

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY

January 27, 2019

Gathering Music

David Gilliland

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 Gilliland

* Words of Preparation

Von McQueen-Simmons

One: As many parts, we gather to worship God,

**Many: Who calls us as members of the community of faith and gifts
us with diversity;**

One: Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

**Many: Who inspires children and youth, adults young and old, to
seek justice, to share power by serving one another, and to
live together in love and equality;**

One: The Spirit has graced each one of us with gifts for the common
good.

**Many: Apart from God and from each other we are weak. Together
we are strong.**

One: We gather to worship the God of many gifts.

All: To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

* Passing of the Peace

Von McQueen-Simmons

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of God's 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. Come, O Spir-it, dwell a-mong us,
Come with Pen-te-cos-tal power;
Give the church a strong-er vi-sion,
Help us face each cru-cial hour.
Built up-on a firm foun-d -tion,
Je-sus Christ, the Cor-ner-stone,
Still the church is called to mission
That God's love shall be made known.

2. We would raise our al-le-lu-ias
For the grace of for-mer years;
For to-mor-row's un-known path-way,
Hear, O God, our hum-ble prayers.
In the church's pil-grim jour-ney
You have led us all the way,
Still in pres-ence move be-fore us,
Fire by night and cloud by day.

3. Come, O Spir-it, dwell a-mong us;
Give us words of fire and flame.
Help our strug-gling voic-es praise you,
Glo-ri-fy your ho-ly name.
Good Cre-a-tor, Sav-ior, Spir-it,
Three in One: what mys-ter-y!
We would sing our loud ho-san-nas
Now and through e-ter-ni-ty.

* Gospel Reading Luke 4:14-21

Fred Robinson

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

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

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

Gift in Music

“What Wondrous Love”
Kristin Andes, harp

arr. K. Blackwell-Plank

Prayers of the People

Nancy Ellett Allison

1. O for a world where ev-ery-one re-spects each oth-er's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with jus-tice and with praise.
2. O for a world where goods are shared and mis-er-y re-lieved,
Where truth is spo-ken, chil-dren spared, e-qual-i-ty a-chieved.
3. We wel-come one world fam-i-ly and strug-gle with each choice
That o-pens us to u-ni-ty and gives our vi-sion voice.
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool-ish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be-long, who per-ish-es will rise.
5. O for a world pre-par-ing for God's glo-rious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Epistle Lesson I Corinthians 12:1-27

Renee Brown

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.... Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. ...If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

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 “Suffering and Rejoicing Together” Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation Fred Robinson

Offertory Music David Gilliland

* Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

φ **Our God is making all things new,
A promise that we know is true.
Through eyes of faith we long to see
A love-transformed community. Amen.**

* Offertory Dedication

Fred Robinson

* Hymn 177

“God of Change and Glory”

KATHERINE

1. God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.

Refrain:

Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
One Giver, one Word, one Spirit, one God
Known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

2. God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.
(refrain)

3. Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light.
This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart.
(refrain)

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude

David Gilliland

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

ADMINISTRATION - the ability God gives for understanding and implementing the immediate and long-range goals of a particular unit of the Body of Christ.

ARTISTRY/SKILLED CRAFT - the ability to uplift God's presence through creative skills such as carpentry, drama, art, painting or sculpting.

DISCERNMENT - the ability to distinguish between truth and error, to know when a person or act is of God.

EVANGELISM - the special ability that God gives to believers to present the Gospel to unbelievers in a clear and meaningful way.

EXHORTATION - the gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to stand beside fellow believers in need and bring comfort, counsel and encouragement so they feel helped.

FAITH - the gift whereby the Spirit provides Christians with extraordinary confidence in God's promises, power, and presence so that they can take heroic stands for the future of God's work in the church.

GIVING - the special gift that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord liberally and cheerfully.

HOSPITALITY - The hospitable person is comfortable entertaining others - family, relatives, friends, and most especially welcoming strangers.

INTERCESSION - The special ability empowers the Christian to pray faithfully for others and to identify specific responses to those prayers.

KNOWLEDGE - the ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to discover, accumulate, analyze, and clarify information and ideas which are pertinent to the growth and well-being of the Body.

LEADERSHIP - the ability that God gives to certain members to set goals and communicate these goals to others so that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish them for the glory of God.

MERCY - the gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to feel exceptional empathy and compassion for those who are suffering so that they can devote large amounts of time and energy to alleviate it.

MUSIC - the special gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to praise God musically in such a way as to enhance the worship experience of other believers.

PASTOR - the gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to assume a long-term responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers.

