

**WHEN
ALL**

**SEEMS
LOST**



Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.



For Children: Please feel free to attend services with your children. For the safety of the children, staff and volunteers ERUCC will not be providing childcare during services until further notice. Your children are welcome to bring their own quiet activities, no materials will be provided. Please take ALL personal items with you after the service.

We have removed all items from the pew racks for your safety. Music selections will be provided within this bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary, Thank you.

We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Donate online by scanning this code:

or you may use our new texting donation system. Send a donation amount to 301-804-2933 . You will receive a text back within minutes with a link. Click the secure link and provide your method of payment and a receipt will be sent to you! Or, download the GivePlus Church application and make your donation via the app.



Thank you.

EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

August 9, 2020

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal

*All who are able may stand. **Bold** print indicates responses by all

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

- *John Widmann, guest organist*

*Call to Worship

Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

We need this kind of hope.

Come; worship the Holy One who meets you where you are.

Come; open yourselves to the God who lifts us up.

We are here to worship. Amen

*Opening Prayer

God of Presence,

**as you walked upon the water to meet the disciples,
meet us in the midst of the storms in our lives.**

God of Renewal,

**as you lifted Peter from the water,
lift us from despair to hope,
from distraction to focus,
from death to life.**

God of the Journey,

**direct us in your way,
work out your purpose in and through our lives.**

**We pray in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

No. 403

See last page of bulletin

*Call to Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

God is here, Christ is present, and the Holy Spirit surrounds you.

**But we have turned our eyes to the challenges of this life,
lost our focus on God and are sinking in sin.**

You can begin again.

Imagine a new way of being.

We have cast aside our dreams to maintain the familiar.

**We have cast aside the dreams of others, fearful of what they might
mean.**

God loves you,

Christ will lift you from the waves of doubt

and the Holy Spirit will rescue you from currents of insecurity and alienation.

In these moments of quiet reflection confess to God all that separates you from
God and one another.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Take heart, do not be afraid.

Every one who calls upon God's name will be saved.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

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

Matthew 14:22-33

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Offering of Tithes, Gifts and Lives to Christ's Service

Anthem *Communion Hymn*

*- Kellermeyer
ERUCC Singers*

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Let us gather as God's people.

We come open to God's grace.

We lift our lives, our hearts, our strength;

we lift ourselves to God.

We offer our thanks to God;

it is right to give our thanks to God.

We come this day bound by the Spirit that connects us and the people of God from the past.

We come open like Rebekah.

We come with vision like Joseph.

We come ready like Miriam and the midwives.

And we come loving like Christ,

who gathered his friends, and blessed and offered
them bread and cup,

welcoming them to a table together.

And so, on this day, we too are welcomed to this feast. Let us pray.

Communion Prayer

Holy God,

we come inspired by your spirit to move

from tension to reconciliation;

from pain to healing;

from chaos to peace;

from death to life.

We come together in witness of

your everlasting presence amidst our world's shifting sands;

your call to be compassionate with ourselves and our neighbours;

your direction when we lose our way;

your gift of hope that outlives despair.

We come before you

ready to shed our fears and loneliness;

ready to accept your grace;

ready to have our spirits replenished;
ready to partake in this shared meal.

We pray that your spirit will sustain us and move us to feed others as we are fed this day. In your Holy name, Amen.

We come to this table
knowing that these ordinary elements present us with extraordinary opportunities to meet God.

In the simplicity of this bread and the simplicity of this cup,
we enter into the depths of God's covenant with us –
the beauty of our shared sacramental life is found here.

And so we open our hearts, to God and one another,
and in doing so, open our lives to the depths of our shared witness.

God of wheat, God of wine, God of bread, and God of the cup,
meet us here, as you constantly meet us in life's big and small moments.
In the gifts of this meal, remind us that our faith is tangible –
it is embodied, lived, and transformative in the most real of ways.

This matters – each of us matters – we, together, matter.
And through this, we are reminded that this table is a symbol of God's radical welcome, where we remember the hospitality that Jesus offered, as he shared in so many meals with his friends – with family and strangers, saints and sinners.

Jesus turned tables upside down, and welcomed the last to be the first.
So, today we come to this table as bold followers of Christ; and here we experience the invitation that we are called to share in the world.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**We offer you thanks, creative God, for the gifts of this time together,
and the gifts of this simple meal. May we look
one another in the eye, as we share in the bread and cup, and covenant
together to work for your realm. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn** *My Life Flows on in Endless Song*
(How Can I Keep from Singing)

- No. 476

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
 4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 liv - ing, What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
 bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
 first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
 fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
 Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing - ing?

*Benediction

*Postlude

- John Widmann, guest organist



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/bzioh0xyyacgg5fmjnoi>

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

The flowers on the altar this morning are in loving memory Bill Rhoads by Barbara and family.

The **yellow rose bud** on the stand is in honor of those currently serving in the military by Tom and Evie Frazier

Prayer List - Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Betsy Fisher, Peggy Githerman, The McCarty family, Nikki Keller, Mark Ulrich, Tamara Tamas, 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, Susan Matesa (friend of Dan Smith & Austin Byrd), Larry Maples, 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	Mark Ulrich	Peggy Githerman	Betsy Fisher
517 Sugarbush Circle	8831 Lew Wallace Rd	208 Center Street	309 Upper College Terr
Frederick, MD 21703	Urbana, MD 21704	Frederick, MD 21701	Frederick, MD 21701

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.

Worship Next Week: August 16 [Ctrl + Click HERE to join worship next Sunday](#) 10:30 a.m.

Psalm 133 offers the subversive claim that to live in unity with kindred – human and all of creation -- is to experience the blessings of God. A Gentile woman's persistent and unconventional actions move Jesus to break down the barrier between Jew and Gentile. As told in Matthew 15:10–12, 21–28, her faith in God, who works through human activity, changes things for the better.

SUMMER WORSHIP AT ERUCC

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Parking Lot

Join us for 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.

Join Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/608416206?pwd=NzFtVUsxUmQ5eGpxMmk4WDB6Z0lUUT09>

Meeting ID: 608 416 206

Passcode: 588188

Each Monday, we will send out a Bible study sheet. The passage will be one of the lessons from the previous Sunday's scripture readings. You are invited to use the material for your own personal reflection and, if you wish, join a Zoom call on Tuesdays at 11:00 am to discuss the passage with others.

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

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

Youth are invited to join Pastor Daniel for a Zoom call **every Wednesday** at 4:00 pm:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/405187542>

TUESDAYS WITH TED August 11, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Participants Can Join the Ted Talk by Zoom Call:

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

Meeting ID: 923 9891 8264 Password: 313735

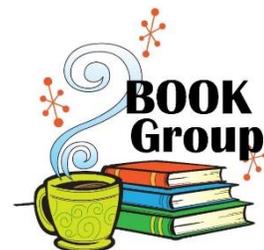
Bill Gates: How the pandemic will shape the near future

Bill Gates talks best (and worst) case scenarios for the coronavirus pandemic in the months ahead, explaining the challenges of reducing virus transmission, providing an update on promising vaccine candidates, offering his thoughts on reopening and even taking a moment to address conspiracy theories circulating about himself. Stay tuned for his critical call to fellow philanthropists to ramp up their action, ambition and awareness to create a better world for all. (This virtual conversation, hosted by head of TED Chris Anderson, was recorded June 29, 2020.)

ERUCC BOOK GROUP 2020

(The book group meets once a month at various members' homes. Depending on the time of year and the book read, this group usually includes 8-14 people.) Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information about ERUCC's book club, write Pam Shepp at pam@vitalsources.org or call/text her at 301-524-5223.

August 25: *The Next Person You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom



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.)

SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADED

The live streaming of our services has been a blessing to our members and friends in the community and around the world. As our live stream viewership has greatly increased since the COVID-19 crisis began and as we know that we will have significant numbers of people continuing to worship via live stream, we have made significant improvements to the audio portion of our stream.

Gifts from the Fisher Fund and a member of the congregation have enabled us to purchase two new sound boards, additional microphones, and other equipment that will enhance the sound in the sanctuary and online.

Many thanks to Jeff Schaeberle for providing leadership and direction for this work. We are so grateful to Charlie Garst who built these beautiful tables to house the sound boards. And to Keith Stickley who helped reconfigure the space in the balcony to accommodate the new tables.

ERUCC ADULTS ARE INVITED TO A ZOOM CALL WITH OUR FRIENDS FROM INDEN, GERMANY

Sunday, August 30 at Noon

Topic: ERUCC - Inden adult meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92603064358?pwd=bjJsdm5xOGRxZnNKOEwxUWsxSHU0UT09>

Meeting ID: 926 0306 4358

Password: 317709

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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My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 6:19; Rev. 11:15

Edward Mote, c. 1834; alt.

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and
 2 When shad - ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up - on un -
 3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
 4 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

righteous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
 chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
 Love be found, Dressed in God's righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

When All Seems Lost

Human trafficking is a real, terrible and often invisible component of our daily life. The United Church of Christ is working to shine light on this hidden human rights crisis.

According to the UCC's justice webpage, https://www.ucc.org/justice_womens-issues_human-trafficking. **As of 2016, an estimated 24.9 million people were in modern slavery, not including the 15.4 million that were forced into marriage. Traffickers prey on those from vulnerable communities and force them into labor, and/or exploit them into commercial sexual enterprises. The influx of immigrants crossing the border into America are most susceptible to modern slavery, as traffickers use their vulnerability as immigrants as tools to manipulate and coerce.

Trafficking in persons is a crime against humanity and ultimately a sin. Human trafficking denies the values of human life, exposes victims to serious health risks, endangers the mental well-being of victims and impedes the ability of victims to reach their full God-given potential. As Christians, we believe that every human being is created in the image and likeness of the divine Creator, of God. The prophets cried out against the exploitation of the poor and of laborers who are not treated fairly and compensated justly (Job 24:1-12, for example).

The United Church of Christ has consistently upheld the rights and dignity of workers and of women and children, believing that God calls us into community with each other as sisters and brothers, not as exploiters and exploited. The violence done to the physical, psychological and spiritual wellbeing of children and women who are forced into prostitution, the pornography industry, sex tourism and other forms of sexploitation are violations of the call of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to love our neighbors as ourselves. The kin-dom of God among us requires us to provide protection for those most vulnerable and to seek conditions which support wholeness and health for everyone.”

In today's reading from Genesis, Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers and trafficked across national borders. For him, this was the first step on the road to a new life, but he needed a lot of helping hands to get him there. May we, as a denomination, as local congregations, and as individuals be that helping hand for those who need it.

*Accessed January 2020. https://www.ucc.org/justice_womens-issues_human-trafficking



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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