

BLESSINGS & CURSES

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF PEORIA
FEBRUARY 13, 2022



ELDER KATHERINE JOHNSON
1918-2020

WELCOME!

As we gather, we remember our vision to grow & nurture followers of Christ in a welcoming community. As we worship we join our hearts with the entire extended community of United Presbyterian Church – those who are joining us from their home sanctuaries.

A few COVID-19 related things to note:

- 1) *For the time being we are worshipping online only, but if you are coming in the building during the week, please wear masks at all times inside the building and try to maintain social distance. We do this to show our care and concern for those with fragile health and those who have not yet been vaccinated.*
- 2) *As we move through the service, you are invited to join in as invited with the words of the prayers and the readings. Speaking and singing the words aloud will help deepen your worship connection.*
- 3) *Offerings can be dropped in the church during the week in the office. You may also send them in the mail, drop them off, or make your offering online.*

*As you worship, the words in **bold, italic** print are for all to read together.*

Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Welcome

Introit

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Call to Worship

One: Poor or despairing, we come to be blessed.

All: Hungry or tired, we come to be restored.

One: Sorrowing or sighing, we come to discover joy.

All: Doubting or afraid, we come to find hope.

One: In this place we welcome all. Come to worship, just as you are.

All: Thanks be to God!

Worship In Song

All Are Welcome

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where all are named,
Their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
Taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (John Bell 54)
*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "come unto me and rest;
Lay down thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast":
I came to Jesus as I was so weary, worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright":
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.*

Time with Young Disciples

Invitation To Confession

Prayer of Confession

Shepherd of our souls, guide us through times of woe, and help us find your solace and peace. Forgive us in times of sin and sorrow, and lead into your redeeming love. Resurrect us in times of death and despair, and lead into newness of life, that we may be the blessing we seek for everyone we meet. Amen.

Please take time for personal reflection, bringing your prayers to our loving and forgiving Savior.

One: In Christ we pray,

All: Amen.

Response

Kyrie
*Kyrie eleison.
Lord have mercy.*

Stand as you are able in body or in spirit and share the Assurance with one another.

Assurance of Grace

One: God is just and forgiving.

All: God receives us as we are.

One: God lifts us up and calls us again to be people upholding justice and peace. Receive God's pardon and peace, knowing that all sins are forgiven

Sharing Christ's Peace

Please give a wave of peace to one another.

Responding to God's Grace

Glory, Glory, Glory
*Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high. (2x)
And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. (2x)*

Scripture

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Luke 6:17-26

Sermon

When Blessings Feel Like Curses

Musical Offering

Blessings
(See lyrics on inside back cover)

Prayers of the People with The Lord's Prayer

All: 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. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Response

The Doxology

Today we are singing new words to a familiar tune. We want to thank Josie Johnson for bringing this to us.

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen*

Offering Prayer

Blessed God, with these gifts, bring food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and comfort to the sorrowful. Bless these gifts and our very lives, that we may be blessings of hope for your world. Amen

Closing Song

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning (3x)

For the time is drawing high.

*Sisters, don't grow weary; brother, don't grow weary;
Children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.*

It's our faith makes us happy; 3xs

For the time is drawing high.

*Sisters, don't grow weary; brother, don't grow weary;
Children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.*

Benediction

Sending Music

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

YOU CAN ASSIST IN RECYCLING by placing used bulletins in the wooden crates as you leave.

Serving in Worship Today, February 13, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Debra Avery

Director of Worship & the Arts: Alison Meuth

Worship Accompanist : Sue Hulin

Worship Leaders: The Heilman Family

Musicians: Tom Abbot, Pat Bensing,
Jerry Pilon, Anne Swanson, Jimmy Willis

Remember in Prayer

Remember in Prayer: Eunice Andrews, Victoria Best, Leah Bowen & baby, Penny Brower, Carol Hicks, Dwight Jones, Nancy Jones, Kim Murray, Stephanie Murray, Lori Olsen, Projeto Amar, Rykur Rowe, Jennifer & infant daughter, Allison Sleater, Dan Staley, Larry Stotts, Debbie Sullivan, Barbara Vale.