SERVICE - the ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired goals.

TEACHING - the ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to communicate information, relevant to the health and ministry of the Body and its members so that others will learn and be edified.

WISDOM - the ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to know the mind of the Holy Spirit and to receive insight into how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the Body of Christ.

WRITING - the gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to translate Bible truths into a written form that can edify, instruct and strengthen the community of believers.

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.

JOIN OUR NEW MEMBER - INQUIRER'S CLASSES THIS JANUARY

If you would like to learn more about our congregation or become a member at Holy Covenant, please join our Inquirer's Classes!

9:30 am February 3 UCC/Holy Covenant History

12:30 pm February 10 Elders and Deacon Luncheon Ministry

Organizational Structure & Opportunities for Involvement

Contact Debbie Davis at Debbiekdavisnc@gmail.com with questions or to let her know you plan to attend. Childcare is available.

OUR VERY OWN AUTHOR EVENT WITH TOMMY TOMLINSON! FEBRUARY 3

What better way to talk about losing weight than at a church potluck!?

Following worship on February 3, Tommy Tomlinson will talk about his new book "*The Elephant in the Room*." The book is about his lifelong struggle with his weight and how he has tried to find a path to a better, healthier self

HCUCC YOGA4ALL, WEDNESDAYS at 7:30 pm

We'll meet on February 6, 13 & 23

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities....Beginners and those who are yoga-curious are encouraged to attend. Contact David, davidsmith02b@gmail.com or 704-533-2142.

BACKPACK MINISTRY/ UNCC STUDENT PANTRY

Schools are back into session. Contributions to the BackPack Ministry and the UNCC Student pantry are welcomed. Gently worn professional clothing is also welcomed by the UNCC pantry for student employment interviews. Look for the collection basket in the Gathering Room.

MIGRANT BUS MINISTRY

Warm clothes, snacks, toiletries and diapers are being collected to give to migrants as they pass through Charlotte on the Greyhound bus route on their journey to pursuit asylum. A collection box is available in the Gathering Room. See Suzanne Lamorey with questions or to participate in this welcoming.

SAVORING LIFE: PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE

A GREENFAITH DAY APART, FEBRUARY 2 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at HCUCC
Rev. Amy Brooks, GreenFaith, Organizer and Rev. Anne Findley-Chamberlain, Spiritual Director invite you to a day of retreat and reflection to connect with and nurture your passion for the environment, identify specific actions that make a difference, and create a community for continuing support and inspiration. There is no fee but space is limited. **RSVP TODAY to amy@greenfaith.org.**

HOLY COVENANT TO HOST ROOM IN THE INN, FEBRUARY 10

HCUCC will host our yet to be housed neighbors to keep them warm, give them a place to shower, and feed them hot meals. Can you help with this ministry? Can you assist with Monday morning clean up? Perhaps you would simply like to join us for dinner and conversation? See the signup sheet in the Gathering Room, or contact Suzanne, suzlam@yahoo.com.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP - KEEP IT SIMPLE!

To help keep us organized, we use 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/hcuccsnacks2019>

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS have been mailed through the US Postal Service for your use in 2018 taxes preparation. If you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact Dawn in our church office. Your generosity in sharing your gifts in support of our ministries are helping to transform our community and beyond. Thank you!

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

Elder for January: Jeff Edwards Knight, 704-651-4838 or jeff763@aol.com

Deacons for January: Martha Bomely, Gregg Walker

Greeters: Vondalyn McQueen-Simmons, Debbie Winston

Ushers: Shakti Subramanian, Michael Sladek, Eileen Howe

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger, Renee Brown

Tabulators: Joy Decker, Terry Raley Dennis

Refreshments: Nishi Griffin

Recyclers: Phil Kaveler

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Deb & Yvette Ross in the death of Deb's sister, Chris

Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin 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

Jesiah, Devon & Parker (Marine Luckhoo); Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Caryn Capps, Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Tammie & Charles Edenfield (Donna Collins), Jonathan Funderburk (Donna Collins), David Owens (Donna Collins), Joe Robinson (Bill & Kim Tyler), Latasha Roberts, Ken & Evelyn Sell (Robert Shepherd), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), John Teague (Donna Collins), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary West (John Rapp), Wanda Williams (John Rapp)

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor, pastor@holycovenantucc.org

Rev. Fred Robinson, Associate Pastor, Fredrick@holycovenantucc.org

Mr. Shea Watts, Director of Music Ministries, music@holycovenantucc.org

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant, office@holycovenantucc.org

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