



## Silent Meditation

I was standing by the food table after church with Nathan, a 13 year-old confirmand. He clutched a cupcake in one fist and one of those crustless triangular sandwiches in the other.

He said, quite audibly, but to no one in particular,

"I don't know if I believe in God, but I believe in coffee hour!"

~Church Colleague

You cannot give what you are *not*, nor would God want it. You can only give what you *are*, warts and all, and *it is the very giving back that delights the Creator*--not the supposed perfection of the gift.

~ Richard Rohr

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**October 6, 2019**

Prelude "Siyahamba/Thuma Mina" Jon Weddell  
*arr. Mark Sedio*

Welcome and Announcements ✕ Fred Robinson

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 "Be Still, My Soul" Jon Weddell  
*(Finlandia) arr. Penny Rodriguez*

\* Call to Worship Suzanne Lamorey

One: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers.

Many: **We are gathered for a joyful feast, hosted by Jesus Christ.**

One: All who are hungry will find the bread of life here.

Many: **All who thirsty will find a fountain of grace here.**

One: All who are lost will find safety here.

Many: **All who are lonely will find a friend here.**

One: All who are broken will find healing here.

Many: **All who have been wandering will find a home here.**

One: We gather today asking where in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: **At home and school and business place - in this community and throughout every land.**

One: How in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: **By working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.**

One: Why in the world shall we serve our God?

All: **Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith, because God gifts all for service in this world.**

\* Passing of the Peace Suzanne Lamorey

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*

Rejoice, give thanks and sing; your Sovereign God adore!  
For Christ has robbed death’s sting and triumphs evermore.  
Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;  
The Lamb who purged our stains is crowned with power above.  
Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Christ Jesus cannot fail to rule both earth and heaven;  
The keys of death and hell are to the Savior given.  
Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ the Judge shall come,  
And take the faithful up to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear a heavenly voice above the trumpet’s sound,  
“Rejoice!”

Children’s Message

Fred Robinson

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

Walk with Us

Kristin Andes, Tom Magraw

Pastoral Prayer

Fred Robinson

Special Music

Felicia Robinson

\* Gospel Lesson Luke 22:14-23 Cheri Dennis

When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, ‘I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.’ Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, ‘Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.’ Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!’ Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

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 “This is My Body:  
Do This in Remembrance of Me” Fred Robinson

Offertory Invitation Cheri Dennis

Offering Music “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” Jon Weddell  
*arr. Mark Sedio*

\* 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 Cheri Dennis

1. Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy,  
reach-ing out with a shout of joy:  
bread is bro-ken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spo-ken and seen and heard.  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
2. Christ is a-ble to make us one,  
at his ta-ble he set the tone,  
teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed ex-press.  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
3. Je-sus calls us in, sends us out  
bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Im-man-u-el) ev-ery-where!  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!  
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,  
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Fred Robinson

One: Beloved children of God, today on World Communion Sunday, we remember that as we celebrate this feast we do so with siblings around the world.

**Many: When we are able, with the Holy One, to experience the vision of love for God's Global Village here on earth - then all of creation will come as equal companions to sit at this table.**

One: Here we are invited to eat and drink, to be nourished and renewed for the ongoing work of justice, embracing mercy and walking humbly with God.

**Many: This is an open table, all are welcome, no exceptions.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Holy One of many names and faces, we thank you for both the darkness and the light, for the division of the waters and dry land, for creating our cosmos and calling it sacred.

**Many: We thank you for creating us in your image, to live connected with love, for the gift of life, speech, and movement and freedom to live in Your Way.**

One: Holy God, Creator of milk and honey, of wheat and grapes, this table has over time been a symbol of restoration and community, a call to remembrance. We come with thanksgiving for the gift of receiving your holy welcome and the powerful memory of the justice work of the radical rabbi from Nazareth, Jesus.

