United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Please give all prayer slips to Rev. Erbig before the service begins (Prayers slips can be found in the narthex next to the bulletin basket).

PRELUDE

"Blessed Jesus, We Are Here"

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Pat Anthony

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Anthony

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pat Anthony

Embodied Eternal, what might it mean for us to resonate together? That vibe. That hum. That feeling of flow. That "yes." Today we come beside you with echoes of care that have lingered in our souls.

Your love is alive. Let us feel its pulse.

We know you as the Divine Physician and your healing work has no bounds, no set roles or rules, no singular calling.

Your healing is breathing. Let us enter its flow.

We've been here long enough to know that oppression and despair can spread like wildfire. And yet, we find ourselves in Kairos time, on God's time. Here, we measure our calendars by connection, set our alarm bells to attention, and are charged by the speed of sound that made the universe.

Our love is alive. Let us feel its pulse.

Come, let us bring our solidarity to ceremony and ritual.

Our healing is breathing. Let us enter its flow.

Come, let us worship our God who created us for partnership,

who made us for love, to not go it alone. Amen.

*HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

GTG#15

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pat Anthony

... Trusting in God, we pray for transformation and new life:

Gracious and Merciful God, maker of covenant, faithful and just, we examine our lives in light of your righteousness which endures forever. You give us commandments, raise up prophets among us from among our own people. You speak to us, and ask us to become accountable. Yet often we ignore your ways and disdain your works. We close ourselves to your prophets and to the suffering in our world. Forgive us and renew us, that we may walk in faithfulness to you today, tomorrow, and all days. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pat Anthony

God's righteousness endures forever...as we witness good works, and follow God's call.

Thanks be to God, whose righteousness endures forever!

SONG OF RESPONSE "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

GTG#169

CHILDREN'S TIME

Linda Vandegrift

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pat Anthony

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 [NRSV]

Rev. Kerri Erbig

ANTHEM "He Leadeth Me"

UPC Choir

SERMON

Rev. Kerri Erbig Rev. Kerri Erbig

PRAYER FOR VITALITY

Heavenly Father, as we go forth today,

We humbly beseech thee to enable the congregation of UPC of Yardville to follow the Vital Congregations Initiative and the 7 Marks of Vitality.

May we now receive your mighty assistance, O Lord.

We will practice our faith.

We will seek a relationship with you, the Living God.

We will share the Good News.

We will rely on the Holy Spirit as a friend and teacher.

We will use our story for your glory.

We will trust your timing, O Lord.

We will finish the race.

Our spirits are now alive.

Thank you for sharing Your Divine endless energy with us. AMEN.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: GINNYS PANTRY

Pat Anthony

{ Bill and Amy Hoppock }

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Pat Anthony

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Pat Anthony

God Incarnate, through the life of Jesus, you gave us reason to have hope in the service of others. You showed us how hope is not about a predictable and "sure thing"—but is rather about the arc of acts of loving. Hope gives bones to relationships and cannot exist without them. Help us to learn to trust the long nights of our lives and ministries, that you are with us regardless of the outcomes we think we know. May the gifts that we offer here today be blessed by the beauty of service, which

allows us to build the kin-dom of God moment by moment, choice by choice, alone and together. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

(sung to tune of GTG #609)

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Kerri Erbig

SENDING SONG "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

GTG#12

BENEDICTION Rev. Kerri Erbig

POSTLUDE "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

What is the purpose of "an Elder of the month"? Ans: Each month of the year, a Ruling Elder is assigned to be the "Elder of the Month". The functions of the "Elder of the Month" are varied and include, but not limited to:

- (1) the Elder who will assist with Communion on the first Sunday of that month.
- (2) Assists with presenting the sacraments of any scheduled Baptism or other ceremony during that month.

