



transforming faith
HOLY COVENANT UCC

Silent Reflection

“To be is to do”

—Socrates.

“To do is to be”

—Jean-Paul Sartre.

“Do be do be do”

—Frank Sinatra.



“A mystic is not one who sees God as an object, but one who is immersed in God as an atmosphere.”

- Ken Wilber

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

July 17, 2016

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome & 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.)*

* Invocation (*Unison*)

Stephen F. Garvey

O Holy Maker of all creation, we gather in your presence to celebrate your gifts of life and community. We come to worship, pray and sing, to share our burdens and our joys. We come to sit at your feet like Mary, learning from your love, so that we can be challenged and refreshed, strengthened to live into the demands which lie ahead. We give you thanks for this welcoming and beloved community, drawn together by your love. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

Stephen F. Garvey

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.**

* 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.

** Rise as able ☩ Sing Response ✕ Hymnals located below pews*

*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.

* Hymn 43

“Loves Divine All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
 4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;

Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
 Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
 Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
 Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;

Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
 You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
 Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,

Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
 Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

THE SERVICE OF BAPTISM

*Ford William Nelson is the son of Charles and Leslie Nelson.
Caroline and Jared Fischer are Ford's godparents.*

Pastor: The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

Pastor: Do you desire to have your son baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: As you commit to raising Ford in the faith and family of Jesus Christ, we invite you to affirm your commitments of faith. Do you accept the responsibility of raising Ford as God's beloved child?

Parents: Yes. We celebrate Ford as a beloved child of God.

Pastor: Believing that Jesus has shown us the way of justice and mercy, truth, and abundant life, will you lead Ford in this way so that he may profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself?

Parents: I do, with the help of God.

Pastor: As a follower of the Living Christ, do you promise to oppose evil in all its varying guises and, in so doing, strive to fashion a world which reflects God's call for justice and peace?

Parents: I do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with Ford in the Christian faith, to help him to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Pastor: Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, give your love and support to Ford as he is baptized, and as he lives and grows in Christ?

People: **We covenant with this family to surround them with love for the strengthening of their life together so that they may raise this child toward the fullness of life in Christ; to tell him the good news of Christ that he may know himself loved of God, and freely give of himself in love to others.**

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your Saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters, and out of the waters of the deep you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. May this water be made holy as it marks our reception of this child into your family of faith. Amen.

ACT OF BAPTISM

Pastor: By what name is your child called?

Parents: **Ford William Nelson**

Pastor: Ford William Nelson, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May the Holy Spirit be upon you, child of God, disciple of Christ, member of the church.

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

Pastor: Give to the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: Church family, I present to you a new member of the Body of Christ, Ford William Nelson.

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.)

Response

“Shine, Lord”
words and music by Anne E. DeChant

**Shine, Lord, O shine, Lord, and light the weary world.
Show us your kindness, your peace and love unfurled.
With arms open wide you will teach us to abide.
Shine, Lord, O shine, Lord, and light the weary world.**

Our Time of Prayer Together
Silent Prayer
Pastoral Prayer

Stephen F. Garvey

* Gospel Reading

Luke 10:38-42

Paul Hanneman

As they continued their travel, Jesus (and the disciples) entered a village. A woman by the name of Martha welcomed him and made him feel quite at home. She had a sister, Mary, who sat before the Master, hanging on every word he said. But Martha was pulled away by all she had to do in the kitchen. Later, she stepped in, interrupting them. “Master, don’t you care that my sister has abandoned the kitchen to me? Tell her to lend me a hand.” The Master said, “Martha, dear Martha, you’re fussing far too much and getting yourself worked up over nothing. One thing only is essential, and Mary has chosen it—it’s the main course, and won’t be taken from her.”