**Many: We share bread and wine with Christians around the world, celebrating that in Christ we are many who can be one, and praying for your peace that makes us whole. As we drink the cup and consume the bread, may your Spirit be with us, enlivening us with courage and hope to join together in the sacred work of restoring your planet.**

One: Lift our hearts in unity as together we pray,

**All: "Our God in whom is heaven..." The Lord's Prayer (using 'sins')**

Words of Institution

Fred Robinson

## Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music during Communion

Jon Weddell

*Communion is received by intinction. Please take bread or a gluten free wafer and dip it into the cup to receive both elements.  
The Communion elements are bread and grape juice.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**As one body, we lament with those who lament.  
We hope with those who hope.  
We live with suffering. We live with beauty.  
Let us go from this table as a renewed community,  
doing the radical work of Jesus that calls us  
to live justice-making lives of faith.  
We are followers of God's Way. We give thanks!**

\* Benediction

Fred Robinson

\* Benediction Response

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 ever more.**

Postlude

**"Siyahamba" (reprise)  
*arr. Mark Sedio***

Jon Waddell

**No matter who you are  
or where you are on your journey,  
you are welcome here!**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

### PLEASE SIGN OUR ATTENDANCE REGISTER

**WELCOME** to all who worship today at Holy Covenant! Guests and members, please sign an attendance register and then pass it back to its starting point, taking note of who is worshipping near you and greet them.

### ALL RECEIVING VACCINES TODAY PLEASE GATHER IN THE CONF ROOM

### LET'S GET W.I.S.E. TOGETHER! TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

In the spirit of welcome and inclusion, Consistory has set a goal of better supporting those with mental health issues in our congregation and our community. Join us following worship in the Sojourner's Classroom.

### NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING TODAY!

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the UCC supporting ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US including the Council for American Indian Ministry to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

### I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIGHT... (*John 14:6*)

October is a season of planning for the coming year, reflecting on the days behind us, a season to explore new leaders for this congregation, and a time of commitment to sustain and grow the church. We ask for your pledge to allow us to plan for our 2020 Budget. We will celebrate these gifts during our Annual Meeting in November. "*I am the Way*" comes from John 14:6, referencing the commitment we make to walk in the ways of Jesus. As we all live out our journey, opportunities to worship, give, grown, learn and serve are all before us. Your support in this Stewardship Campaign will transform our future and our ability to be the people of God. Walk with us into a new future! You may mail or email your pledge to the church office, put it in the collection plate, or submit your pledge online through the church website at [holycovenantucc.org/make-your-pledge-online/](https://holycovenantucc.org/make-your-pledge-online/). Thank you for the opportunity to share our love for God's



people, our dreams, insight and laughter with one another in our beloved community.

### **ATTENTION SINGERS! ADVENT REHEARSALS STARTING SOON!**

Bridget Green is excited to be working with you again this Advent Season! Rehearsals begin Sun., Oct 20 from 12:30-2 and each Sunday into December (with the exception of 11/17). There will be 2 Saturday rehearsals; the first on October 16, 1-4 pm. Please take a moment to show your interest and fill out this season's Google survey. <https://tinyurl.com/HCA Advent2019>.

### **INTERIM SEARCH TEAM**

An Intentional Interim Pastor Search team will receive resumes and interview potential candidates to serve as the Intentional Interim Pastor for Holy Covenant. The candidate chosen for this position will NOT be eligible to serve as the settled pastor of Holy Covenant. Contact Micki Spear, [southpaw311@gmail.com](mailto:southpaw311@gmail.com), if you have any recommendations to offer.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Consistory is seeking nominations for the Pastoral Search Committee. This will be a committee of 5-9 members who will be asked to make a major commitment of time over several months. Consistory will create a slate of people who represent the diversity of our congregation and present this slate for a vote at the Congregational Meeting in November. Be thinking of who you would like to serve on this committee and check with them first to ascertain that they have the time and would be willing to faithfully serve on this important body. You may self-nominate. Deadline for nominations is Sunday, October 13. Please indicate below your top three choices for people to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## **SACRED CONVERSATION TO END RACISM, OCTOBER 18, 19 & 20**

Join us for a two-day anti-racism workshop with Dr. Velda Love, on the historical and present-day impacts of white supremacy. Learn ways to positively impact racial equity in our community and in your everyday life.

