text: Julia Bulkley Cady Cory

Music: Kremser

{please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God’s love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the “inspired word of God.” Gospel (which means “Good News”) refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians’ most central books of the Bible.

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

The Hebrew Lesson: [2 Kings 4:42-44](#)

The New Testament Letter: [Ephesians 3:14-21](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: [John 6:1-14](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

W&R #426

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

MINI-MESSAGE

{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship, or on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time for the additional option of “Junior Worship”}

CHILDREN’S SONG

“I Have the Joy”

Unknown

**Vs.1 I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart, (where?) down in my heart;
I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart to stay.**

Vs. 2 I have the peace that passes understanding

Vs. 3 I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus

SERMON

“Building Trust Among Ourselves”

We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more
about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of
ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(Unison)* *United Church of Christ Statement of Faith* ①
(Section Two and Three: Jesus and the Holy Spirit)

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
you have come to us and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.
You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.
Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.**

{Please be seated}

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: In your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

Do not let us fall into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear our Prayer, O Lord"

♪ *Red #501*
George Whelpton

**Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Leader: We return to God from the goodness God gives to us.

People: Why is this so important?

Leader: Should we only receive and not give?

People: That would be nice.

Leader: No! No!

People: Oh, we have neighbors.

Leader: Now, you have it!

People: We will thank God by how we talk and live and use our resources!

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

{Today, we will be passing the offering plate in person. You may also offer your tithe and offering to God through our secure [Online Giving](#) option on our website at sprucc.org ([Click Here](#)), or you may mail your offering to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

PIANO OFFERTORY

"We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"

Spiritual arranged by Cindy Berry

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

"Doxology"

♪ *Red #551*
George Bourgeois; Public Domain

**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.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (Leader)**

Giver of life and food and water and health, thank you for the abundance with which we are surrounded. May we not waste it but instead share it. We give this money to the church so the church can be sustained. We give money to the church treasury to help people. We give energy and time and money, and the good news about Jesus, and our love directly to people. That is what being a follower of Jesus is all about! Help us to be good followers!
Amen.

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

*COMMISSION

Leader: Do we go into the world taking the hope we have found inside?

People: **Who needs our hope the most?**

Leader: We can look at the eyes of people.

People: **Oh, yes, good idea, but we can't see the eyes of people without hope because their eyes are downcast.**

Leader: We can whisper hope as we pass each person.

People: **And then watch as their startled eyes meet our eyes.**

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

♪ *Red #236*
Public Domain

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

POSTLUDE

Join Us For Fellowship and Food in Miller Fellowship Hall

Free WiFi: UCCRobeson-Guest

Password: iamheretoserve



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

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 - ❶ United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) 2023 Resources.
 - ❷ *Led By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1996). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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 - ❿ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
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About Today

Church Season: Pentecost -which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Green - symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God's Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year B**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Mark.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which are about the life of Jesus Christ, which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, July 28, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15 *and* Psalm 14 *or* 2 Kings 4:42-44 *and* Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21;
John 6:1-21

The Book of Second Kings

During the Middle Ages, the Book of Kings was divided into two parts. The first book provides a history of the Israelite people and their theological struggles from the death of King David (970 B.C.). The first book continues through the reign of King Solomon; to the division of Israel into the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah; and to the death of King Ahab and the beginning of the rule of his son Ahaziah. The second book begins with Ahaziah's rule (850-849 BC); to the Assyrian's destruction of Samaria (721 B.C.), which was the capital of the Northern Kingdom; to the invasion of the Babylonians and the fall of Jerusalem (586 B.C.), which was the capital of the Southern Kingdom, resulting in a period of Jewish exile.

Psalm 145

This OT song attributed to David, gives praise for the greatness and goodness of God. In its original Hebrew, it has an alphabetic acrostic form, which means that every other verse begins with a successive letter of the alphabet.

The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

The Epistle (letter) to the Gentile church in Ephesus is attributed to the Apostle Paul, written in the first century A.D. This is an open letter to many churches in response for the life-changing radical transformation in our personal and social life as we become a part of Christ's family. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and leader in the Christian church, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. He wrote more of the NT than any other person. The title of this letter "Hebrews" presumably refers to the original audience of this letter as primarily Jewish-Christian.

The Gospel According to John

John is the latest of the four Gospels, written around 80-90 A.D. probably in Ephesus, and attributed to John the son of Zebedee, the beloved disciple of Jesus. This Gospel was "written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and through believing you may have life in his name" (20:31).

Next Sunday, August 4, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 11th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a *and* Psalm 51:1-12 *or* Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 *and* Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16;
John 6:24-35

Trust and Obey 571

Now you are the light in the Lord. Live as children of light. Ephesians 5:8

F F⁴ F C⁷ F C C⁷ F B^b

1. When we walk with the Lord In the light of His Word, What a glo - ry He
 2. Not a shad - ow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quick - ly
 3. Not a bur - den we bear, Not a sor - row we share, But our toil He doth
 4. But we nev - er can prove The de - lights of His love Un - til all on the
 5. Then in fel - low - ship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His

F C F F⁴ F C⁷ F C C⁷ F

sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He a - bides with us still,
 drives it a - way; Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear
 rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross
 al - tar we lay; For the fa - vor He shows And the joy He be - stows
 side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go;

F B^b F C⁷ F *Refrain* C F F E^b

And with all who will trust and o - bey.
 Can a - bide while we trust and o - bey.
 But is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, For there's
 Are for them who will trust and o - bey.
 Nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.

D D⁷ G^m C⁷ B^b C⁷ A^m C⁷ F F A B^b6 F C⁷ F

no oth - er way To be hap - py in Je - sus, But to trust and o - bey.

TEXT: John H. Sammis
 MUSIC: Daniel B. Townner

TRUST AND OBEY
 6.6.9.D. with Refrain

Blessed Assurance

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D G/D D A/E

1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a fore - taste of
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of rap - ture now
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav - ior am

E7 A D G/D D

glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
 burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove
 hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

D G Em/G D/A A7 D Refrain

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry,
 filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

G D G D/F# A/E E A A7

this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my

D G/D D D7 Em/G D/A A7 D

sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908)

ASSURANCE
 9.10.9.9.Ref.

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The New Life in Christ

HORATIUS BONAR, 1846

C. M. D.

VOX DILECTI
JOHN B. DYKES, 1868*In moderate time*

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest;
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold I free - ly give
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's Light;

Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on My breast."
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink, and live."
Look un - to Me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, Wea - ry and worn and sad,
I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found In Him my Star, my Sun;

I found in Him a rest - ing place, And He has made me glad.
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in Him.
And in that Light of life I'll walk, Till travel - ing days are done. A - MEN.

Consult index for alternative version,