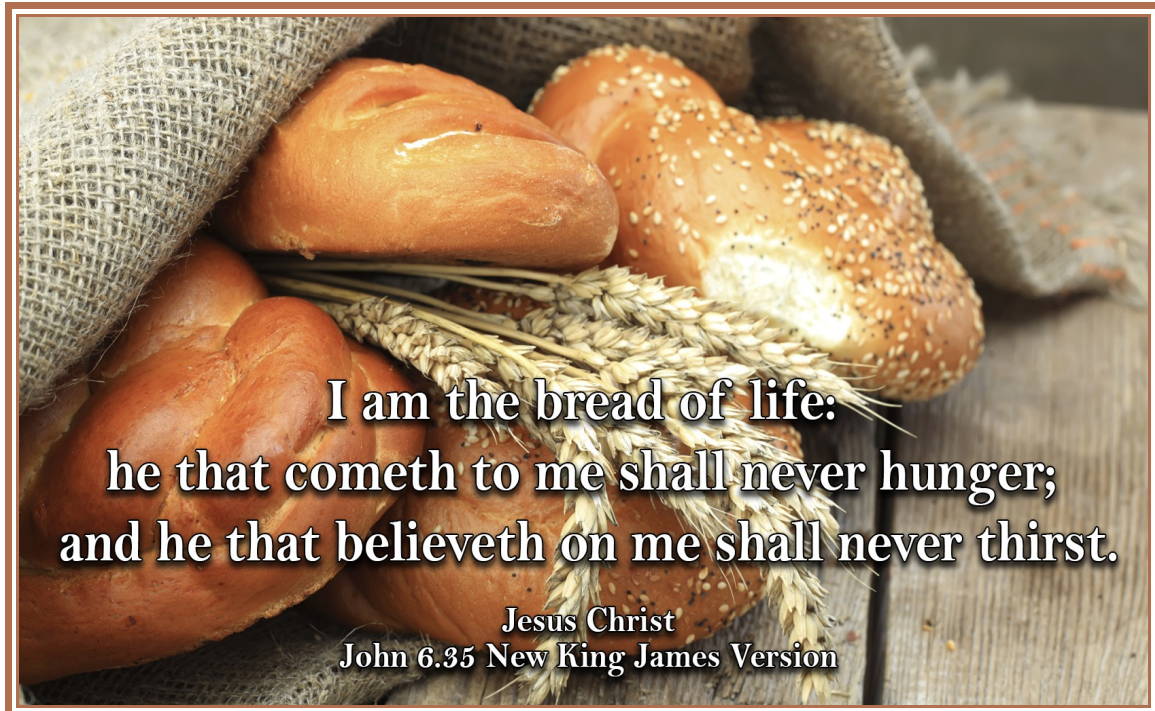


The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

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, August 11, 2024
12th 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



www.sprucc.org

Online: [Live Stream](https://www.sprucc.org) at [sprucc.org](https://www.sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [Our YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
[Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](https://www.sprucc.org) 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



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)*

Holy and Glorious God, just what do we think the bread and cup are as we eat and drink? Do we think they are just a remembrance of your death? Or do we think the very opposite - that the bread is your very body and the cup is your very blood? That is very extreme. We can each choose the meaning for ourselves. We might want to focus instead on what the bread and cup do for us such as healing and forgiveness so that we feel refreshed. We receive the bread and cup with thanksgiving. Amen.

This service was prepared by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.

PIANO PRELUDE

"Blessed Assurance"

Phoebe Knapp; arranged by Brian Chung

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts"

NCH #329

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

*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 34*

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times.

People: **The praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.**

Leader: Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord

People: **Let us exalt God's name together.**

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

People: **Happy are they who take refuge in God!**

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)

Perfect Jesus, we come before you today to learn from you. Were you self-centered? We don't find any evidence of that. Are we self-centered? Some more than others. Some days more than other days. Do we blame others more than ourselves when something goes wrong? Jesus, help us to be humble and think of the other person's well-being before our own. In this way we share your love, we act unselfishly. Amen.

*SILENCE

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

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

♪ Red #518

from the American Lutheran Hymnal

Public Domain

Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Leader (*spoken*): Christ, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Unison)

Beloved, we are forgiven anew, once again, an on-going repeated process. God loves us. God wants us to live the lives that he planned for us. So let us do as Paul says to the Ephesians, "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

*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

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

W&R #136

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy, Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Heber & Dykes

{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: [1 Kings 19:4-8](#)

The New Testament Letter: [Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: [John 6:35, 41-51](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Break Now the Bread of Life"

W&R #665

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MINI-MESSAGE

{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship}

CHILDREN'S SONG

"I Have the Love of Jesus"

Unknown

I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart;
I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay.

