



**March 20, 2022, 10 a.m.
Third Sunday in Lent**

**Union Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Elk River, Minnesota 763-441-1203**

www.elkriverucc.org /

churchoffice@elkriverucc.org

Welcome!

Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ welcomes everyone, no matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey.

We offer worship via Facebook Live broadcasts every Sunday at 10am. You can be here in person or participate virtually during, or any time after the service. Every Sunday, the service is recorded and broadcast on Facebook. You can contact the church at any time. See office hours below.

Please SILENCE cell phones during the service.
The wi-fi password is: stillspeaking1203



VISION

God has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

(Micah 6:8, (NIV))

Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ Mission Statement



God calls us to minister to each other. This ministry goes beyond our congregation into the community, wider world, and to the earth itself. We seek to reach those in the margins of society, to empower the powerless, and to leave this earth a better place than when we each arrived.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF CENTERING

Water is life and clean water means health.

~Audrey Hepburn

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME

If you are in-person, we invite you to fill out the friendship pad to let us know you are here.


If you are worshipping virtually, we invite you to click a reaction button on Facebook to let us know you are with us.



NOW OPEN in the Vestry (the room off the sanctuary).

Also, in the back of the sanctuary, is a table with items and bags for activities appropriate for the kids to work on and play with during the service. Children are welcome to sit at the table or bring the bag back to sit with parents.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP SPP 20 "Waiting for You"




Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes with some rests.

We are wait - ing for you, know-ing that you_



Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, 3/4 time signature. Chord symbols A/D, Gadd9, D, A/D, Gadd9 are placed above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

al-ways a - bide,___ we are wak - ing_ to your pres-ence



Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, 3/4 time signature. Chord symbols D, A/D, Gadd9 are placed above the staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

and our hearts are___ o - pen wide,



Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, 3/4 time signature. Chord symbols A7sus, D, A/D, Gadd9, A7sus, D are placed above the staff. The melody concludes with quarter and eighth notes.

o - pen_ wide.___ o - pen_ wide.

CALL TO WORSHIP **(PLEASE JOIN IN CALL AND RESPONSE)**

One: Imagine ahead to warming days when strenuous work or hard play lead us to thirst. Imagine too the places and times when contaminated water sources lead us to thirst:

Many: Thirsts that lighten the head and set muscles a quiver,

One: Thirsts that drain us of energy and leave us limp,

Many: Thirsts that make us sick, make us seek other water sources,

One: Thirsts that affect our spirits, our physical and mental health, demand our attention.

Many: Imagine, a source of clean, fresh, healthy water, cool and refreshing.

One: In our worship we draw forth from that water. In service to others, we taste it. In our trusting, we offer it to one another.

Many: This day we give thanks to God who provides the refreshing water of life for all who thirst.

HYMN 326 "Crashing Waters at Creation"

(To the tune of 325 Child of Blessing Child of Promise)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Crash-ing wa-ters at cre-a-tion
or-dered by the Spir-it's breath,
First to wit-ness day's be-gin-ning
from the bright-ness of night's death. | 3 Cleans-ing wa-ter once at Jor-dan
closed a-round the One fore-told,
O-pened to re-veal the glo-ry
ev-er new and ev-er old. |
| 2 Part-ing wa-ter stood and trem-bled
as the cap-tives passed on through,
Wash-ing off the chains of bond-age—
chan-nel to a life made new. | 4 Liv-ing wa-ter, nev-er end-ing,
quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, Source of life e-ter-nal,
drench our dry-ness, make us whole. |

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE & PEACE PRAYER

GREETING OF PEACE

In the same spirit in which we receive the unconditional love of God in Jesus Christ, let us offer to one another our own sign of peace.

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also, with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Carson Schneider

TIME WITH CHILDREN

"Hey there! All who are thirsty,
come to the water!

Are you penniless?

Come anyway—buy and eat!

Come, buy your drinks, buy wine and milk.

Buy without money—everything's free!

Why do you spend your money on junk food,
your hard-earned cash on cotton candy?

Listen to me, listen well: Eat only the best,
fill yourself with only the finest.

Pay attention, come close now,

listen carefully to my life-giving, life-nourishing words.

I'm making a lasting covenant commitment with you,

the same that I made with David: sure, solid, enduring love.

I set him up as a witness to the nations,

made him a prince and leader of the nations,

And now I'm doing it to you:

You'll summon nations you've never heard of,
and nations who've never heard of you
will come running to you

Because of me, your GOD,

because The Holy of Israel has honored you."

Seek GOD while God's here to be found,

pray to God while God is close at hand.

Let the wicked abandon their way of life
and the evil their way of thinking.

Let them come back to GOD, who is merciful,

come back to our God, who is lavish with forgiveness.

"I don't think the way you think.

The way you work isn't the way I work."

GOD'S Decree.

"For as the sky soars high above earth,
so the way I work surpasses the way you work,
and the way I think is beyond the way you think.
Just as rain and snow descend from the skies
and don't go back until they've watered the earth,
Doing their work of making things grow and blossom,
producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry,
So will the words that come out of my mouth
not come back empty-handed.
They'll do the work I sent them to do,
they'll complete the assignment I gave them.

