

UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL FESTIVAL WORSHIP



APRIL 28, 2024

*Please stand, as able

Bold text indicates congregational response or singing.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

My Lord! What a Morning

arr. Emma Lou Diemer

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We delight ourselves in the presence of Christ and his love for all creation.

Let us open our hearts to receive Christ's abundant love.

Christ calls us to see him as the vine and for us to become the branches.

Let us seek to produce much fruit in God's Garden where all are welcome.

Come, let us worship the Master Gardener, Creator of all that was, is and forever will be.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Creator of the universe,
you made the world in beauty,
and restore all things in glory
through the victory of Jesus Christ.

We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured
by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed,
the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace,
to the glory of your name. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 104

We Hail You God's Anointed

ELLACOMBE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 15:1-8

Pew Bible page 878

Acts 8:26-40

Pew Bible page 892

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

Where Children Belong

RITCHIE



This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the wor-ship-ing throng.



Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

SERMON

What are we watching?

Rev. Cameron Barr

*HYMN OF THE DAY 322

Take Me to the Water

Negro Spiritual

*CALL TO SHARING

ANTHEM

Love Has Broken Down the Wall

Mark Miller

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Christ all crea-tures here be-
low; O, praise God! Al-le - lu - ia! Praise Ho-ly Spi-rit, Com-for-
ter; One, God, Tri-une whom we a - dore, O, praise God! O,
praise God! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Together we lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise:

*SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

From *Festival Eucharist*

Craig Phillips

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Organ' and the second 'Congregation'. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, — heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. — Ho - san - na in — the high-est. — Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na in the high-est. —' The organ part features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the congregation part is a simple melody.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews. Healing prayer is offered in the back of the sanctuary during Communion.

*COMMUNION HYMN 329

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

HESPERUS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF BLESSING 347

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata on Doxology

Charles Callahan

Special Events in May

5 SUN
CINCO DE
MAYO

9:45 AM FESTIVAL WORSHIP

- Recognition of Seniors & Peacemaking Scholarship Recipients

11:00 AM COMMUNITY FORUM

- Immigration 101 with Beckie Moriello

12 SUN
MOTHER'S
DAY

9:45 AM FESTIVAL WORSHIP

- Special Music Sunday

19 SUN
PENTECOST

11:00 AM JOINT WORSHIP FOR PENTECOST

- Reception of new members
- Cook-out/potluck celebrating end of program year

GRATITUDE CORNER

The Board of Children's Ministry (BOCM) would like to thank the many individuals involved in teaching and caring for our children every Sunday. These individuals are led by Anitra Grove and include Sunday School teachers and Nursery care providers. The BOCM expresses its deepest appreciation to Anitra and the following:

Sunday School:

Helen Hoenig	Megan Nashel
Eve Nelson	Aleta English
Nicole Schram	Chip Baker
Linden Thayer	Henry DeLoach

Nursery:

Alison Robertson	Kallista Mela
Colin Tanner	Brooke Reynolds
Alex Tanner	Elizabeth Hall
Mimi Reeves	Anna Grove
Harper Gray	Yadira Vargas Arriaga

We hope you'll read this brief devotion as an invitation to name your gratitude. If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to mmee@unitedchurch.org.

NEW RACIAL JUSTICE COVENANT REVIEW

Sunday, April 28 | Fellowship Hall
Join us at 11 a.m. or 12:15 pm
(Spanish interpretation offered at 12:15 meeting)



Racial Justice Covenant DRAFT (April 2024)

As a church, we see the sin of racism deeply embedded in our society's people and organizations. Racism, defined as power combined with discrimination based on race, has caused and continues to cause great harm.

We recognize that we as individuals, our church, and our society knowingly or unknowingly use skin color to advantage some and disadvantage others. Even when we understand the evils of individual prejudice and unfair systems of power, we often let our comfort or fear stop us from fighting against them.

We are divided by race instead of living fully as a community of God's people. Many of us have actively or passively allowed the wrongs of racism to continue, and many of us have suffered from these wrongs. We stand in need of God's grace, mercy, guidance, and healing.

With God's help and the support of our church community, we vow to use our hearts, our minds, and our bodies to

- Learn more about the harms of racism in the past and now,
- Speak up and tell the truth about racism,
- Listen to each other and truly hear each other,
- Be humble in our efforts,
- Structure our church to include the gifts of all and become a true community,
- Work toward racial justice, and
- Participate in repairing the damage caused by racism.

By actively living this covenant, we hope to find deeper connections to God and to each other. We thank God for this opportunity to grow and change.

SENIOR RECOGNITION

We're looking for any graduating seniors! On Sunday, May 5, we will be having a special moment in Festival Worship to recognize and celebrate any graduating seniors (high school or college). If you or someone you know is graduating, please let youth minister Jordan (jhaywood@unitedchurch.org) know so we can properly honor and spotlight this momentous achievement.