Focus Prayers for the Week of February 13

This week we focus on Arcadia B Parish. Please be in prayer for these UPC Friends: Terry Thompson (Visiting Deacon) Nancy Thompson (Parish Deacon), Vicki Best, Ann Canham, Dianna Crothers, Mariann & Dusty Devore, Rose & Dan Dickerson, The Eakle Family (Carrie, Mike, Amiylah, Gracelynn & Myah), Paul Fogler, The Hague Family (Evan, Jenna, Bennett & Owen), Mary Etta Hanson, The Harrison Family (Andrew, Kara, Lucas, Michelle & Natalie), Arlene Lister, Shannon Maule, Steve & Kathy Nordvall, Jerry & Dixie Pini, and Floyd & Sherrol Reatherford

Pastoral Care: If you or someone you love is hospitalized and needs a visit from UPC, please make sure you contact us directly at 693-2002. Unless the hospital tells us you're in, our staff and deacons will not know to visit or reach out. We appreciate you filling in our knowledge gaps this way.

This Week at UPC

We continue to livestream on YouTube Facebook so that those who need to remain at home can continue participating in our service as well. You'll find the links in the Ringer or contact the office. You do NOT have to join Facebook to worship with us. You can go to our page and watch live or view the service at any time after 10AM. Do let us know you are there by saying "hi," commenting, & hitting the Like or Love buttons. We love to know you are watching!! You can also listen to the entire service on your car radio on FM90.5.

Opportunities for Ministry

Announcements: If you have an announcement for the bulletin or the Ringer send them to: announcements@unitedpc.org.

We Pray for Blessings

*We pray for blessings
We pray for peace
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for your mighty hand to ease our suffering
All the while, you hear each spoken need
Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things*

*'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops
What if your healing comes through tears
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know you're near
What if trials of this life are your mercies in disguise*

*We pray for wisdom
Your voice to hear
We cry in anger when we cannot feel you near
We doubt your goodness, we doubt your love
As if every promise from your Word is not enough
All the while, you hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe*

*When friends betray us
When darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not our home*

*What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
What if trials of this life
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are your mercies in disguise*

The Week Ahead

All Meetings are in person with online option (hybrid) unless otherwise stated

Sunday, February 13

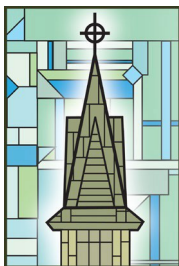
9:00 a.m. Adult Education (with Zoom Option)
10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service (with
*Livestream on Facebook &
YouTube*)

Monday, February 14

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 15

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk, *Zoom*
6:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting
7:00 p.m. Stewardship & Finance
11:55 p.m. Session Packet Info Due in Office



United Presbyterian Church

2400 W Northmoor Rd · Peoria IL 61614
(309) 693-2002
upc@unitedpc.org · www.unitedpc.org

Wednesday, February 16

4:30 p.m. Amica Youth Choir
5:30 p.m. Bells
6:15 p.m. Worship Band

Thursday, February 17

10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
with Pastor Debra (The Book of
Revelation)

Sunday, February 20

9:00 a.m. Online Adult Education
10:00 a.m. Online Worship Service,
*Livestream on Facebook and
Youtube, Zoom*
11:15 p.m. Christian Education

Office Hours

Trish Deppermann, *Administrative Manager*
Monday- Thursday 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Friday – works from home

Alison Meuth, *Director worship & the Arts*
Monday-Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Keli Briggs, *Faith Community Nurse*
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Debra Avery, *Pastor*
Drop by office hours:
Tuesdays 9AM-1PM
Thursdays: 1-4PM
Other times by appointment.