REFLECTION

Thirsting

HYMN 340

"Somos pueblo que camina (We Are People on a Journey) vs. 2,4,5

1 So-mos pue-blo que ca - mi - na por la sen - da del do - lor.
2 Los hu - mil-des y los po - bres in - vi - ta - dos son de Dios.
1 We are peo-ple on a jour - ney; pain is with us all the way.
2 God has sent the in - vi - ta - tion to the hum-ble and the poor.

Estribillo (Refrain)

A - cu - da-mos ju - bi - lo - sos a la san - ta co - mu-nión.
Joy-ful - ly we come to - geth - er at the ho - ly feast of God.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Es-te pan que Dios nos brin-da
a-li-men-ta nues-tra u-nión. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 3 This is bread that God pro-vides us,
nour-ish-ing our u-ni-ty. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 4 Cris-to a-quí se ha-ce pre-sen-te;
al reu-nir-nos es su a-mor. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 4 Christ is ev-er pres-ent with us
to u-nite us all in love. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 5 Los se-dien-tos de jus-ti-cia
bus-can su li-be-ra-ción. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 5 All who tru-ly thirst for jus-tice
seek their lib-er-a-tion here. (<i>Refrain</i>) |

OUR TIME OF SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT (let us pray together)

Our Creator in Heaven, hallowed be 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GIVE/RECEIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY 178 SPP "Here Are Our Hearts"

C G/B Am Em/G F C/E Dm G
Here are our hearts. _____ Here are our hands. _____

C G/B Am Em/G F C/E G G7 C G/B
Here are our lives. _____ Use them as You can. _____ Show us those who hurt.

Am Em/G F C/E Dm G C G/B
_____ Show us those in need. _____ Show us how to serve.

Am Em/G F C/E G G7 C
_____ Teach us how to see. _____

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (let us pray together)

Loving God, may our sense of belonging within a community of faith nurture the longing to be your faithful servants. Teach us to build partnerships that advance the ways of generosity and grace. Accept our giving and our gifts. Amen.

HYMN 77 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" vs 1 & 2

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 We give thanks and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
3 So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the

joy and peace; Let us each your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,
glad your sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,

oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.
may we ev - er live with you in end - less day.

BENEDICTION

One: May the peace of Christ inhabit our hearts and be at home in our homes.

Many: May it lead us to construct a just and wholesome future for every beloved child of God, every beloved creature of God, and every beloved part of this creation.

One: Go in the unconditional love of God, the peace of Christ and the sustaining grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Elk River Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Pastor: Rev. Robin Raudabaugh

Deacon: Marce Ediger

Office Administrator: Giuliana Beckwith

Liturgist: John Olson

Senior Choir and Handbell Director:

Greeter/Usher: Beth & Don Britt

Gigi Nauer

Children's Time: Gigi Nauer

Piano & Organ: Carson Schneider

Announcements

Office Hours

Office hours for the church are Sunday 9:00am to 1:00pm before and after worship, Monday/Wednesday 8:00am-1:00pm. Call the church at (763) 441-1203 if you have general questions or need a pastor. Office email - churchoffice@elkriverucc.org.

Pastor Robin is generally in the office M, T, W mornings. If you would like to meet with her in person, it is a good idea to call ahead.

Pastoral Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, an accident, or a death, even while Pastor Robin is on vacation, please contact her directly via **text** at 651.216.9012, **phone** or **email** revrobin@elkriverucc.org. You may also contact the church office though the response may take longer.

Church Materials

Copies of the Sunday sermon and bulletin are available in person or via Facebook, our website, and the UCC Squared Newsletter (email).

KEPT IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers our congregation members: Nancy Hassett, Ella Rivers, Musz Bailey, Jim Babcock, Shelley Sherper, Bobbie Berg, Susan Olsen, Joanne Burdick, Ruby Cawthra, Jane Houlton, Marion Marcott, Cheryl Wold, Judy Halgren, Bailey Rosdahl, Jimmy Stevens, Dee & Jim Stevens (Jimmy's parents), Linda Fenton, Dave Halgren, Joan Axen, Marv and Nancy Andersen, and Laurie Lazaretti, Leslie Black (Jenny Sliker's sister).

SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEKS

Sunday, March 20th, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service In-person
and live via Facebook

11:30 a.m. Care Support Team

12:00 p.m. Youth Group

3:30 p.m. 4-H Club

Monday, March 21st, 2022

6:30 p.m. P.E.O. Chapter CG Meeting

Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022

5:00 p.m. Congregational Life Mtg

6:30 p.m. Virtual Lenten Study

Wednesday, March 23rd, 2022

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

3:30 p.m. SARI Demonstration
Sherburne County Gov't center

6:00 p.m. Handbells

7:15 p.m. Senior Choir

7:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, March 24th, 2022

6:00 p.m. Outside Group (Girl Scouts)

Thursday, March 25th, 2022

6:00 p.m. Outside Group (Girl Scouts)

Sunday, March 27th, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service In-person
and live via Facebook

Tuesday, March 29th, 2022

6:30 p.m. Virtual Lenten Study

Wednesday, March 30th, 2022

3:30 p.m. SARI Demonstration
Sherburne County Gov't center

6:00 p.m. Handbells

7:15 p.m. Senior Choir

7:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, March 31st, 2022

5:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations

6:00 p.m. Outside Group (Girl Scouts)

Friday, April 1st, 2022

6:00 p.m. Outside Group (Girl Scouts)

6:30 p.m. 4-H Club