

**DARING
DISCIPLESHIP**



EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

June 21, 2020

Third Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Throughout the ages, disciples have said, "I will follow Christ wherever he goes."

Lord, grant us the strength to follow you in the ways of love.

But we know that following the Holy Way of Christ is not always easy, or even always safe.

Lord, grant us the courage to follow you in the ways of peace.

And so, we gather for this time of worship, seeking rest, renewal, and the fire of inspiration that can only be found by the power of Almighty God.

Lord, nourish us with your grace, assure us with your ever presence, and grant us the resilience to follow you in the ways of faith, today and all days. Amen

*Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you are the one source of all life – not just the life that sustains our bodies but also the life that enlivens our minds and spirits.

Through your gift of faith, we are graced with participation in your Eternal Kingdom. Send your Spirit upon us and feed us with your Holy Word, your Wisdom made flesh in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *"Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said*

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tune OWALY WALY

**"Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart and humbly follow after me."**

**Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength will bear your spirit up and brace your heart, support your arm.**

**Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and let your foolish pride be still;
For Christ did not refuse to die upon a cross on Calvary's hill.**

**Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down,
For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

Call to Confession

By acknowledging our brokenness and presenting ourselves humbly before the Lord, we open ourselves to hearing the Good News of God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us join in this experience of trust in our God by sharing this prayer of confession:

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy One, we come before you today full of hope, full of desire, full of promise. We trust that you created us in your own image, blessed with gifts of the Spirit to shape our world into a greater reflection of you. Yet when faced with choices in our daily lives, too often we choose to serve our own interests, our own agendas, our own versions of what is right and just, rather than yours. Lord, enliven us with your Spirit of Wisdom, help us to be more faithful to your call as disciples – to make the choices that serve your will even when they seem other than what we want. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior we pray, Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Having stood in honesty within the cleansing light of God's grace, we need not continue carrying the barren freight of guilt. Rather, rejoice that God's final word for each of us is simply this: I already love you, just as you are. Believe in your ability to grow and learn just as God believes in you, and you will find you are already free. Amen.

Thought for the Day

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, for ever.

Amen.

The Scriptures

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalms 69:7-18

Matthew 10:24-39

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *The Blessing of Forced Choice*

Rev. Michelle Beadle

Offering

Anthem Blessings

- *L. Story, arr. H. Sorenson*
ERUCC Singers

***Closing Hymn** *Lead On Eternal Sovereign*

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See last page

***Benediction**

***Postlude**



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/bzloh0xyyacgg5fmjnoi>

Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w

You can get to the link on our homepage at www.erucc.org

Prayer List - Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Bettie Joe Crutchley, Tom Frazier, Neil Butler (Uncle of RaeAnn Butler), Tamara Tamas, Dana Durr (cousin of Sue Pinner), Jaci Clayton, Al Peden, Barbara Lee (sister of Milt Crutchley), Tina Baker, Alyce Schimd (sister of Dennie Schmid), Lois Wilson (Dan Smith's aunt), Jerry Cassell (brother of Ave Barr), Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Mary Remsberg, Faith Kline (friend of the Schaeberle family), Susan Matesa (friend of Dan Smith & Austin Byrd), Dustin Chapman (friend of Catie, Alex & Sean), Jane Doll, Susan McCauley (niece of Jack Stush), Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Terry Smiley (uncle of Scott Smiley), Shawn Smiley (cousin of Scott Smiley), Joe Jahoda (Kim Jahoda's dad), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Frank Tymczyszyn (brother in law of Nancy Jones), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser).

Tamara Tamas

517 Sugarbush Circle
Frederick, MD 21703

Bettie Joe Crutchley

3807 Bedford Drive
Jefferson, MD 21755

Tom Frazier

2207 Banner Hill Road
Frederick, MD 21702

We ask you to remember all of those currently serving in the Armed Forces. Your prayers and cards are welcomed and appreciated by those on our prayer list.

ZOOM CHECK-IN

Everyone is invited to join Pastor Daniel for a check-in **Tuesday and Thursday at noon:**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/683955819> If you need to know how to set up Zoom, contact the office and we will attempt to walk you through the process. PW 551754

These calls will occur while Pastor Daniel is on vacation, led by Susan Leathery.