SERMON

"Bread and Love"

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: Merciful God,

People: receive 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

*first four lines of words from ♪ Red #258
William Walsham How*

Leader: We give thee but thine own.

People: What-e're the gift may be.

Leader: All that we have is thine alone.

People: A gift, O Lord, from thee.

Leader: Now is the time to give the gifts.

People: We bring our gifts humbly.

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](https://sprucc.org) 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}.

VOCAL OFFERTORY

"The Lord is My Shepherd"

Words and Music by Jimmy Owens

Soloist: Sheri Rowe

{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: God, we have brought our gifts, be they meager or much. May they be used according to your plan for UCC of Robesonia. Help us not to lose sight of our mission in your kingdom. We thank you for each and every gift that is here on this altar. It is yours. Speak to us. In your wisdom and the wisdom of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

People: 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: Here we go, God. We walk straight into the world that does not know you.

People: Who is going to help people know about God?

Leader: Yes, who is going to have the courage?

People: Maybe this week, God, maybe this week I will have the courage.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

W&R #344
Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

*{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: iamheretoseve



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



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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.
 - ❸ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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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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Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Financial Secretary (Interim): Terry Pastor

Consistory President: George McLain

Consistory Vice President: Kirk Aulenbach

Consistory Secretary: Geri Gammel

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, August 11, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 12th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 *and* Psalm 130 *or* 1 Kings 19:4-8 *and* Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

The Book of First 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.), through the reign of King Solomon, to the division of Israel into the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah, to the death of King Ahab, to the rule of his son Ahaziah (850 B.C.).

Psalm 34

In 1 Samuel 21:10-15, King David feigned madness before King Achish. This is an OT song of thanksgiving to God written by King David for escaping Achish. It instructs the community to know the goodness of God.

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 18, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 13th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 *and* Psalm 111 *or* Proverbs 9:1-6 *and* Psalm 34:9-14; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

329

Attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux, c. 1150

Transl. Ray Palmer, 1858; alt.

John 6:52-58; Heb. 13:8

1 Je - sus, the joy of lov - ing hearts, fount of our lives, and
2 Your truth un - changed has ev - er stood; you plead with all to
3 We taste of you, the liv - ing bread, and long to feast up -
4 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our chang - ing
5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our mo - ments

light of all: From ev - ery bliss that earth im - parts
call on you; To those still seek - ing, you are good;
on you still; We drink of you, the foun - tain - head;
lot is cast; Glad, when your smile on us you turn,
calm and bright! Oh, chase the cloud of sin a - way!

we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
to those who find you, life is new.
our thirst - y souls from you we fill.
blessed, when by faith we hold you fast.
Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Bernard, founder of the monastery at Clairvaux, was respected by popes and royalty alike. From the forty-two-verse Latin poem, American Congregational minister Ray Palmer freely translated selected verses to create this version.

Tune: HESPERUS L.M.
(QUEBEC)
Henry W. Baker, 1854

Break Now the Bread of Life

665

D D G D D G#m7(b5) A D
 F#

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own Word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me; your ho - ly
4 O send your Spir - it now, dear Lord, to me, that he may

D C#m7(b5) D D6 A E7sus E7 A A D A7 G D
F# E F#

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond - age cease,
Word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live
touch my eyes and make me see. Show me the truth made plain

A D6 E A A D A7 D Em
C# G F# E G

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it longs for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All in all!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.
with - in your Word, for in your book re - vealed I see the Lord.

WORDS: Mary A. Lathbury (1841-1913); vs. 3-4, Alexander Groves (1842-1909), alt.
MUSIC: William F. Sherwin (1826-1888), alt.

BREAD OF LIFE
6.4.6.4.D.

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus 344

Unison C

1 I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de -
 2 The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be -
 3 Though none go with me, I still will fol - low, though none go
 4 Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de -

F C

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low
 hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -
 with me, I still will fol - low, though none go with me, I still will
 cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low

C G D7 A G7 B C

Je - sus— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fore me— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fol - low— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 Je - sus?— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

WORDS: Anonymous
 MUSIC: Indian folk tune

ASSAM
 10.10.10.8.