

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season.*



Psalm 1: 3a



Rooted in

Love



Henrietta United Church of Christ

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Ministers: Everyone!

Order of Worship

10:30 AM Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost November 21, 2021

Stewardship Sunday; Reign of Christ Sunday

WELCOME TO THE HENRIETTA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

- ***Please remember to silence your cell phone as we gather to worship.***
- **This month’s missions, funded by pledges to the Board of Christian Outreach is the Genesee Valley Campus Ministries, serving as an agent of God’s care in higher education.**
- **The *asterisk* * indicates to rise in body or in spirit.**

WE GATHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

CENTERING MUSIC (*in unison*)

God prepare me to be a Sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving I’ll be a living Sanctuary for You. (2x)

Adapted from John W. Thompson & Randy Lynn Scruggs

WELCOME!

Pastor Jason

PASSING OF THE PEACE (*one / many*)

Pastor Jason

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please greet one another in the spirit of Christ’s love and peace by sharing messages of peace with your pew neighbors or in the comments in our broadcast.

SUNG RESPONSE “There’s a Spirit of Love in This Place” .

There’s a spirit of love in this place, there’s a spirit of love in this place.
You can’t see it, but it’s there, just as precious as the air.
There’s a spirit of love in this place.
O alleluia, sing alleluia! We bless your holy name.
O alleluia, sing alleluia! There’s a spirit of love in this place.

Words and Music by Mark Miller (2003)

WE OPEN OUR HEARTS TO GOD'S RENEWING PRESENCE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*one / many*)

Pastor Jason

Adapted from Rev. John Birch

Christ calls us to service; to be His eyes and ears and hands and voice in this world.

To open our eyes not only to the beauty and love which you create, but the injustice, hate and suffering that humankind generates.

To open our ears not only to the chattering of this coming week,

But the searching, fears and questioning of all whom we shall meet.

To open our hands not only to those we choose our lives to share,

But in welcome, love and fellowship to all who you draw near.

To open our mouths not only to speak platitudes and simple words,

But the truths Christ lays upon our hearts. His Word for this world.

Christ calls us to service,

To be His eyes and ears and hands and voice in this world.

The time is now.

***OPENING HYMN** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" Music Bulletin Pg. 10

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together, gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life,
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Words by Jane Parker Huber (1981); Tune by John Zundel (1855)

UNISON PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Adapted from Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

Pastor Jason

Sovereign God, we confess we have given idols power over us, the idols of power and wealth, fame and security. We confess we have fallen into the ways of this world and have forgotten our kindred in Christ. We have lost sight of the reign of God here on earth, and instead have allowed the idols of the world to rule over us.

Forgive us. Call us into Your reign, to declare You the One who has power over us because Your power is love. Call us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to work for justice, show mercy, and love one another in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF GOD'S ENDURING LOVE (*one / many*)

Adapted from Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

Pastor Jason

Jesus came to us not to reign as a king over us, but to serve us, and to show us the way of God is the way of love.

Jesus said the first would be last and the last would be first.

Jesus called us to become humble and serve one another, and that the most important commandment was to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

This is the way of our Sovereign.

Go, knowing you are forgiven, and love and serve one another, especially our neighbors in need, as Christ serves us.

Alleluia and amen!

ANTHEM "My Song is Love Unknown" by Cathy Moglebust Bell Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME Pastor Jason

ANTHEM "Thankful" HUCC Choir
By Carole Bayer Sager, David Foster & Richard Page
arr. Tom Fettke

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S GOOD NEWS

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 18: 33-37 Susan Selvek

MESSAGE "The Time Is Now" Pastor Jason

***HYMN** "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing" (*verses 1, 2, 4*) Music Bulletin Pg. 11

Rejoice, give thanks and sing; your Sovereign God adore!
For Christ has robbed death's sting and triumphs evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
The Lamb who purged our stains is crowned with power above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ the judge shall come,
And take the faithful up to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear a heavenly voice,
Above the trumpet's sound "Rejoice!"

WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD'S SERVICE

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Carol Feasel

LITANY FOR STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY (*one / many*)

Pastor Jason

Adapted from the African American Lectionary

O God, we desire to be good stewards of all that you have made: the earth, the world, and all that dwells therein. All that we have comes as a trust from you.

