



Union Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023 | 10AM

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

Bold text is read or sung by the congregation.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

The liturgy is adapted from offerings by Rev. Sarah A. Speed for *A Sanctified Art LLC* sanctifiedart.org.

Confession is our opportunity to be honest with God, so that our relationship may be restored and our hearts reconciled.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient practices of worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Please help us to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue prayer card. Place both in the offering plate when it is passed.

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Scripture is full of questions...

Where are you?

Am I my brother's keeper? Whom shall I send?

Who do you say that I am? Who sinned?

How many times shall I forgive? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Scripture is full of questions,

so just like those in our scriptures,

may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.

*Hymn 314 (v.1,2,5)

Christ, Be Our Light

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Prayer of Praise

Call to Confession

Responsive Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Who here has sinned?

We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand. We ignored people in need. We make false assumptions and fail to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.

Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Have you sinned?

I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I, too, am in need of forgiveness.

Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

*Sharing Christ's Peace

Because God has given us the peace of forgiveness, let us also be at peace with one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Engage

Hymn #451 (v 1,3)

***Song for Illumination**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

OPEN MY EYES

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

John 9:1-41

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

Who Sinned?

Rev. Lisa Stenner

*Hymn 684

Faith Begins by Letting Go

LUX PRIMA

Respond

Offering of Our Time, Talent and Treasure

Financial offerings support the Body of Christ through the life and mission of Union Presbyterian Church. You may give online www.unionpresby.org automated giving through your bank, and through snail mail.

Offertory

True Colors

Union Children's Choir

*Doxology

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer

*Responsive Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a merciful God,

a God who does not keep score, a God who wants good for us.

We believe in a creative God,

a God who would heal with mud,

a God capable of seeing what we cannot.

We believe in a saving God,

a God who heals, a God who greets our questions with patience,

a God who sends us out with hope in our step.

What wondrous love is this. Amen.

*Hymn 542 (v.1,4)

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

GOD BE WITH YOU

Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist

Brian Pears, Liturgist

Children 5th grade and younger are invited to come to the chancel steps.



Scan QR code to give electronically from your phone

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people.

Announcements

Welcome to worship at UPC this morning!

Please help us get to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you are a first time visitor, please leave your email address or phone number so that we can continue to welcome you. Also, stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up your welcome gift after the service!

We value children in worship! There are children's materials and crayons available as you enter the Sanctuary, a play area in the north window of the sanctuary, and a nursery area down the hall to the right of the narthex.

Lent devotionals for children and adults are available in the narthex. The digital version of the adult devotion is online.flippingbook.com/view/928029194/. Please let the church office know if you would like a pdf or a paper copy.

Order Easter flowers now You may purchase tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and/or lilies in honor or memory of someone or to the glory of God. You may purchase these beautiful flowers by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by emailing the church office. The flowers cost \$15 each and can be taken home after the Easter service. A dedication page will appear in the Easter bulletin. The proceeds help support our summer youth conferences.

✦ Abraham's Pantry

Mondays & Thursdays

Volunteer through website for time of your choice

✦ Other Activities This Week

Monday Session 6:30pm
Thursday LGBTQ Groups for Teens & Families
6:30pm
Saturday Abraham's Pantry Mtg @ Islamic
Center 7pm

Adult Activities

Yoga

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am
Family Room

Florence Women's Club

3rd Tuesday 12:30pm – 2:30pm
Info: Sharon Price 859-391-3984

Iglesia Pentecostales Palabra de Vida

Sunday at 4pm
Thursday at 6:30pm
Info: (513) 728-5343

Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 7pm Sanctuary
Adults & high school students

Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesdays at 8pm

Men's Bible Study

Every other Thursday 6pm Library (3/30, 4/13)
Info: Robert Brown or John Seibert

UPS (Union Presbyterian Seniors)

3rd Thursday Lunch at local restaurants
Info: Elaine Johnson

✦ Youth Activities

Middle School Youth

TODAY: Hang out with your family
Next week: NKY Youth Group Bowling
5:15pm – 8pm

Sr. High Youth

TODAY: Hang out with your family
Next week: NKY Youth Group Bowling
5:15pm – 8pm

Boy Scouts, Troop 805

Monday at 7pm

✦ Children's Activities

Sunday School K-5th Grade

2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:15am in Room 112

Union Children's Choir

Saturday 9:30 am

Cub Scouts, Troop 805

Tuesday at 7pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2146

Every Other Friday at 6pm

Birthdays

March 20 George Wood
 March 23 Mary Lu Funyak

Anniversaries

March 25 Brian & Shannon Eggleston

Prayers

Sue Kozlowski, Mike Hemingway,
 Jacque Sherwood, Jan Lawson, Nancy Goodall,
 Lynn Jasensky, Blakely Brown, Brad Marcum,
 Kim Fry



Thursday, March 23rd 6:30 pm It can be difficult for those in the LGBTQ+ community and those who love them to find safe spaces to be true to their identities as humans and as Christians or faith explorers. These meetings will brainstorm what such a space might be. Parents meet in the Youth Room. Teens meet in i.imagine hangout room. Use the lower level entrance, and signs will point the way. More info? Parents, call/text Amanda Hopper 859-640-4177. Teens, call/text El Hopper 859-240-6797. Of course, you can also contact Pastor Lisa. Parents of young adults are welcome as well. Please pass info along to anyone who might be interested.

Mark Your Calendars:

- City of Union Easter Egg Hunt at UPC – Saturday, April 1st 8:30am
- Palm Sunday ~ Sunday, April 2nd
- Congregational mtg after worship to elect officers
- Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship ~ Thursday, April 6th 6:30pm
- Darkening the Sanctuary ~ Friday, April 7th 12pm (noon)
- Good Friday Tenebrae Worship ~ Friday, April 7th 7pm
- Easter Potluck Breakfast & Egg Hunt ~ Sunday, April 9th 9am
- Celebration of the Resurrection! ~ Sunday, April 9th 10am
- Community Easter Celebration ~ Sunday, April 16th 6pm

Please RSVP for Maundy Thursday by Monday, April 3rd. You may RSVP in the narthex, by contacting the church office, or on the website. We will share a meal of traditional foods of Jesus' day then worship at table together.

SESSION

Moderator: Reverend Lisa Stenner

Class of 2023

Kim Fry 678-641-4060
 John Seibert 859-760-4712

Class of 2024

Robert Brown 859-669-6008
 Jessica Wood 859-462-8995

Class of 2025

Bob Janes 859-322-5709
 Nancy Shupe 859-750-2817

DEACONS

Class of 2023

Beverly Johnson
 Holly VonLehman

Class of 2024

Genesis Tinslee
 Peggy Schadler
 Bob Sherwood

Class of 2025

Julie Bailey
 Lisa Denham
 Ollie Seidman