

*Treat everyone as if  
they are sacred until  
the sacred in them  
remembers.*



Friedens UCC

*Sunday, September 1, 2024*

Music Prelude

Bell Tolling - Welcome to Worship (*\* = all who are able, please stand*)

\*Call to Worship

Come to listen for al God seeks to teach us.  
God has given us birth by the word of truth.

**We are drawn to God as to a lover.**

**We leap for joy when we know God's care.**

Every perfect gift comes to us from God.  
God's image is a part of each one of us.

**God's grace has been poured into our lives.**

**Wisdom and understanding are offered to us.**

Who will dwell on God's holy hill?

Those who walk uprightly and speak the truth.

**We will honor God by honoring our neighbors.**

**We will act toward them as we wish to be treated.**

\*Hymn of Gathering "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

*Prayer cards are collected during the Hymn.*

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

NCH #835

**Gentle and holy God, we acknowledge to you, to one another and to ourselves that we are not what you have called us to be. We have stifled our gifts and wasted our time. We have avoided opportunities to offer kindness and have been quick to take offense. We have pretended that we could make no contribution to peace and justice in our world and have excused ourselves from risk-taking in our own community. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and help us to live our lives differently, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose call to follow haunts our every prayer. Amen.**

*A time of silent prayer...*

Assurance of Pardon

\*Sharing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

Scripture Reading      Mark 7: 1 - 8

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn of Reflection      "Take My Life and Let It Be"

Children's Moment ~ Noisy Offering

Message      Rev. Linda Reynolds

\*Hymn of Response      "Breathe On Me Breath of God"      Black Hymnal, #292

\*Affirmation of Faith      Black Hymnal, #885

*United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the Form of Doxology*

Offertory

Let us not forget the bounty we enjoy is only loaned to us for a little while, to be managed to the glory of God. Every generous act of giving is prompted by God's own generosity toward us. Through the outreach of our church, God may accomplish much good for those who most need to know that someone cares.

Song of Reflection      "Heart of Worship"

\*Doxology      *These words are from #780 using words from #778 or #779*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, you heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen Amen Amen*

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for all the bounty you entrust to us. You have reached into the shadows where we often flee, to rescue us and give us your work to do. Bless our offerings of self and substance, we pray. Amen.**

Community Prayer  
Lord's Prayer

Communion

Invitation

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Great Thanksgiving

...With sons and daughters of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy as we say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Words of Institution and Blessing of the Elements  
Call to the Table

Communion Song      "Behold the Lamb"

Passing of the Elements

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Faith in Action

\*Commission and Blessing

God offers to each of us deep inner cleansing.

We can become whole people, unstained by the world.

**In the world around us, life is cheap.**

**Violence destroys what is valuable to God.**

We are called to challenge this destruction.

We are to love righteousness and turn from wickedness.

**We want to witness to the power of love.**

**We believe people can change and turn from evil.**

God's Word transforms all who hear and heed it.

God blesses those who are doers of the Word.

**God anoints us with the oil of gladness.**

**Our hearts overflow with God's good gifts. Amen.**

\*Song of Sending "Cry of My Heart"

\*Benediction

Music Postlude

Worship Liturgy: Reprinted by permission of United Church Press from Led by Love by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1996 by United Church Press.

**FRIEDENS UCC STAFF**

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**FRIEDENS LIVESTREAMING VOLUNTEERS**

**BROADCASTERS**

Dylan Brune

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Debbie Ayres, Sharon Brune, Marie Haupt, Connie Pickering, Sara Vollmar

**SOUND**

Galen Brune, Jeff Hitchcock & Jackson Vollmar

**POWER POINT**

Marie Haupt, Sandra Leezy, Debi Gravemann

**PRAISESOUND**

Jim Anderson, Karen Hitchcock, Sue Lienemann

**LITURGIST. . .** Julie Schippers

**ACOLYTE . . .** Volunteer

**USHERS. . .** Leon Kolkmeier

**USHER/CONSISTORY. . .** Randy Lienemann, Debbie Ayres

Kim Whitney, Betty Schippers

**DONUT HOUR . . .** Consistory

**NEXT SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR. .** Kevin & Marjorie Manahan

**COUNTERS . . .** Debbie Ayres & Anna McCurry



**PLACE DONATIONS IN THE WELL OF HOPE OR IN BLACK CONTAINER OUTSIDE OF THE VESTIBULE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Applesauce

Canned Pasta

Oatmeal

Tomato Paste

Cereal

Pork & Beans

Bar Soap

Laundry Soap

Facial Tissue



Poinsettia orders are due TODAY. Order forms are located in the Narthex by the Sunday bulletins.

**Stockholder Brunch, Sunday September 29 after Worship.  
The youth will talk about their Mission Trip to Shannondale  
Come join us! ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## Bible Study



**Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning Bible Study will be on summer break and will resume on September 17 and September 18.**

**Sunday mornings after Worship Sunday  
School is held in the Hospitality Room**



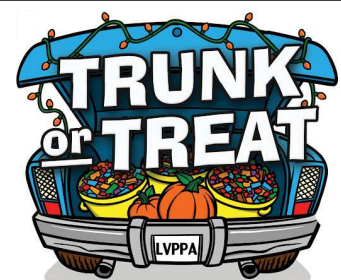
Sunday Morning  
Adult Study



Celebration Sunday, September 8 after Worship in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the kickoff for the Sunday School to begin. Cake and ice cream will be served. All are welcome. Come join us!

Trunk-or-Treat, Sunday October 27 after Worship  
There will be decorated trunks in the parking lot for kids to get treats. After please join us for chili and hot dogs in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the church office window for anyone who may want to bring chili or decorate a trunk. All are welcome. Come join us!



**ROCK -n- ROLL BINGO**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18**

**Doors open @ 6:00 pm**

**Bingo begins @ 6:30 pm**

**Friedens UCC Fellowship Hall**

**Prizes include Beer or Wine and a Gift Card**

**ADULTS ONLY**

**\$20 EACH -or- \$160 PER TABLE**

**BYOB & SNACKS**

**ACTIVITIES**

**BINGO, OF COURSE!**

**50/50**

**RAFFLE BASKETS**

**BENEFITING**

**To Be Determined**

**Come join us for this Fundraising Event!**

**For tickets, Contact Sharon @**

**[churchoffice@friedens-ucc.org](mailto:churchoffice@friedens-ucc.org)**

**-or-**

**Call [636.946.2884](tel:636.946.2884)**

**Please pay at the Church Office.**

**Please do not include the Bingo tickets in your offering envelope.**

**Thank you.**