Most holy God, we give thanks for your gifts to us.

We are called by God to use whatever gifts we have been given in service to others.

As you have so freely given to us and lovingly made us what we are, we now freely give back to you the substance of our lives — our time, talent, and money.

We are reminded in the gospel that from the poverty of the cross we have gained the richness of life.

Thank you, God, for allowing us to give to the work you have assigned our hands to do in this your earthly realm.

You have put your divine stamp upon us, endowed us with honor, and created us in your likeness.

We are fearfully and wonderfully made. Through providence and grace we offer our tithes and offerings on your altar. Most holy God, where our hearts and hands are closed, open them. Where our resolve is weak, strengthen us.

Our health and strength have come from you and it is you who made our financial resources possible.

Teach us to give as we have received. Remind us that what we claim as ours is really yours. Without your gifts to us we have nothing.

We are called by you to be good stewards of all that has been entrusted in our care.

You have called us to honor your name with our presence and our service.

Gracious God, our prayer is that we may give a good accounting of our stewardship.

We have received the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ as a gift, and we have been made His disciples.

We pray that we shall be good and faithful stewards, sharing with others the light that Jesus has given us, ever giving and serving from a willing heart.

We have freely received, now let us freely give!

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

You are invited to come forward to present your gifts to God as we sing the hymn below.

***HYMN OF STEWARDSHIP**

“For All the Ways”

Tune: For All the Saints

For all the ways we help each other grow,
As we share stories, moments high and low,
The face of Christ among us now will show,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

For all the people that our church holds dear,
For every precious memory made here,
For those we serve in love, both far and near,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

For times when silence is the truest word,
Or when the prophet’s thund’ring voice is heard,
For tears and laughter that our church has stirred,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In all our struggles, God will lead us through,
And give us strength to do what we must do,
To gain the peace and justice we pursue,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words by James Burklo (2012); Tune: Sine Nomine (1906)

***SONG OF PRAISE** (*in unison*)

Praise God, who welcomes us with grace, who blesses every time and place,
whose Christ shows every person's worth, whose Spirit gives us all new birth!

Tune and text adapted from the Geneva Psalter (1551)

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Let us pray together. . .*)

**Righteous Christ, accept all that we have offered to you. May these gifts we
gather participate in your realm of truth. May they serve as our generous
example of preparing for your reign of justice and compassion. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Pastor Jason

**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 forever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eric Falla

ADVENT PRACTICE (*in unison*)

People look east, the time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People look east: Love the guest is on the way.

Words by Eleanor Farjeon (1928); Tune: French folk melody

***SENDING HYMN**

"Hope of the World"

Music Bulletin Pg. 12

Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion,
Speak to our fearful hearts by conflict torn.
Save us your people from consuming passion,
From false pursuits through which our lives are worn.

Hope of the world, God's gift of our redemption,
Bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
Still let your Spirit until us be given,
To heal earth's wounds and end its bitter strife.

Hope of the world, who by the cross did save us,
From death and sad despair, from sin and guilt,
We render back the love your mercy gave us;
Take back our lives and use them as you will.

Hope of the world, O Christ o'er death victorious,
Who by this sign did conquer grief and pain,
We would be faithful to your gospel glorious;
Our Sovereign who forever more shall reign!

Words and music by Richard Gillard (1977)

BENEDICTION

Pastor Jason

POSTLUDE

“Kremser” a Netherlands Folk Song
arranged by Gail Leven Pollock

Robin Bower and Joe Green

Please remain seated for the Postlude.

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD RENEWED AND EMPOWERED BY GOD'S SPIRIT

As our worship ends, our service begins.

***Weather permitting, please join us outside immediately after worship
for fellowship time together.***

+ adapted from ***Just Rule, An Intergenerational Liturgy for Reign of Christ Sunday***, was written by the Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri.. Copyright 2021 Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

Portions of today's worship were adapted from ***Worship 11-25-18*** by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, found at rev-olution.org.

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Bell Choir

Karyn Carpenter, Holly Guppy, Debbie Feasel, Kayla Reed, Lisa Nevol, Marcie Ghysel, Melissa Bauch, John Sentiff, Judy Green, Henry Stone, Carol Feasel, Jim Guppy, Eric Falla, and Jean Howes on bass chimes