



Silent Meditation

Relationships without conflict are simply acquaintances, and we as Christians are not called to be acquaintances but sisters and brothers.

~LeDayne Polaski

If we do not take the time for ourselves and our families, here is what will happen: We will stop wanting to.

If we do not take the time to feel the things we are feeling, we will stop feeling them.

We will become addicted to the busyness of our lives, unable to feel at home unless we are running at top speed. And our families will make their lives without us, find their comforts elsewhere. And we will be in our offices, at our meetings and we won't even know that it happened.

~Roger Paynter

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

June 10, 2018

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers
might have the opportunity to sign them.)*

Opening Voluntary

Jared Fischer

* Call to Worship

Nate Ward

One: God in Community, Holy One, hear us as we lift our voices.

**Many: We come, trusting God will speak to us,
we come, hoping God will surprise us.**

One: We come as your children, listening in love.

**Many: We come as those who are filled with doubts,
we come as those who spill over with laughter.**

One: On this day, we lift our souls to God's Spirit.

**Many: We open our hearts, that the Spirit may fill us,
we open our hands, that we might be a gift to others.**

One: God in Community, Holy One, lead us to be your people in this place.

* Passing of the Peace

Nate Ward

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of peace, for the peace of Christ is here to stay.

Many: Thanks be to God!

* All rise in body or spirit ☉ Sing Response ✕ Hymnals located below pews

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
Shadows of doubt are vanished away:
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in, our spirits inflame.
Call to us now and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

Here we receive new life in the waters,
Here we receive the bread of new birth:
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink, the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you:
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not just in buildings, small and confining,
Not in some heaven light-years away,
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is God present, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own,
Gather us in, all peoples together -
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

“Rising Sun”

written by P. Mabury, D. Leonard, K. Lee, & L. Jordan

**Lift your hearts, ye broken
Sing oh sing, ye weary
Your love has made us children of God
We lift high Your glory
Shown throughout our stories
We praise You as Your children, oh God**

***Chorus:* Our Great Redeemer, Glorious Savior
Your love is brighter than the rising sun
Light of the morning, You shine forever
Your love is brighter than the rising sun
Your love is brighter than the rising sun**

**Praise God’s love forever, speak it loud and clear now
This love has made us children of God *(Chorus, Instrumental)***

**Hallelujah God above all
Simply to love is the greatest praise
Hallelujah now and always
Forever we lift your name in praise
Hallelujah love will reign
Simply to love is the greatest praise *(Chorus)***

Children’s Message **Nancy Ellett Allison**
(Following the Children’s Message, pre-schoolers go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children’s Church.)

Recognizing our Graduates **Nancy Ellett Allison**

Scholarship Presentation **Barbara Thomas**

Special Music

Hankins Family

Pastoral Prayer

Barbara Thomas

* Gospel Lesson

Mark 3:21-35

Gregg Walker

Then Jesus went home; and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When Jesus' family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And Jesus called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered...

Then Jesus' mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And Jesus replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.**

Sermon

"All in the Family?"

Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation

Barbara Thomas

Offering Music

“Heart Won’t Stop”

There is not a human nor a beast / Nothing on the land or underneath
Oh nothing that could ever come between / The love You have for me

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You

Chorus: Your heart won't stop, coming after me
Your heart won't stop, coming after me
Your heart won't stop, coming after me, coming after me.

There is not an angel of the stars / There is not a devil in the dark
Oh nothing that could change the way You are
The love You have for me

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You. (*Chorus*)

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You. (*Chorus*)

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

φ Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above all heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Offertory Dedication

Barbara Thomas

The Reception of New Members

Questions of the Candidates

Nancy Ellett Allison

Response of the Congregation

One: Will the members of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ please rise and join in the mutual promise and welcome?

*** Many: We welcome each of you and celebrate your journey of faith. We promise to search with you for truth in Scripture, word and witness; to walk with you in life's joys and sorrows; to support you when life is shaken; to laugh with you when life lifts your spirit; to share silence, song and sacrament; and to grow in Christian love and mutual appreciation. We will rely on God's sustaining presence as we journey forward together.**

Greeting of Christian Love

Hosts: On behalf of the entire congregation, it is our pleasure to welcome you as full members of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love and welcome.

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

* Benediction Response 581

WORLD PEACE PRAYER

**φ Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
From despair to hope, from fear to trust,
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,
Let peace fill our universe.**

Postlude

Jared Fischer

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members Dan and Stephanie Fischer, and Jim Dwiggins. Thank Bill & Connie Hildebrand and Kristin Andes & Tom Magraw for guiding our new members.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC; BOUNCE HOUSE AND GIANT JENGA! TODAY

Join us following worship for a Pork BBQ picnic.