PASTOR DANIEL ON VACATION

June 12 – July 1

Friends:

As you may know, Barbara and Ken are taking a well-deserved vacation, departing on June 12 and returning on July 1. Just as wearing masks signals our concern for others and a desire to keep our neighbors healthy, we must be intentional about not contacting Barbara during her downtime since this signals our support for her getting some time off to relax and recharge. During the brief time when she is away, if something arises that Amy cannot address, please reach out to the Chair of our Elders, Marc Kline (mkline354@gmail.com) or to our Consistory Chair, Peter Brehm (pbrehm@comcast.net). If you need to call or text them, Marc's phone number is 240-446-5662. Peter's phone number is 240-454-1364. Thanks!

Peter and Marc

Worship Next Week: June 28

[Ctrl + Click HERE to join worship next Sunday](#) at 10:30 a.m.

Genesis 22:1–14, one of the most dramatic stories in the Bible, when read carefully, seems to have the message of trust in a God of goodness. Many find this story harsh: Abraham hears a command to sacrifice his own son Isaac, Abraham prepares to do so and is stopped in the last second. Matthew 10:40–42, Jesus' words provide a simple but difficult charge to those who wish to be disciples: to recognize Jesus and other prophetic voices in the most marginalized people in society, and to choose generosity.

The Rev. Carolyn Roberts will be preaching.

If you or someone in your family is in need of a call, a pick me up, anything, please contact the church office at 301-662-2762 or via email at bkdaniel@erucc.org

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY from 7- 8 p.m. Beginning July 2nd

Called to be the Church: The Book of Acts for a New Day

(If you are interested in participating in this study, contact the church office for the materials)
As we study Acts we see a church that is dynamic and alive, not static or stuck. The gospel message and movement did not come to an end with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. There was a whole new beginning, one that no one could have predicted. In so many ways, Acts is the perfect book for a God is still speaking Church. Here more truth and light breaks forth from God's Holy Word each new day as the movement of faith spreads like wildfire.

Among the matters to which Acts pays attention, in addition to leadership and conflict, are cultural diversity and the encounter with people who are not of our race or culture; the use of wealth and possessions; the role of women in the church; the relationship between church and state or between Christians and civil authorities; and the challenge of persecution. Beyond that, Acts is full of rollicking good stories and adventures.

July 2 Acts 1: 1-26

July 23

Acts 4: 1-31

July 9 Acts 2: 1-47

July 30

Acts 4: 32- 5: 11

July 16 Acts 3: 1-26

Join Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/608416206> pw 522188

Bible Study will resume on July 7th .

If you wish to be added to this Bible Study mailing, please let Amy know: aaguilar@erucc.org

SUMMER WORSHIP AT ERUCC Beginning July 9

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Parking Lot

We *plan* to hold worship outdoors on the parking lot and patio behind the main church building each Wednesday at 6 pm. We will spread ourselves out and maintain the required and appropriate physical distancing. This decision may be changed if conditions change per the recommendations from the health department.

Pastor Daniel will be leading the service and Brenda Hedges will be providing music.

Look for more details as we move closer to July. Please note, this is only dependent on the Governor lifting restrictions.

Stay Connected and Get Informed!

There are many ways to receive information about what is happening at church each week. The weekly bulletin, the weekly informational email, and our monthly newsletter, The Trinity Chimes, Facebook, and Instagram. @eruccfred

Thursday Thoughts-A weekly emailed message that shares updates, highlights the upcoming service's scripture and focus, and includes announcements about Sunday School. To sign up to receive Thursday Thoughts, contact Amy Aguilar at 301-662-2762 or aaguilar@erucc.org and share your preferred email address.

Trinity Chimes—ERUCC's monthly newsletter. A more in-depth look on what's happening with the congregation. How we're reaching out, learning and volunteer opportunities, member and social program updates. Receive Trinity Chimes by email! Contact Amy Aguilar at 301-662-2762 or aaguilar@erucc.org to request to be added. (Paper copies also available upon request.)