Elders of the Month for 2024:

January – Joe Goodfriend

February – Rhea Mucha

March – Megan Gadsby

April – Rose Wales

May – Gloria Hanewald

June – Linda Vandegrift

July – Rhea Mucha

August – John Zelazny

September – Tom Kelley

October – Rose Wales

November - Linda Vandegrift

December - Megan Gadsby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill and Amy Hoppock will be speaking today about the "Moment for Mission" to tell us about Ginny's Pantry. They are members of First Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square and coordinate the operation of this Mission. Since our Mission in February is Ginny's Pantry, they will present some background information about this upcoming mission.

From The Finance Committee:

Karl Peterson has retired from being the Financial Secretary. Jean Malloy is our new Financial Secretary. On behalf of the congregation, we want to say *THANK YOU to Karl* for the many years he has served. Karl, your input was a valuable asset to our committee!

TODAY -- Sunday, January 28 ~ FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 12:15 PM in the Manse Lounge

Monday, January 29 ~ CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE MEETING 6:15 PM in Manse Lounge

Wednesday, January 31~ Church office will be open 2p-5p (instead of 12-3p as usual)

Sunday, February 4 ~ SCOUT SUNDAY

Tuesday, February 6 ~ FACILITIES MEETING 9:30 AM in Lower Level Fellowship Hall

- ~ UPW MEETING 10:00 AM in <u>Upper Level Fellowship Hall</u> All women are invited!
- Sunday, February 11 ~ SOUPer BOWL SUNDAY Collecting cans of Soup for Ginny's Pantry
 - ~DEACONS MEETING 12:00PM in Manse Lounge
 - ~2023 Annual Reports will be available for congregation to view.
- Wednesday, February 14 \sim *ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE* <u>6:30 PM</u> in the Sanctuary. Led by Rev. Don LaCrosse

Saturday, February 17 ~ UPM BREAKFAST 9:00 AM at Town & Country Diner. All men are invited!

Sunday, February 18 ~ *CONGREGATIONAL MEETING* Immediately following the 11am Service.

Purpose: To approve the 2023 ANNUAL REPORT *SESSION MEETING IS CANCELLED FOR FEBRUARY*

Monday, February 19 ~ CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (President's Day)
Sunday, February 25 ~ WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING
12:00 PM in Manse Lounge

From the Finance Committee: 2024 Per Capita Contributions

We are now collecting per capita for 2024.

What is Per Capita? Per Capita is an annual, per member, assessment for the General Assembly (Book of Order G-3.0106), Synod and Presbytery to share the ecclesiastical and administrative costs of the Presbyterian church (USA). It is like a Presbyterian community fund because Presbyterians share in the expense of performing the functions of each of the levels that make up the Presbyterian Church. Another way to look at it is that it is like paying your membership dues, as you do with other organizations. Our local Presbytery, the Synod and General Assembly offices of the Presbyterian Church (USA) depend on the Per Capita contributions in order to be able to function. How has it helped us at United? During Covid we were given grants from our presbytery to

help us with the live-streaming of our worship service. During this time of transition when United is preparing for a new pastor, we look toward our Presbytery and other offices within the Presbyterian Church to give us the necessary information, advice, and counsel to go thru this process. These offices would not be available to churches like ours if we did not have Per Capita apportionments to fund them. Per Capita also provides education and assistance to congregations in all areas of the church: such as information regarding finances, pulpit supply lists, appointing a Moderator for Session meetings, etc.

How much is Per Capita? Per Capita is \$40 per member. This amount has not changed for several years. We realize that \$40 per person may be a burden to those on fixed or limited incomes. However, the Per Capita does not need to be paid all at once—it can be paid over several months, or quarters, throughout the year. Remember to enter the per capita amount on the "Per Capita" line of the giving envelopes. NOTE: For those who give on line there is no online category for Per Capita. Therefore, it has to be paid directly to the church thru the office or in the collection plates.

Thank you to this week's greeter. James Shedrick

This Month's Mission: HOMEFRONT

Today's worship flowers are presented by Benita Rommel

In Celebration of all Deacons and Session Members who serve UPC

If you would like your group's meeting dates and times ~ or any special announcement ~ printed in the bulletin on Sundays, please make sure to send the information (via email) to the office no later than the Monday before! Bulletins for the next Sunday are created on Monday and printed on Tuesday.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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