



Silent Meditation

The gospel of Jesus—the good news of Jesus’ own message—is that there is a way of being that moves beyond both secular and religious conventional wisdom.

The path of transformation of which Jesus spoke leads from a life of requirements and measuring up ... to a life of relationship with God.

It leads from a life of anxiety to a life of peace and trust.

It leads from the bondage of self-preoccupation to the freedom of self-forgetfulness.

It leads from life centered in culture to life centered in God.

~Marcus Borg

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

October 21, 2018

Gathering Music

David A. Smith

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

David A. Smith

* Call to Worship

Cheryl Milam

One: How can we say “Thank You” to God?

Many: With our whole lives, we can live in gratitude.

One: How can we show God’s love?

Many: We can be people of peace and service.

One: How shall we share what we have been given?

**Many: Let us gather up our resources, the abundance with which
God has blessed us and let us use these gifts to help all in
need.**

* Passing of the Peace

Cheryl Milam

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*

1. Im-mor-tal, in-vis-i-ble, God on-ly wise,
in light in-ac-ces-si-ble hid from our eyes,
Most bless-ed, most glo-rious, the An-cient of Days,
al-might-y, vic-to-rious, your great name we praise.

2. Un-rest-ing, un-hast-ing, and si-lent as light,
not want-ing, not wast-ing, but rul-ing in might;
Your jus-tice like moun-tains high soar-ing a-bove,
your clouds which are foun-tains of good-ness and love.

3. Your life is life-giv-ing—to both great and small;
in all life you're liv-ing, the true life of all;
We blos-som and flour-ish as leaves and as flowers,
then with-er and per-ish—but naught dims your powers.

4. So per-fect your glo-ry, so bril-liant your light,
your an-gels a-dore you, all veil-ing their sight;
All praise we now ren-der as your an-gels do:
in awe at the splen-dor of light hid-ing you.

“Gather Us In”

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.

We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human-race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in, the proud and the strong:
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.

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.

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.)

Stewardship Witness

Martha Bomely

* Hymn

"Come As You Are"

by David Crowder

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken hearted, let rescue begin
Come find your mercy, oh exile come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Refrain: So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame
All who are broken, lift up your face
Oh wanderer come home, you're not too far
Lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure (*Refrain*)

Come as you are, come as you are
Fall in Love's arms, come as you are
There's joy for the morning, oh my soul be still
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Prayers of the People

Nancy Ellett Allison

* Gospel Lesson

Mark 10: 32-45

Fred Robinson

They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of (the disciples); they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.'

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are

you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

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 "Outward Mobility" Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation Fred Robinson

Offering Music David A. Smith

* Offering Response 55 MARION

☩ Praise God who rules all worlds, the risen Christ adore,
Praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire, one God forevermore
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

* Offertory Dedication Fred Robinson

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 391

NEW DIMENSIONS

φ God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar;
We, your people, ours the journey now and ever,
Now and ever, now and evermore.

Postlude

David A. Smith

*No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

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 Kathy Habel, Fred Robinson, Melissa & Vondalyn Simmons-McQueen, Jon Stone, Shea & Kathryn Watts. Many thanks to our hosts Gregg Walker, Phil Kaveler, and Cheryl Milam, for guiding our new members.

WHAT SHALL I BRING?

Thanks to everyone who has responded with information on their planned giving to Holy Covenant for 2019. The current totals are General Fund, \$105,130 or 53.9% of goal, and Building Fund, \$ 35,600 or 71.2% of goal. Based on past years experience we know that many more of you give generously on a regular basis, and will return your information in the next month but since we are trying to finalize the 2019 spending plan, including salaries and ministries, please prayerfully consider what you will bring to Holy Covenant in 2019 and respond on your planned giving as soon as possible. An online commitment can be made at HolyCovenantUCC.org.

CHOIR REHEARSAL FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Following worship today you are welcome to stay and join our choir for Advent and Christmas music rehearsals. Most Sundays following worship we will be gathering. Share your musical gifts with Holy Covenant and join the choir! Contact Lisa Cloninger at lisacmsw@hotmail.com for more info.

SANDWICH MINISTRY SOUTH, CANCELLED FOR OCTOBER 24

WE must cancel our south build for October 24. Check back with us for November schedule. We will only gather if we have someone to deliver those sandwiches to the Urban Ministry Center at North College Street. Drive time round trip from South Park Christian Church to UMC is less than an hour. Our neighbors at the shelter are counting on us. If you can help please contact Linn Finger, 704-472-5556

HCUCC YOGA4ALL, WEDNESDAYS

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities....Beginners and those who are yoga-curious are encouraged to attend. Join us at 7:30 PM

HCUCC BOOK CLUB

The HCUCC book club reading schedule:

November 14- Varina by Charles Frazier discussion leader is Jon Heaslet

We meet at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP - KEEP IT SIMPLE!

To help keep us organized, we are now using an electronic signup for volunteers called **SignUpGenius**. You can use the link below to sign up, and you can still sign up on paper if you prefer. <https://tinyurl.com/hcuccsnacks>

BLOWING ROCK CONFERENCE CENTER INVITES ALL TO CENTURY CLUB CELEBRATION WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 16-18

Celebrate the projects you have supported and we have completed. Learn about our new Century Club project. Your stay is on us as we celebrate our Century Club achievements and plan for the future. Bring a friend to attend the events and their stay is on us, too! Childcare will be available. Visit brccenter.org for more information.

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT 2019, JANUARY 18-21 AT BRCC

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly (Micah 6:8)

Registration and information www.UCCWinterYouthRetreat.org.

Contact Dawn in the church office if you plan to attend.

HELP DISASTER RECOVERY WITH CLEAN-UP BUCKETS!

Our friends and fellow North Carolinians need our help! The Southern Conference is inviting churches to prepare 500 Church World Service (CWS) Clean-Up Buckets - five-gallon bucket filled with carefully-selected array of supplies to help people begin to restore their home and businesses. \$75 buys a single bucket. Make a gift of your choice and we'll pool funds to buy as many buckets as we can! **Make your check payable to HCUCC with FLORENCE RECOVERY in the Memo.** Thank you, in advance, for your generosity - and for your support of our fellow North Carolinians!

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:
Elder for October: Faye Humphrey, fghumphrey@yahoo.com or 704-618-2750
Deacons for October: Joe Behr-Stenzel, Debbie Davis
Greeters: Lisa Sherman, Deborah Winston
Ushers: Tom Magraw, Suzanne Lamorey, Jim Hong
Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger
Tabulators: Renee Brown, JoAnn Jellison
Refreshments: Saints & Sunners/South Charlotte
Recyclers: Suzanne Lamorey

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Friends and family in the death of Isley Mae Whitfield
Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin, Joy & Ben Decker, Linn
Finger, Jill Gregg, Eileen Howe, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Karen Long,
Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Ed Sharp, Caroline
Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Caryn Capps, Ashley & Baby Evelyn Kate Cregan
(Barbara Schneller), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Alice Huskins (Jared
Fischer), George Jongeling (Darline Warren), Joe Robinson (Bill & Kim
Tyler), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson,
Beckye Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Kathryn
Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary West (John Rapp), Wanda Williams (John Rapp)

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Rev. Frederick D. Robinson, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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

www.holycovenantucc.org office@holycovenantucc.org 704-599-9810