



Urbandale
 United
 Church of
 Christ
 God is still speaking

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are invited and welcome here.”

A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation

March 18, 2018

10:00 a.m.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

The Liturgical color for Lent is violet, representing repentance, sorrow, and the mourning of royalty.



SERVING AT URBANDALE UCC THIS SUNDAY

Liturgist: Michael Walters
Ushers & Greeters: Bob & Diane Shoemaker, Walt & Barb Rehberg
Acolytes: Jerry & Dianne Woods
Nursery: Anjy Allen & Jayna Gossling
Opening the Church: **Today**, Mark Siegel **Next Sunday**, Jerry Woods
Sound Booth: Scott Gardner

Flowers were given by The Gibbens’ in celebration of Cooper’s 11th birthday.

GATHERING

We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Nametags and information packets are available at the welcome table at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Childcare is available in the nursery for children ages birth through seven. Please see an usher for location if you wish to use the nursery.

GREETING

“The way of the Creative works through change and transformation, so that each thing receives its true nature and destiny and comes into permanent accord with the Great Harmony: this is what furthers and what perseveres.”

~ Alexander Pope

TIME OF FRIENDSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“What Wondrous Love is This”
 Raggedy Band

William Walker
 Southern Harmony

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *Their flames symbolizing God’s Spirit.*

❖ *This symbol invites the congregation to stand in body or spirit*
Bold type indicates a unison response

❖ CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

ONE: People of God, what do you hope to get out of the experience of worship today?

ALL: Please, we would like to see Jesus.

ONE: If that is what you really want, you must be prepared for the cost of discipleship.

ALL: Please, we would like to hear the words of life.

ONE: Then listen carefully! If you love your life you'll lose it; if you hate your life in this world, you'll keep it for eternal life.

ALL: In Jesus we see a clear expression of the love of God! As we ponder his death, we find ourselves drawn into the love that God has for us!

❖ OPENING HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Hymnal 43

❖ INVOCATION

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

“Come and Be Joyful”
Adult Choir

arr. Hal Hopson
Vivaldi

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 12:20-33 (The Inclusive Bible)

²⁰ Among those who had come up to worship at the Passover festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put forth this request: “Please, we would like to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went to tell Andrew, and together the two went to tell Jesus.

²³ Jesus replied, “Now the hour has come for the Chosen One to be glorified.

²⁴ The truth of the matter is, unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

²⁵ If you love your life you'll lose it;

if you hate your life in this world, you'll keep it for eternal life.

²⁶ Anyone who wants to work for me must follow in my footsteps, and wherever I am, my worker will be there too. Anyone who works for me will be honored by Abba God.

²⁷ Now my soul is troubled. What will I say: ‘Abba, save me from this hour?’

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

²⁸ Abba, glorify your name!”

A voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

²⁹ The crowds that stood nearby heard this and said it was a clap of thunder; others said, “It was an angel speaking.”

³⁰ Jesus answered, “It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

³¹ “Sentence is now being passed on this world; now the ruler of this world will be overthrown.

³² And when I am lifted up from this earth, I will draw all people to myself.”

³³ By these words Jesus indicated the kind of death he would die.

In the Gospel of John, there are long addresses by Jesus that seem to be teachings or pronouncements that border on poetry. Perhaps they were sayings or hymns used by the worshiping community to proclaim Jesus' message. The editors of The Inclusive Bible try to distinguish these from the prose of the book by setting them in verse form. In this passage, verses 23-28a, and verses 31-32 are so treated.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SERMON "Bear Fruit!" Pastor Dave

HYMN "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" Hymnal 193

RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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, forever and ever. Amen, Amen. Forever and ever. Amen, Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

ONE: God is good!

ALL: All the time!

ONE: All the time!

ALL: God is good!

ONE: Let us share the goodness of our God!

When the offering plate comes to you, we invite you to hold it for a moment and consider the many gifts that you can share. You may pray for a person or a ministry; you may commit yourself to a specific act of compassion; or you may resolve to work on a relationship that is in need of repair. Allow the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

OFFERTORY "Be Thou My Vision" Stan Pethel
Raggedy Band

Please sign the Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor.

❖ DOXOLOGY tune: *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; **Praise God above ye heavenly host;**
Praise God, all creatures here below; **Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ CLOSING HYMN "Lift High the Cross" Hymnal 198

*The candles are extinguished.
God's Spirit remains as a living flame in the hearts of God's people.*

❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Celtic Alleluia" Fintan O'Carroll
Raggedy Band

Please reshelve the hymnals and put this used Bulletin in the recycle basket.

