



transforming faith
HOLY COVENANT UCC



**“Hating people because of their color is wrong.
And it doesn’t matter which color does the hating.
It’s just plain wrong.”
~ Muhammad Ali**

**“I look to a day when people will not be
judged by the color of their skin, but by the
content of their character.”
~Martin Luther King, Jr.**

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 12, 2016

“How is it that you, a Jew,
asks a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?”

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ☩

Stephen F. Garvey

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

“How Long Has It Been”

M. L.

Jared Fischer, piano, Chuck Johnson and Karen Long, vocals

* Call to Worship

Beth Christian Sharp

One: I believe in a God that forgives when we stumble.

Many: I believe in a God that grieves when we suffer.

One: I believe in a God that holds out immeasurable hope.

**Many: I believe in a God that teaches that not only my joys but also
my sorrows lift me up.**

One: I believe in a God who has deep compassion for all;

**All: And have faith that from Oneness I came and to Oneness I
shall return. Amen.**

* Passing of the Peace

Beth Christian Sharp

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*

* Hymn

“Desert Song”

This is my prayer in the desert when all that's within me is dry
This is my prayer in my hunger and need,
My God is the God who provides.

And this is my prayer in the fire, in weakness or trial or pain
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold,
So refine me, Lord, through the flame.

*Chorus: And I will bring praise! I will bring praise!
 No weapon formed against me shall remain
 I will rejoice, I will declare,
 Christ is my victory and He is here.*

And this is my prayer in the battle when triumph is still far away
I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ;
So firm on His promise I'll stand. (*Chorus*)

All of my life, in every season, You are still God.
I have a reason to sing, I have a reason to worship.

This is my prayer in the harvest when favor and providence flow,
I know I'm filled to be emptied again, the seed I've received I will sow.

"Everlasting God"

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord;
Wait upon the Lord.
We will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, You reign forever. Our hope, our Strong Deliverer.
You are the everlasting God, The everlasting God.
You do not faint; You won't grow weary. (*2 times*)

You're the defender of the weak;
You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

Children's Offering & Message

Stephen F. Garvey

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

Our Time of Prayer Together

Diane Tugel

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

* Scripture, New Testament John 4:1-10, 39-42 Stephen F. Garvey

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John'— although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us.

Many: Thanks be to God.

From a distance the world looks blue and green,
And the snow-capped mountains white.
From a distance the ocean meets the streams,
And the eagle takes to flight.

From a distance, there is harmony,
And it echoes through the land.
It's the voice of hope, it's the voice of peace,
It's the voice of everyone.
From a distance we all have enough,
And no one is in need.
There are no guns, no bombs, no diseases,
No hungry mouths to feed.

From a distance we are instruments
Playing in a common band.
Playing songs of hope, playing songs of peace.
They're the songs of everyone.
God is watching us. God is watching us.
God is watching us from a distance.

From a distance you look like my friend,
Even though we are at war.
From a distance I can't comprehend
What all this fighting's for.

From a distance there is harmony,
And it echoes through the land.
It's the hope of hopes, it's the love of loves,
It's the heart of everyone.

Scripture, Old Testament Genesis 9:18-27 Diane Tugel

The sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah; and from these the whole earth was peopled.

Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard. He drank some of the wine and became drunk, and he lay uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backwards and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, he said,

'Cursed be Canaan; lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers.'

He also said, 'Blessed by the Lord my God be Shem; and let Canaan be his slave. May God make space for Japheth, and let him live in the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his slave.'

Sermon "That We May All Be One" Diane Tugel

Offertory Invitation Stephen F. Garvey

Offertory Jared Fischer

* Offertory Dedication Stephen F. Garvey

1. Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling,
joy of heaven, on earth be found,
Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing,
all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion;
pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion,
en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it
in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
Let us all in you in-her-it,
let us find your prom-ised rest;
Take a-way our love of sin-ning;
Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
End of faith, as its be-gin-ning,
set our hearts at lib-er-ty.

3. Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er,
let us all your life re-ceive;
Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver,
ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
You we would be al-ways bless-ing,
love you as your an-gels love,
Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing,
wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.

4. Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion;
pure and spot-less may we prove;
Let us see your great sal-va-tion
per-fect-ly re-stored in you;
Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,
till in heaven we take our place,
Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be
lost in won-der, love, and praise.

* Benediction

Diane Tugel

Postlude

Jared Fischer

*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. We are an Open and Affirming, progressive Christian church welcoming all. Please join us in the Gathering Room after worship for fellowship and refreshments.

NANCY ON SABBATICAL, APRIL - JUNE,

Steve Garvey will serve as the Acting Pastor and our Pastors Emeriti, **Linn Finger** and **Jim Humphrey** will be providing pastoral care. Our excellent staff, Dawn Simmons, Jared Fischer and Steven Burleson will all remain in place!