Consider continuing your support of ERUCC on-line. You can set up automatic giving via your bank, or use this handy link from our website: <https://erucc.org/give-your-money/>.

Make sure if you are paying thru Paypal or online that you designate which account your giving is to applied to (i.e. weekly giving, building fund, other)

TUESDAYS WITH TED

Participants Can Join the Ted Talk by Zoom Call:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92398918264?pwd=SIVFYzNKUklpczJsMElnOTdtRVdvZz09>

[Meeting ID: 923 9891 8264 Password: 313735](#)

“Our Healing Table” with Hanan Rasheed

Tuesday, July 14 6 – 7 pm TED TALK

In 1973, at the age of 14, Hanan Rasheed emigrated from Palestine to the Bay Area in California. Undeterred by the failure of diplomats to bring peace and security to Palestinians and Israelis, Rasheed began practicing “hummus diplomacy,” believing that peace can be achieved when ordinary citizens on both sides meet face to face to eat together and listen to one another. The healing table, Rasheed explains, is a table where the dishes have the same ingredients but different flavors, where peoples of conflict can meet as humans having the same rights and needs.



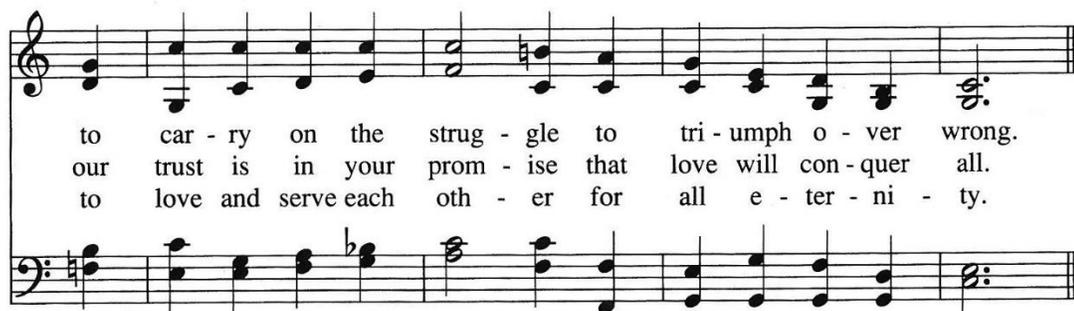
1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,



loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear:
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;



Through prayer-ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,



to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor (bkdaniel@erucc.org)

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus (faw500@msn.com)

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry (ksexton@erucc.org)

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Amy Aguilar, Office Administrator (erucc@erucc.org) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

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June 21, 2020

Matthew 10:24-39

Daring Discipleship

Father's Day

Today's scripture reminds us that there is nothing so small and insignificant that it fails to fall under God's watchful care.

It's a great reminder on this, the 63rd anniversary (6/25/2020) of the United Church of Christ. This is just an ordinary, even insignificant year. If you try to look it up, you will find that there is no traditional 63rd anniversary gift. A 63rd might go by unremarked.

One of the hallmarks of the United Church of Christ is that we follow Christ in noticing that which goes unnoticed by others. This year don't let the 63rd anniversary of the United Church of Christ pass without a celebration. What are some of the ways you can celebrate the UCC on this ordinary birthday year?

1. Find out more about the history of the ever-changing denomination and the ecumenical movements that came together to found the UCC. Trying checking out https://www.ucc.org/about-us_hidden-histories for more information.
2. Give a gift of \$63 (or \$630 or \$6300!) to the UCC's disaster relief fund. (<https://www.ucc.org/disaster>). UCC Disaster Ministries works with established, local organizations to provide spiritual, physical, financial and psychological support to those living in the aftermath of disaster.
3. Look for and list 63 ways that God is at work in and through your local congregation. Share your list with a friend. What ways are the same and which are different?
4. Make a commitment to pray for your local congregation, conference or association daily for the next 63 days. Notice how your prayers change things.
5. Get a cake, blow up some balloons, invite your congregation to gather and have a party! As followers of Christ, who blessed the smallest and least significant things, we don't need to wait for a big birthday to celebrate.

