

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are invited and welcome here."



URBANDALE UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Congregation

January 21, 2024

10:00 a.m.



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Green is the color for the season of Epiphany, which lasts until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. It is the color of growth, symbolizing the growth and spread of the mission of the church.

. Please escort your child(ren) to the Child Care Room and sign them in and out with child care staff.

PRELUDE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

John Innes

THRESHOLD

A TIME FOR CENTERING

We use this time to make the transition between “getting here” and “being here.” Take these few minutes of quiet time and prelude to get in touch with the calm places, the still, deep places in you; the Spirit. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind. Focus on feeling, on being. Be receptive to your center - your reservoir of inner peace, strength, love. Be aware of being with others. Feel the spirit of the community.

GREETING

“It may take place in a foreign land or it may take place in your backyard, but I believe that we were each created to change the world for someone. To serve someone. To love someone the way Christ first loved us, to spread God’s light. This is the dream, and it is possible.”
- Katie Davis

- ❖ *This symbol invites the congregation to stand in body or spirit. **Bold** type indicates a unison response. NCH refers to the New Century Hymnal; SPP refers to Sing! Prayer and Praise songbook.*

❖ CALL TO PRAYER AND PRAISE

One: Come, gather together like those who first followed Jesus so many years ago.

Many: We gather with courage, for we too want to be disciples of Christ.

One: I tell you, Christ is here with us, calling us now to life and love.

Many: Let us thank God for bringing us together, and calling us to follow.

ENTER

❖ OPENING SONG

“You Walk Along. Our Shoreline”

NCH 504

TAKING STOCK OF OUR BLESSINGS AND RESOURCES

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

TIME FOR THE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

While we are singing, the young in spirit are invited to come forward for a conversation with Ms. Kelly.

ENGAGE

ANTHEM “God We Gather As Your People/Welcome Be Our Song” David Lohman
 (For All The Children)
 Adult Choir

God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of Your love.

Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be when your children will be free.

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for everyone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.

May that welcome be our song.

Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free, and we sing for generations yet to be.

That they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they in Your love, find rest.

Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and shame, so afraid of who they are and whom they love.

May the message now be banished that Your love is for the few, may their faith in You renew.

God, we’re working for the future when children far and wide can live their lives with dignity and pride.

As they grow in strength and stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand.

SCRIPTURE

Jonah 3:1-5,10; Mark 1:14-20

*The Inclusive Bible*Jonah 3:1-5,10

¹ The word of YHWH came a second time to Jonah: ² “Get up! Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach to them as I told you to do.”

³ Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of YHWH. Nineveh was a city large beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. ⁴ Jonah moved on into the city, making a day’s journey. He proclaimed, “Only forty days more, and Nineveh is going to be destroyed!”

⁵ So the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and dressed in sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

¹⁰ God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behavior. And God relented by not inflicting on them the disaster that threatened them.

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴ After John’s arrest, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming the Good News of God:

¹⁵ “This is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Change your hearts and minds, and believe this Good News!”

¹⁶ While walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw the brothers Simon and Andrew casting their nets into the sea, since they fished by trade. ¹⁷ Jesus said to them, “Follow me; I will make you fishers of humankind.” ¹⁸ They immediately abandoned their nets and followed Jesus.

¹⁹ Proceeding a little further along, Jesus saw the brothers James and John Bar-Zebedee. They too were in their boat, putting their nets in order. ²⁰ Immediately Jesus called them, and they left their father Zebedee standing in the boat with the hired help, and went off in the company of Jesus.

SERMON	“In a Moment and For a Lifetime”	Rev. Kendy Miller
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HYMN OF RESPONSE	“Dear God, Embracing Humankind”	NCH 502
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RESPOND

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

❖ CLOSING HYMN	“Now Let Us All, in Hymns of Praise”	NCH 529
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❖ BLESSING

POSTLUDE	“Praise God with the Sound of the Trumpet”	Robert Lau
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You are invited to conclude your time of worship by remaining in your seat and listening to the Postlude.

THIS WEEK AT UCC

Sunday, January 21

- 9:00 am Matu Sunday School
- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation
- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:00 am Informational Budget Meeting
- 11:30 am Worship Team
- 12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church
- 1:00 pm Matu Bethel Church
- 4:00 pm Search Team

Tuesday, January 23

- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 5:30 pm Parenting Way

Wednesday, January 24

- 5:45 pm Handbells
- 6:30 pm Adult Choir
- 7:30 pm AA

Saturday, January 27

- 2:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church
- 6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

UPCOMING EVENTS AT UCC

Sunday, January 28

- 9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation
- 11:00 am Budget Vote Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID

Iowa COVID transmission is currently at a high rate. Masks are available in the Narthex if you would like to use one. Feel free to bring/wear your own mask.

CHURCH SCHOOL

- 9:00 - 9:10 am Singing in the Music Room
- 9:10 - 9:45 am Bible story and activities in the upstairs classroom

REFUGEE MINISTRY

Since the Family Promise program recently closed its doors, those in our congregation who were heading up that mission decided to donate the bedding that has been used here in the church to USCRI (our partner agency) to provide for new refugee clients. We are very grateful. There will be more details in our next article in the CALL.

We are told that this month the agency anticipates 50 new clients. Some of the more pressing needs are winter coats for adults and children, personal items such as shampoo and conditioner (especially for curly hair), toothpaste, and bath soap. There is also an urgent need for bath towels and washcloths.

Most of the new arrivals are coming from the continent of Africa with sandals or no shoes, so if anyone is interested in making a monetary donation for shoes, it will be well used! We continue to be amazed by the compassion this church demonstrates. "A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal." Steve Maraboli.

BUDGET MEETINGS

A budget information meeting will be held after worship on January 21. A congregational meeting will be held after worship on January 28 to vote on the 2024 budget.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Jan. 21 - Lisa Griffith Tierney, Immanuel Pathways

Rev. Lisa J. Griffith Tierney is a covenanted clergy and a longtime member of Urbandale UCC. Join us to hear what she's been up to lately. Lisa will talk about her ministry with Immanuel Communities, who they are, and what they do.

Jan. 28 - Read a "Banned Book" with us.

ASF Book Discussion of *Gender Queer*, by Maia Kobabe, on January 28, 9:00 am. Unfortunately, the books ordered did not arrive. However, we will have 6 library copies in the church narthex before & after church on Sunday to borrow. Please feel free to attend even though you may not have read the book. You may still be able to obtain it from local book stores. If you have a copy that you can share, please bring it to church on Sunday. For questions, contact Elaine Lundstrom. Thank you.

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, a decision will be made by 7:30 am. 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.

Now Accepting
Announcements & Information for
February CALL

DEADLINE

**Friday, February 26
@ 3 PM**

Please email the info to Abby at staff@urbucc.org

If we do not get your CALL submission by Jan 26
then it may not be included in the CALL

SERVING AT URBANDALE UCC THIS SUNDAY

Opening/Closing the Church: Mark Siegel

Worship Team Coordinator: Claudia Galetich **Acolytes:** Lown Family

A/V Booth: Ryan Nussbaum (Video) and Scott Davis (Audio)

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.urbucc.org

www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC

"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. Amy Galarowicz, Ministry Program Coordinator

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Covenant Ministers

Rev. Kendy Miller

Rev. Lisa Griffith Tierney

Tri-Conference Ministries UCC

Immanuel

Ministry Leaders

Caregiving Ministries:

Caregivers, Homebound..... Rachel Siegel

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Listening Room..... Maryellen Knowles

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Leadership Team:

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Other Contacts:

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For pastoral care, please contact the Rev. Amy Galarowicz or the church office.