**Friday, Oct 18 - 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Saturday, Oct 19 - 8:30 am - 2:00 pm, including breakfast and lunch**

**Sunday, Oct 20 - 10:55 am Dr. Velda Love preaches**

*RSVP Events@HolyCovenantUCC.org*

## **CROP HUNGER WALK, OCTOBER 20**

*Give to make a difference in world hunger!* All walkers are welcome to join the USA's largest walk in the country on Oct 20 at 1:30 as part of the hunger-fighting team. We walk 4 miles, rain or shine. 25% of all donations stay in Mecklenburg County and are divided between Loaves & Fishes, Second Harvest Food Bank and Crisis Assistance Ministries. Interested in walking? Contact Tina Dickens, 704-965-7708 or [taichitina@gmail.com](mailto:taichitina@gmail.com). Our walkers will be asking YOU for a donation to help fight hunger. Please give generously!

## **HCUCC LABYRINTH WALK, OCTOBER 27**

Walk Holy Covenant's beautiful labyrinth Sunday, Oct. 27, 12:45 p.m., accompanied by harp music and Veriditas-trained labyrinth facilitator Janet Hince. Space is limited. For more details and to reserve a spot, communicate with Kristin Andes, [Kjandes@aol.com](mailto:Kjandes@aol.com).

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

Elder for October: Robert Shepherd, [rshepvided@att.net](mailto:rshepvided@att.net) or 704-618-1322

Deacons for October: Lisa Sherman, Ed Vickery

Greeters: Von McQueen-Simmons, Donna Collins

Ushers: JP Griffin, Kelly Gimlin, Jill Gregg, Laurence Winston

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger

Tabulators: Eileen Howe, JoAnn Jellison

Refreshments: Plaza Midwood Covenant Group

Recyclers: Eileen Howe

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

### **Members**

Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Linn Finger, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Sue & Bill Pascucci, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Mamie Stokes

### **Friends & Family Members**

The family of Amy Madden (Robert Shepherd)

The family and friends of Jessie Sharp (Terry & Jean Raley-Dennis)

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Mary Ruth Edenfield Beatty (Donna Collins), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), USMC Jesus K Estevez (Donna Collins), Scott Gleditsch (Barb Schneller), Alma Gordon (Kevin & Joy Decker), David & Cecelia Griffin (JP Griffin), Faye Grumbles (Linda Clark), Will & Addie May Hong (Jim Hong), Marilyn Lafferty (Kim Tyler), Bob Lyon (Melissa Noll), Ron Mann (Robert Shepherd), Carolyn Marshall (Linda Clark), Thibault Ossenbühl (Melissa Noll), Roshani Parikh (Nishi Griffin), Joe Robinson (Bill & Kim Tyler), Jack Ross (Anne Findlay-Chamberlain), Ken & Evelyn Sell (Robert Shepherd), Irene Sharpe (Robert Shepherd), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Gene Sullivan (Jason Sullivan), John Teague (Donna Collins), Dorothy Underwood (Keith & Cheri Dennis), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary West (John Rapp), Wanda Williams (John Rapp)

### **OUR MINISTRY TEAM**

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor [pastor@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:pastor@holycovenantucc.org)

Rev. Fred Robinson, Associate Pastor [fredrick@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:fredrick@holycovenantucc.org)

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant [office@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:office@holycovenantucc.org)

Ms. Kathleen Smith, Accompanist [kathleenie53@msn.com](mailto:kathleenie53@msn.com)

**Holy Covenant United Church of Christ**  
**3501 West W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28269-8510**  
**[www.holycovenantucc.org](http://www.holycovenantucc.org) ~ 704-599-9810**