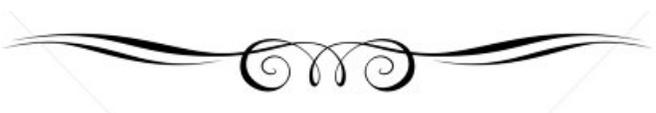
WELCOME GUEST PREACHER DIANE TUGEL

We welcome the Reverend Diane Tugel as our guest preacher today. Diane is the Assistant Director and Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor for McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, SC. She also serves as the Vice President of the WNCA Board of Directors, for which we express our deep gratitude.



ALL CHURCH COOK BOOK

In honor of our Centennial, your Hospitality Team will be coordinating a printed version of a cook book, compiled of the favorite recipes from Holy Covenant and Pilgrim Congregational UCC members! Please submit any tried and true favorite recipe, of any food category, by **July 15**. Send your recipe to Judi Lord, jklord@gmail.com or Linda Carver, 2547A Stockbridge Drive, Charlotte NC 28210. This is a fundraiser for benefit of outreach missions. Details are in progress and more, including date and cost, will be announced in the near future.



2016 PRIDE FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Charlotte PRIDE, the third-largest LGBTQ Pride organization in the American Southeast, will hold its annual festival August 19, 20 & 21. We need all members of Holy Covenant to volunteer in helping Holy Covenant be present throughout the weekend. Please contact Phil Kaveler to let him know when you can volunteer.

SOJOURNERS CLASS

The Sojourners would like to again thank Rich Midkiff for his presentation on religious discrimination in the military. Out of that discussion, the subject of "toxic charity" was raised, so the Sojourners will start a study next Sunday of a book entitled "Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help, and How to Reverse It." Veteran urban activist, Robert Lupton, reveals the shockingly toxic effects that modern charity has upon the very people meant to benefit from it. Toxic Charity provides proven new models for charitable groups who want to help those whom they desire to serve. Toxic Charity shows us how to start serving needy and impoverished members of our communities in a way that will lead to lasting, real-world change. Buy a copy (cheap for used on Amazon) and join us on Sunday, June 12, for our first discussion of the book. All are welcome -- no preparation necessary!

BOOK CLUB, JUNE 13 SHARON CAMPUS

The Book Club will be meeting on Monday, June 13, at 1:30 pm at the Sharon campus to discuss Annie Dillard's Pulitzer Prize winning title, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*. Diane Burleson will be leading our discussion of this work.

Our next meeting is tentatively set for July 18, at 1:30 pm at the Sharon campus. We are considering Matthew Desmond's *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Harris Campus, Saturday June 18, at 10:00 AM, Sharon Campus, Wednesday, June 22 at 9:30. Help us make sandwiches for Urban Ministry to provide food for our neighbors who are homeless. DONATIONS WELCOME! We create 100 healthy sandwiches for about \$70.00. Notate "Sandwich Ministry" in the memo of your check.

REPORT ON PLEDGED GIVING UPDATE FOR APRIL

Your budget team wants to thank you for your generosity in supporting our ministries and work of the church through sharing your time, talents and finances. With four full months completed in our budget year (42%), we want to provide the following pledged giving update: April YTD General Fund pledged giving is \$47,135, or 26%, of the total year pledged, and the Building Fund pledged giving is \$16,675, or 31%, of total year Building Fund pledges. Your financial gifts are vital to the work of the church and we appreciate your catching up on pledged giving as you are able.

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

Elder of the Month: Yvette Ross

Greeters: Carl Johnson, Phyllis Johnson

Media: Brian Hankins, Joe Craig

Ushers: Kevin Edwards-Knight, Sue Godfrey, Tom Magraw, Barbara Rutelonis

Tabulators: Sally McLester, Kathi Smith

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER UPDATE

Members

Paul Bomely, Gail Bushman, Leanne Bushman,
Ginny & Bob Fisher, Marianne Gannon, Karen Griffin,
Chuck Johnson, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson,
Deb & Yvette Ross, Dave Stoimenoff & Jim Germann,
Mamie Stokes, Jean Washburn

Friends & Family Members

Rose Bouchonville (John Maze),
Charlotte Carbone, Matthew Christian, (Beth Sharp),
Bill Funderburk (Donna Collins), Frances Helms (Lynn Helms),
Mike Hinson (Kathi Smith), CD & Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer),
John Jacobsen (Holly Middleton), Aaron Johnson (Joy Johnson),
Barbara Lees (Donna Collins), Pat & JoAnn Murphey (Laura Murphey),
Candy Propes (Sue Rettberg), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial)

Candid photographs and/or video recording share our work and witness and invite others into the fellowship of our congregation. Some pictures/video may be published in church print publications, on our website or on our official social media sites. If you do not wish to have your image published, please contact the church office by phone or email.

***Celebrating a Century of Transforming Faith
First Reformed 1916 ~ Holy Covenant 2016***

Holy Covenant United Church of Christ

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

Mr. Jared Fischer, Music Director

Mr. Steven Burlison, Youth Pastor

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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