PRAYER CONCERNS

To list someone in this section, *with their permission*, please email staff@urbucc.org by the weekly bulletin deadline.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers:

Barb Nervig...Jamel Carter...Don Walters...Louise Haney...Diann Miller

And our dear ones: **Alma Sims...Verna LeVear...Lee & Margaret Messenger**

To notify the staff of a prayer concern, or to send a note of caring and support to someone, please use the cards in the pew rack and drop them in the offering plate. Please indicate whether prayer concerns should be forwarded to our Prayer Chain. Notes will be mailed on Monday, provided we have the recipient's full name and the sender's signature.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides prayer shawls to people experiencing difficult circumstances or life transitions. For more information, email prayer.shawls@urbucc.org.

This Week at UCC

Sunday, March 18

9:00 am Sunday School & ASF

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir & Raggedy Band

11:00 am Regional Youth Event Info Meeting

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Monday, March 19

6:00 pm Book Club

Tuesday, March 20

11:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 21

6:00 pm Vespers Worship

WNA:

6:30 pm Adult Handbells

7:00 pm Adult Choir

7:00 pm AA

Saturday, March 24

9:00 am Private Lessons

3:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

Upcoming Sundays

Sunday, March 25

9:00 am Sunday School & ASF

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Easter Sunday, April 1

8:00 am Worship

9:00 am Brunch

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Easter Flowers

Easter is near and it's time to order your Easter Flowers! There's several varieties to choose from: Easter Lilies, Azaleas, Hydrangeas or Mums. Order envelopes are on the narthex table. **Orders are due TODAY!**

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Regional Youth Event

We have an exciting opportunity to attend **Regional Youth Event at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa June 19-22nd**. I know some of you have already expressed an interest. It is time to decide and start talking fundraising and logistics. **RYE INFORMATION MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

Sunday School, Emerging Adults & ASF 9:00-9:45 am

Preschool to 5th grade will meet in the Sanctuary for Singing w/ Bobby from 9-9:10 am then up to the Upper Ed Wing for Bible Study Time.

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6th-12th graders will meet in the NW corner of Fellowship Hall

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Adult Spiritual Formation (ASF) ~ 9:00-9:45am in Fellowship Hall:

Today: Coptic Christian Faith & Community, presenter: Dr. Emad Shenouda

Next Week: Light Mission Pentecostal Church, presenter: Joseph Gakiza

Vesper Worship Services

“Walking with Courage to Go Forth”

We are continuing the Vesper Worship this Wednesday night from 6:00-6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

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Pilgrim Heights Summer Camp 2018 Goes Beyond Belief!

The 2018 Pilgrim Heights Summer Camp Registrations and Brochures ARE IN! Please grab your copy from the table in the narthex, our Facebook page or church website. Remember, in order to receive 50% off please turn in your registration in to Rev. Amy and **allow for 2 weeks for the check to be made and mailed in to Pilgrim Heights.** There is an ***EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT*** this year in addition to UUCC’s ability to pay 50% of the camp fee.

SUPER EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Save \$35 if registration is turned in to Rev. Amy by March 18th

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Save \$25 if registration is turned in to Rev. Amy by April 15th.

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Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 25th

On Palm Sunday, we recall Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem and begin a week of reflection on the Passion Story, in preparation for our Easter journey.

Maundy Thursday, March 29th

7:00PM: Service of Communion & Prayers for Wholeness

“Maundy Thursday” comes from the Latin “mandatum novum,” meaning “new commandment.”

Easter Sunday, April 1st

8:00 & 10:00AM: Worship with Communion

9:00-9:45AM: Easter breakfast

There will be no Sunday School and Adult Spiritual Formation.

UUCC’s Inclement Weather Policy

The church office will be closed on any day that either Urbandale or Des Moines Public Schools are closed as a result of inclement weather. On those days, all church programming will be canceled. If classes are dismissed early, all events at the church will also be canceled.

On Sunday mornings with inclement weather, decision will be made by 7:30AM. The recorded message on the church phone system will be changed. (Press 3 for cancellations.) Local television stations will be notified to publicize the announcement and the information will also be posted on UUCC’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC.

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender identity and expression, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ’s image and striving for justice and peace.”

Staff

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor.....david.sickelka@urbucc.org
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator amy.murray@urbucc.org
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Ministry Leaders

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Prayer Shawl Ministryprayer.shawls@urbucc.org

Leadership Team Officers:

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Teams:

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Membership TeamJon Greising membership.team@urbucc.org
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Worship & Music.....Paul Johnson paul.johnson@urbucc.org

Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

*For pastoral care, please contact Pastor Dave at 276-0625 (church office),
515-720-6389 (cell phone) or david.sickelka@urbucc.org.*