RACIAL JUSTICE COVENANT REVISION TODAY

Sunday, April 28: 11:00 a.m. or 12:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Today a choice of two sessions will be offered at 11:00 and 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Spanish interpretation will be offered at the 12:15 session. We will share the final draft of our new Racial Justice Covenant, which incorporates the feedback received from the congregation in the January workshops. The new covenant will be presented for a final vote at the June congregational meeting. We will also share a report with sample action items from every board and committee of the church, outlining how each group plans to make the Racial Justice Covenant a living document. Everyone is invited to share additional ideas on how to bring this covenant to life by taking action!

UCCH 101 TODAY

Sunday, April 28 at 12:30 p.m. in the church library
Folks who have RSVP'd for this casual information session will meet in the library at 12:30 today.

YOUTH GROUP AFTER FESTIVAL WORSHIP

Families & youth of the church are invited to the Youth Room to hang out and meet Jordan Haywood, our new Minister to Youth & Families. Please come by during the 11:00 hour, after Festival Worship. This is an ongoing invitation--Jordan will be in the Youth Room weekly for unstructured fellowship time together as he works on building up youth program plans.

IMMIGRATION 101 PRESENTATION NEXT WEEK

Sunday, May 5, 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Attorney Beckie Moriello (they/them) is an NC Board Certified Specialist in Immigration Law. Beckie, who joined us recently to hold a discussion primarily for Spanish-speaking immigrants, will give an 'Immigration 101' presentation (aimed toward English-speakers) next Sunday at our Community Forum to help us understand why people become undocumented in the US, what undocumented even means, and how U.S. citizens can help people get work permits and Green Cards. If there's something specific you hope Beckie will cover, submit your questions ahead of time to info@raleighimmigration.org

DON'T BE BORED ... JOIN A BOARD!!

'Tis the season of opportunity abundant! We are eagerly recruiting members to serve on the various boards of the church beginning in July. It's a great way to get to know people here better and to really participate in our community. The various boards, their responsibilities/descriptions, and email addresses of the board chairs are available in our enews (also posted on the bulletin board outside of the church library). The descriptions are a bit on the formal side but being on a board is way more on the fun side. Join and enjoy!

LANGUAGE LEARNING MINISTRY FUNDRAISING

Wow! Our church has made sweeping progress toward the fundraising goal for our new Language Learning Ministry. The money we raised at our recent yard sale and from other donations will go towards developing this ministry, with its priority being to offer accessible English classes to immigrants here at the church and in the surrounding community. We would also like to offer Spanish classes to members of the church. We hope this project will foster deeper connections as people humbly learn another's language, in addition to providing a much-needed service for immigrants and others in our community who could benefit from ESL courses.

WINTERREISE CONCERT

Saturday, May 4, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Cameron Aiken, tenor, and Robert Brewer, piano, invite you to their May 4 concert at UCCH. The music is Franz Schubert's famous song cycle *Winterreise*. It is a set of 24 songs in German. The narrator gets dumped before the first song, and it sort of goes on a psychological downhill spiral from there. It is considered the great masterpiece of 19th century art song. Free & open to the public.

FRIDAY MORNING YOGA CLASS

Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall
All levels welcome! Contact Melanie Joiner (melanie.spence@gmail.com) for more info.

BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGILS

Fridays at 4 p.m. on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
All are welcome! To join the email list, please contact Natalie Boorman (hickorygroveart@mindspring.com).

FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

A volunteer, Rev. Jo Watson, will be in the library immediately following the 9:45 service, to assist you in finding library materials pertinent to today's readings or other topics.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Learn more about worship on the "Welcome to United Church" card in your pew.

SERVICE NOTES

MUSICIANS: Charlie Carter, solo; Chancel Choir

GREETERS: Linda Sellars, Eve Nelson

READER: Nan de Andrade

COMMUNION VOLUNTEER: Peter Schay

LIVESTREAM: Bill Siddall

SOUNDBOARD: Toby McCoy

COVER ART: *Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch*, Herbert Boeckl, 1894-1966.

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UNITED CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Cameron Barr

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY &

BELONGING: Caleb Wolf

MINISTER TO CHILDREN: Anitra Grove

MINISTER TO YOUTH & FAMILIES: Jordan Haywood

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Jennifer Anderson

ORGANIST: Alan Davis

ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF: Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Nan de Andrade (Handbell Director), & Bianca Muñoz (La Mesa Music Director)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Kati Ruark

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Marisa Mee

BUSINESS MANAGER: Duane Gilbert

SEXTON: Bruce Thomas

KITCHEN STEWARDS: Nubia Rivero Bello, Hser Nay Htoo, & Andreina Galindez

NURSERY DIRECTOR: Alison Robertson

NURSERY ASSISTANTS: Alex Tanner, Colin Tanner, Harper Gray, Brooke Reynolds, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, & Elizabeth Hall

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A PLACE of BELONGING FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN