HONTE GOD

Welcome to Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Thank you for worshiping with us at Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC) this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

If you are a guest, please visit us at the Welcome Table in the rear of the sanctuary. We would love to meet and learn more about you and are available to answer your questions ERUCC. Please also feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. We encourage you to join us for in the Community Room for Fellowship after the worship service for casual conversation and connection over light refreshments.

ERUCC is an Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ. We welcome into the full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff for ages 0-4. A deacon or greeter can guide you to the nursery. Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table and a children's table is available for quiet activities at the front of the sanctuary.

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.

Restrooms, accessible and equipped with changing stations, are located on the 2nd floor, below the sanctuary, and on the 1st floor, outside the Community Room. Single-occupant, all-gender, accessible restrooms are located outside the North and Flora Rooms on the 2nd floor.

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

Mission Statement of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

We, the members of this congregation, seek to celebrate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, by nurturing spiritual growth through worship, study and prayer; by caring for one another as God cares for us; and by proclaiming God's love for all people as we work to help our neighbors near and far.

We commit ourselves to develop and implement specific programs to fulfill our mission.



EVANGELICAL REFORMED United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation –



August 25, 2024

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal

*All who are able may stand

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

RECOGNITION OF ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

How wonderful it is to be in a dwelling place for God!

The refreshing springs of God's love clean and restore us.

There is a place here for everyone. No one is turned away.

The least and the lost; the homeless and hopeless are always welcome in God's house.

Praise to God who invites and shelters us all.

Praise to God who heals and sends us forth to serve. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER (Inspired by Psalm 84)

In the beauty of this place, we have come to pray, to worship, to receive healing and hope. We come from the struggles and triumphs of the week, needing to feel the soothing presence of God. Lord, be with us this day. Calm and soothe our souls. Cause us to rejoice that you have provided a special place where we may gather to talk of your presence and love; to sing your praises; and be empowered to go forth to serve you. May this space and time where we dwell with God be the place of our strength and our delight. Amen.

Let me enter God's own dwelling, open wide the lovely door! Here, all earthly powers excelling, God receives the sick and poor. Joy, my heart, in this dear place: here I see God face to face.

I have come to church to meet you: condescend to come to me! Anxious, needy, I entreat you, come inside, and welcome be—Here at home, within my breast—I, your temple, richly blessed.

Make my mind and body holy, sanctify my ears and lips. Lift my spirit, poor and lowly, all bright vanities eclipse. Take my praise, however flawed, as an offering, worthy God.

In this hour of Gospel sowing, let my earth be fruitful ground. Intellectual light bestowing, raise my green faith, sweet and sound. Let me prove a stalk of wheat, when your harvest is complete.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient Lord, we are a culture that wants quick and easy answers to all of life's problems. We want to be able to open the Bible and place our fingers on the passage that will answer all our questions and heal all our hurts. It is difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Push us in our ministry of help and compassion to do more than we ever thought we could do in helping others. Give us that extra measure of faith and commitment so that we may truly serve you by serving others. Forgive our impatience to act over and our neglect of truly abiding with you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even though you doubt and question, God's love is poured on you, in you, and through you to others. Rest assured in God's presence and love for you, which will never fail or abandon you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are healed, restored, and forgiven. **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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children of all ages are invited to participate in today's service. A book nook with children's programs, books, crayons, and activities is in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table, and a wiggle space is available at the front near the baptismal font.

THE SCRIPTURES

Jim Weitz

Psalm 84 OT page 543
John 6:56-69 NT page 98

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

MORNING PRAYERS

SHARING OUR STORIES Meredith Neely

OFFERING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND LIVES TO CHRIST'S SERVICE

In this moment of our lives, we are called to rejoice and give thanks for all we have been given. Let us open our spirits and our hearts to rejoice, to give gladly, and to celebrate how God gives to us in abundance. Let our gifts be full of thanksgiving. Our gifts to this community of faith feed the work and ministry of this church, and in turn we are fed. It's a cycle of generosity—of giving and receiving. Thank you for being part of this cycle by making a financial gift to the work of this church.

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 to our church's ministries and programs. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts to share God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshiping with us.

If you wish to give, you can give online at www.erucc.org, by placing your gift in the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary before or after the service, or by scanning the QR code to give from your phone.



OFFERTORY

May the Light of God Go with You

– D. Besig

Angela Brittain, Pam Shepp, Dan Smith

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May these gifts we offer sing your praise, and welcome home those who yearn to dwell in peace, in hope, and in love. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

#329

Jesus, the joy of loving hearts, fount of our lives, and light of all: From every bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

Your truth unchanged has ever stood; you plead with all to call on you; To those still seeking, you are good; to those who find you, life is new.

We taste of you, the living bread, and long to feast upon you still; We drink of you, the fountain-head; our thirsty souls from you we fill.

For you our restless spirits yearn, where'er our changing lot is cast; Glad, when your smile on us you turn, blessed, when by faith we hold you fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments calm and bright! Oh, chase the cloud of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.

*BENEDICTION

God is life and light and joy.

God's way of love will lead you home to what is good and kind and true. As you go, may your heart abide in God's love as your strength, God's wisdom as your guide, and God's spirit as your resilience. **Amen.**

*THREEFOLD AMEN

#812

POSTLUDE Please be seated.



Please join us for **Fellowship** with light refreshments and time for casual conversation after worship in our Community Room (1st Floor).

The flowers on the altar this morning are placed by Don and Emogene Wyand in memory of deceased loved ones.

The yellow rose is presented in honor of Senior Master Sergeant Brian L. York, USAF, Ret. by his son and son-in-law, Tyler and Owen York.

Attendance Last Sunday: 12 at 8:30 AM, 113 at 10:30 AM, and 49 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:

https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC

Serving Today: August 25 Serving Next Week: September 1

Deacons: Jim Brittain, Angela Brittain Matt Davis, Quynn Adkins

Elder: Peter Brehm Eric Weakly

Scripture Reader: Jim Weitz Glenn Wallace-Weitz

Greeters: Susan Kulp, David Howard

Felecia Bishop, Barb Barry

Welcome Table: Jeanellen Kallevang, Thi Nguyen

Lobby Attendant: Owen York Darryl Glick

Audio/Visual: Rodney Martin, Jeff Schaeberle Jeff Baker, Jeff Schaeberle

Kelly Esslinger

Nursery: Kate Fromknecht

Fellowship: Linda Coyle, Tommie Bradshaw Julie Clark, Joe Adkins, Quynn

Shelley and Eric Weakly Hollie Mercier, Kyle Miller Colleen and Chuck Baldree Pat Dorsz, Boby Van Dyk

Kelly Esslinger

Next Sunday: September 1 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13 | James 1:17-27

God acts in our lives with generosity and love. We are children of the God of lights; we are fruit born through the generosity of God and by the word of truth. Generosity is at the heart of who we are. How do we act on our beliefs about God? How do we live out the word of God? The reading from James challenges us to find connections between what we believe and say about God and the actions we take each day.

We will share in communion at the chancel rail this morning. The Rev. Phyllis Byrd, a Global Ministries mission co-worker in Nairobi, Kenya who serves with the Organization of Africa Instituted Churches (OAIC) as its Director of its Just Communities program, will share about her work. Rev. Byrd's appointment to mission work by the United Church of Christ is made possible in part by our contributions to Our Church's Wider Mission. Jenna Duranko will share music on the marimba.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CARE

Evangelical Reformed UCC wants to be there for you when you're experiencing an illness, hospitalization, or other life event for which you, or someone you love, may need a visit.

Members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to Sunday morning services receive visits and communion from Rev. Bob Manthey.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or erucc@erucc.org.

PRAYER LIST

We always ask permission before adding a name to the prayer list or in the verbal announcements on a Sunday morning. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Kat Weedon (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)

Tom Frazier

Kayla Merry (niece of Kim

Sexton)

Carol Spera (mother of Mark

Ulrich)

Tyler Schaeberle

Pauline Marendt

Cliff Barr

Haley Duff

Sherry Murray

Jack Mens

Charlotte Blue and Family (friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)

Emogene Wyand

Richard Leslie

Bob Pinner

Betsy Fisher

Delmar Speak

Donna Hill (mother of Collen Baldree)

Philip Hill (father of Colleen

Baldree)

Tanya Pearre (sister of Colleen

Baldree)

Jim Baldree (father of Chuck

Baldree)

Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt

and Bettie Joe Crutchley)

Lee Thomas

Joan Thomas (mother of Dan

Smith's friend)

Autumn Crutchley

Jason Rhoads

Nathan Cable

Greg Rhoads

Marcia Eisenstein

Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)

Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and

Linda LaFianza)

Jeannette Johnson

Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of

Betsy and Phil Selby)

Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister

of Milt Crutchley)

Marcy Channell (daughter of

Jo Ann Fritz)

Paige Coffey

Fran Wenner

Bonnie Devilbiss

Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law

of Barbara & Bill Prescott)

Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)

Kathy Blue Shores (friend of

Jean Fish & Barb Biser)

Gretchen Manuel (niece of

Audrey Rayfield

Please notify the church office when you want your request removed from the prayer list.

Activities and Events at ERUCC

SACRED CONVERSATIONS ABOUT LIFE TRANSITIONS

Tuesday, August 27 Flora Room, 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Join us for a special gathering where we will share stories and challenges related to life's changes, body limitations, and shifts in dependency. This is a sacred space to listen, pray, and connect as we navigate these transitions together. Pastor Kirstin and Ave Barr will lead us in this time of holy sharing, emphasizing the importance of leaning on each other and recognizing that we are not alone in our journeys.

Please let Ave Barr or Linda Coyle know if you will attend.

SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY NEXT WEEK

Mortgage Assistance: On the first Sunday of each month, we have a special opportunity for giving towards Mortgage Assistance. Donations fund ERUCC's mortgages with the Fisher Fund and FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank, payments on which are about \$153,000/year.

REJOICE IN OUR WELCOME SUNDAY

Sunday, September 8

Let us rejoice in God's extravagant welcome! On Sunday, September 8 we will surely rejoice as we celebrate our connection and community as we launch a new year of faith formation activities for children, youth, and adults.

Classes begin for **Children's Sunday School**, with classrooms for Pre-K-2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade, and **Youth Sunday School**, with classrooms for Middle School (6th-8th grade) and High School (9th-12th grade). Junior Church will also begin for children aged 5-5th grade and will again take place during worship following the Thought for the Day.

Faith formation for adults also returns with Let's Study the Bible, led by Rev. John Shillingburg.

Dr. Morgan will preach and lead us in worship, Spirit will lead us in song, and we will commission and bless Christian Education and faith formation teachers.

Following the 10:30 AM worship service, we encourage you to connect during a special time of Fellowship in the Community Room.

Rejoice in Our Welcome Sunday will certainly be a joy-filled day. If you have friends or family looking for a church community, this is a great opportunity to invite them to experience ERUCC.

GET-OUT-THE VOTE POSTCARDING

Sunday, September 8 Community Room, 9:00 – 10:15 AM

Join us in making a difference this November by helping to send non-partisan Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) postcards aimed at increasing BIPOC voter turnout in Georgia. Your support can empower infrequent voters who are overlooked by political campaigns, offering a bridge from non-voter to empowered voter. Come be a part of this impactful initiative to help make every voice count! You can also help with postcards immediately and on your own time from home.

Contacts: Rebecca Shillingburg, rebecca.shillingburg@gmail.com, and Kathleen Jefferson, kathleen.jefferson@gmail.com.

BIBLE STUDIES for ADULTS

SUNDAY MORNING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg Sundays, beginning September 8 North Room / Zoom, 9:00 – 10:15 AM

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg Tuesdays, beginning September 10 North Room / Zoom, 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY EVENING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Rev. John Shillingburg Wednesdays, beginning September 11 North Room / Zoom. 7:00 PM

LET'S TALK: AN EXPLORATION OF PRAYER

led by Rev. Richard Leslie Sundays, September 15 – October 6 Flora Room, 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

Jesus was a man of prayer. What does this mean for you and me? Can we have hope in this time? What is the relationship between our prayers, our hope, and contemporary physics? We will talk about, and all participate in the experience of centering prayer.

Let's Talk is an adult educational opportunity that focuses on how we can live out our faith and share our knowledge and expertise. If you have any questions or have ideas for a presentation or topic, contact Linda Coyle, lkcoyle@yahoo.com

ERUCC BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, September 24 North Room / Zoom, 7:00 PM

Zoom: <u>bit.ly/ERUCCbooks</u> Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574 Passcode: 226669

The Night Watchman by Louise Erdich. Based on the extraordinary life of National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather, who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C., this powerful novel explores themes of love and death with lightness and gravity and unfolds with the elegant prose, sly humor, and depth of feeling of a master craftsman.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, September 28 Worman's Mill Clubhouse, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

At this retreat, we will discover and practice rest based on Dr. Saundra Dalton-Smith's book *Sacred Rest*, explore which kind of rest each of us individually needs, and offer choices to practice rest in various ways.

We celebrate and honor the diverse identities and expressions embodied in the feminine spirit. Regardless of how you were defined by doctors at birth, you define yourself. All those who connect with any aspect of the feminine are welcome to join us at this retreat.



Registration required: bit.ly/0828retreat

Cost: \$20 per person. Lunch from Prospect Pantry is included.

MISSION TRIP TO BERKS COUNTY, PA

October 6 - 11

In June 2023, a devastating flood wreaked havoc on Alsace Township and the surrounding areas in Berks County, PA. The aftermath left homes, businesses, schools, and roads severely damaged.

Now, we have a chance to lend a hand on a mission trip to Berks County from October 6-11. With leadership from the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference UCC's Disaster Ministries, we have been called to the area to lend a hand. Our base will be at The Bridge Fellowship Church in Reading, PA, where comfortable accommodations await us in men's and women's bunk rooms. Plus, there's full access to kitchen facilities and bathrooms with showers.

Our work will be coordinated through Lutheran Disaster Ministries and focuses on home restoration tasks like drywalling, woodworking, flooring, and painting. Don't worry if you're not a pro—every skill level is welcome! We'll have a construction coordinator onsite to guide us and a tool trailer stocked with everything we need.

Our deadline to register our group is September 8, so if you're interested or want more details, contact Sedonia Martin at (410) 596-5419 or smartin@towson.edu.

Children, Youth, & Families

YOUTH GROUP - OVERNIGHT PLANNING RETREAT

Friday, September 6 – Saturday, September 7 Camp Manidokan

Let's kickstart Youth Group this year with an overnight planning retreat! Our time together will include high ropes and pizza on Friday night and breakfast, lunch, and rec games on Saturday. We will envision and plan programming, activities, and mission projects for the 2024-2025 year.

RSVP on BAND app. Cost \$40. Pay by check or online by scanning the QR code or at ppay.co/QPDotubetQg



Parents will join us for planning on Saturday afternoon. Parents should let Pastor Kirstin know if they want lunch by August 23. Lunch cost is \$10.

GLOW! PARTY

Saturday, September 7 Community Room, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

All children and youth from Pre-K through middle school are invited to our end-of-summer GLOW Party with glowsticks and surprises galore!

Contact Trish Coffey at (240) 815-9118 or <u>trishcoffey1195@gmail.com</u> or Pastor Kirstin, <u>ksrhoads@erucc.org</u> with questions.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL and MUSIC & MOVEMENT

begins Sunday, September 8

Children's **Sunday School** takes place in ERUCC's main building. Children should be checked in by one of their grown-ups at the Check-In Station in the Kieffer Lobby before class.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Pre-K} - 2^{nd} \ \textbf{Grade} \\ \textbf{Liz Coffey Room, } 9:15-10:00 \ \textbf{AM} \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} \textbf{3}^{rd} - 5^{th} \ \textbf{Grade} \\ \textbf{Thomas Room, } 9:15-10:00 \ \textbf{AM} \\ \end{array}$

Immediately following Sunday School, children may participate in **Children's Music and Movement**, where they will rehearse songs to perform in the 10:30 AM worship service about once a month. Participating children should be checked out by their grown-ups from the Liz Coffey Room at 10:20 AM. If not participating, children should be checked out from their Sunday School classroom at 10:00 AM.

JUNIOR CHURCH

resumes September 8

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, meets most Sundays during the school year. Children ages 5 years-5th grade begin 10:30 AM worship in the sanctuary with their families, then dismiss after the Thought for the Day for well-supervised instruction and activities held in the Thomas Room, located one floor below the sanctuary. On the first Sunday of each month, children participate in worship and communion with their families.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

begins Sunday, September 8 Trinity Chapel, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Youth Sunday School, with classes for Middle School and High School, meet in ERUCC's Trinity Chapel, 10 W. Church Street. Enter through the side door behind the iron gate on the left side of the building. <u>Always use crosswalks when crossing the street</u>. Youth will be checked in by teachers in their classrooms upon arrival. At the end of class, Youth will return as a group to the Kieffer Lobby in the main building.

Other Announcements

DO YOU HAVE YOUR NAMETAG?

If you've lost your nametag, misplaced it, or never received one, please let us know so we can make sure you have one ready for Rejoice in Our Welcome Sunday on September 8. Nametags are essential for connecting with guests, remembering names, and strengthening our community bonds. You can request a nametag using the request cards available at the Welcome Table before and after worship, or simply contact the church office at erucc@eruc.org.

VOTE WITH LOVE – OUR FAITH OUR VOTE

The United Church of Christ's 2024 Our Faith Our Vote campaign asks the church to answer the call of 1 John 3:18 to "let us not love with words or speech, but in action and in truth," by voting with love.

Vote with love for creation, for our neighbors both here and abroad, for a just peace, for repair and reconciliation of the brokenness of our nation. Encourage your family, friends, and community to do the same. The 2024

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

WITH LEVE

Faith
OTE
Voice

election season is well underway, so please check <u>www.ucc.org/our-faith-our-vote</u> for nonpartisan resources to empower faithful engagement in our nation's democratic process.

Ministers, Staff, & Lay Leaders of Evangelical Reformed UCC

MINISTERS AND STAFF

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan \sim Intentional Interim Senior Pastor \sim mmorgan@erucc.org Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads \sim Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Parish Life \sim ksrhoads@erucc.org

Alison E. Shafer ~ Director of Music

Tyler L. York ~ Office Administrator ~ tyork@erucc.org

Jaci Clayton ~ Facilities Manager ~ jclayton@erucc.org

Tricia Coffey ~ Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Kelly Esslinger ~ Assistant Director for Bell Choirs & Children's Music

Jenna Duranko ~ Social Media Assistant

Ashley Murphy ~ Nursery Attendant

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

CONSISTORY

Peter Brehm ~ President | Matt Hueting ~ Vice President

David Kehne ~ Secretary | Robert Morris ~ Treasurer

Rebecca Shillingburg ~ Worship Chair | Will Duncan ~ Finance Chair

Shelley Weakly ~ Mission, Evangelism, and Social Justice Chair

Julie Clark ~ Stewardship/Generosity Chair | Dan Ebersole ~ Property Chair

Vacant ~ Christian Education Chair | Matt Davis ~ Head Deacon | Larry Martin ~ Member-at-Large

ELDERS

Ave Barr | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Matt Hueting | Jeanellen Kallevang | Eric Weakly

DEACONS

Quynn Adkins | Robin A. Brady-Slifer | Robin L. Brady-Slifer | Angela Brittain Jim Brittain | Matt Davis | Harrison Fisher | Kyle Miller

TRANSITION TEAM

Felecia Bishop | Tommie Bradshaw | Karen Justice | Terry Logee | Allen Maples Thomasa Pomeroy | Bud Rossig | Eliza Stitely | Lucas Nguyen-Powell | Isaac Pomeroy

Sunday Morning Schedule

subject to change

8:30 – 9:15 AM **Early Worship**, Sanctuary

9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation, Kieffer Lobby, 2nd Floor

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Nursery Care**, 1st Floor

10:30 AM Worship, Sanctuary and Online at <u>www.erucc.org</u>

11:30 AM **Fellowship**, Community Room, 1st Floor

Stay Informed

Subscribe to receive e-news from ERUCC at http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5 or by scanning the QR code!





Worship services and events at Evangelical Reformed UCC are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify a deacon or the church office. Always obtain permission prior to sharing images and videos that include minors on your personal social media.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 2024

Psalm 84

"At Home with God"

We don't know how the original would have sounded, but modern translations usually divide Psalm 84 into five verses, which makes it perfect for praying during the week from Monday through Friday. For the next five days of the week, pick a phrase or two from each verse to read in the lectio divina style.

Lectio divina is an ancient method of prayer which invites the pray-er into a deeper attitude of listening and responding to God through scripture. To pray lectio divina, set aside a time of 25-30 minutes. The five steps of lectio devina are preparation (a time of silence), reading (reading a single word or phrase slowly and carefully 2-3 times), meditation (asking the reading to open its meaning to you today), praying (responding to what you have heard) and contemplation (welcoming the Word deeply into your heart and soul). With Psalm 84, you may wish to pray with these or other phrases.

Monday: How lovely is your dwelling place... OR My heart and my flesh sing for joy...

Tuesday: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest at your altars...OR Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise...

Wednesday: Happy are those whose strength is in you... OR They go from strength to strength, the God of gods will be seen in Zion...

Thursday: Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer give ear, O God of Jacob!... OR O God; look on the face of your anointed...

Friday: No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly... OR Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you...