SALISBURY PRIDE, SIGN UP BY JUNE 13!

Please plan to sign up to help staff our HCUCC booth at the Salisbury Pride Festival to be held on **Saturday, June 23, 11 AM -5 PM** in historic downtown Salisbury. This event is a wonderful outreach to share information about our church and share our witness with many who attend this festival. **Sign up by June 13th** in the Gathering Room. Contact Suzanne Lamorey, suzlam@yahoo.com with questions.

HCUCC BOOK CLUB

The HCUCC book club reading schedule:

June 13 - *Americanah* by *Ngozhi Adichie* (Mary Ann Miklos)

July 10 - *Discovering the South* by *Jennifer Ritterhouse* (Diane Burluson)

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

**COVENANT GROUP INVITES ALL TO STOWE BOTANICAL GARDEN,
JUNE 16**

Join the River People Covenant Group at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, June 16, 12-2. RSVP to Connie.

Constance.hildebrand56@gmail.com

Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, 6500 S New Hope Rd, Belmont, NC 28012

SOJOURNERS CLASS - NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday, June 17, we will continue conversation of “Sanctuary Churches- What are they and what are the ways we can be supportive?” All are welcome to attend at 9:45 in the Conference Room, and no preparation is necessary.

"I'M FINE": RESILIENCE STRATEGIES, JUNE 24, 9 AM

The next *I'm Fine* gathering will be June 24, led by Alix Felsing. It will be a resilience workshop and participants will develop resilience strategies that can help them keep and/or regain their equilibrium. All are welcome to join this standalone session. RSVP AlixFelsing@gmail.com or 704-589-2026.

**A TU LADO - IMMIGRANT ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM,
JUNE 24, 12:30 PM**

Many in Holy Covenant have expressed an interest in learning what the church can do to support immigrant communities in Charlotte. *A Tu Lado (By Your Side)* is an accompaniment program that provides support to recently arrived immigrants. Join us Sunday, June 24, after worship. Contact Cheri Dennis for questions or details, cdennis2@carolina.rr.com or 704-519-6016.

GOING DEEPER SPIRITUALLY, JUNE 28, 7 PM

Join us Thursday, June 28 at the home of Kristin Andes and Tom Magraw. Bring a “table blessing” to share with the group that holds meaning for you. It can be one from your own heritage, or one from another culture. Email Anne Findlay-Chamberlain kahuanne@gmail.com, Kristin kjandes@aol.com, or Tom tmagraw@aol.com, by June 26 with questions and to RSVP.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to all who provide snacks after worship, part of providing our extravagant welcome! To help keep us organized, we are now using an electronic signup for volunteers called **SignUpGenius**. <https://tinyurl.com/hcuccsnacks>

YOGA4ALL AT HOLY COVENANT, WEDNESDAYS 7:30PM

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities. Questions? Contact David at davidsmith02b@gmail.com

URGENT HELP NEEDED FOR PUERTO RICO

Work teams are needed to go to Puerto Rico to assist with recovery efforts in response to the powerful hurricanes that devastated the area in 2017. Groups of up to 15 volunteers, ages 16 years and older, will be working in the municipalities of Toa Baja, Ciales, and Humacao. Work will include cleaning up and repairing homes and church properties. For more information or to schedule a work team, email uccdisaster.puertorico@gmail.com. http://www.ucc.org/ucc_hurricane_maria_irma_recovery_puerto_rico

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder for June: Kathi Smith, kathleenie53@hotmail.com or

Deacons for June: Joe Behr Stenzel, Jim Hong

Greeters: Donna Collins, Suzanne Lamorey

Ushers: Kevin Edwards Knight, Joy or Kevin Decker, Sue Pascucci

Acolyte: Nate Ward

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger, Suzanne Lamorey

Tabulators: Diane Rogers, Kathi Smith

Refreshments: Picnic following worship

Recyclers: Diane Rogers

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Susan Bennett Stiles, Renee Brown & Kelly Gimlin, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Ed Sharp, Caroline & Don Utz

Friends & Family Members

Mark Williams and family in the death of his grandmother, Estelle Amlett Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Logan Bayes, Baby Girl Cregan (Barb Schneller), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Bill Funderburk, Caroline Herdle (Beth Sharp), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George & Judy Jongeling (Darline Warren), Beth Poyer Meyer, Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Beckye Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary & Wanda Gilbert West (John Rapp)

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor

Rev. Barbara Thomas, Minister for Church & Family Life

Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

3501 West W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28269-8510

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