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

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“The Main Course”

Paul Hanneman

Offertory Invitation

Stephen F. Garvey

Offertory Music

* 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

Stephen F. Garvey

* Hymn 49

“Ask Me What Great Thing I Know”

HENDON



1 Ask me what great thing I know that de - lights and stirs me so,
2 Who de - feats my fierc-est foes? Who con - soles my sad - dest woes?
3 Who is life in life to me? Who the death of death will be?
4 This is that great thing I know; this de - lights and stirs me so:



What the high re - ward I win, whose the name I
Who re - vives my faint - ing heart, heal - ing all that
Who holds all my days se - cure, in God's heart where
Faith in Christ who died to save, Christ who tri - umphed



glo - ry in: Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.
grief im - parts? Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.
love is sure? Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.
o'er the grave, Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.

* Benediction

Paul Hanneman

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. We are an Open and Affirming, progressive Christian church welcoming all.

WELCOME BACK GUEST PREACHER PAUL HANNEMAN

Please welcome Rev. Dr. Paul A. Hanneman as guest preacher today, on the last of Nancy's sabbatical absences. Paul graduated from Kalamazoo College (B.A.), Colgate Rochester Divinity School (M.Div.), and the Graduate Theological Foundation (D.Min.). Paul retired last year after serving 15 years as Program Director for the Urban Ministry Center. Saint Peter Episcopal Church offered him use of an office for counseling and spiritual direction, and he offers courses on the Enneagram, spiritual formation, and poverty paradigms in congregations and organizations.

NEW MEMBER & INQUIRERS CLASSES

Would you like to learn more about Holy Covenant and the United Church of Christ? Come to these inquirers classes held in the conference room:

July 24 - 9:30 Who We Are, What We Believe

July 31 - 9:30 UCC/Holy Covenant History

August 7 - 12:30 Elder Lunch and Member Opportunities for Involvement

August 14 - Welcome Sunday

Contact the office for more information or to RSVP.

INTERESTED IN CUBA?

This summer at our SOC Annual Meeting, we passed a resolution affirming work and relationships with Cuba. If you have some thoughts and ideas in connection with this work, please provide your feedback to Rev. Jerry Rhyne at jerry@wnca-soc.org. More info at www.prayerandpolitiks.org including interesting facts about Cuba and it's US relations and the **UCC Cuba Resolution**.

SPECIAL OFFERING, CHRISTMAS IN JULY

On July 31, 2016, we will receive the UCC Christmas Fund offering to show appreciation for the many aging and retired pastors who have served small churches in rural areas and do not have the means to financially support themselves once they retire. This is the one time we are asked to match our appreciation with our resources for those who have retired from faithful service to the church. Please memo your offering "UCC Christmas Fund".

YOGA WEDNESDAYS 7:30 PM

David Smith is leading yoga classes for all levels. For more information, contact David at prizmsongs@gmail.com or 704-533-2142.

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, pwkaveler@yahoo.com, to let him know when you can volunteer. There will be a sign up sheet beginning July 10 in the Gathering Room.

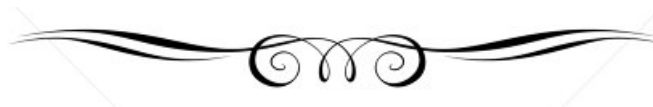
BOOK CLUB

Please join us at the Sharon Campus on August 22 for a discussion lead by Sue Pascucci of the book "Marriage of Opposites" by Alice Hoffman. For our September 19th meeting, we have tentatively selected William Kent Kruger's "Ordinary Grace"; discussion lead by Barbara Schneller.



ALL CHURCH COOK BOOK

We KNOW most of you don't cook all that much - but we also KNOW that some of you make great cakes, some of you specialize in all vegetarian dishes and some of you are Crock Pot Queens! Please submit any tried and true favorite recipe, of any food category, by **July 15**. Send your recipe to Debbie Davis, debbiekdavisnc@gmail.com, Judi Lord, jklord17@gmail.com or Linda Carver, 2547A Stockbridge Drive, Charlotte NC 28210.



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

Elder of the Month: Michael Baldonado
Greeters: Marylou Iantosca, Shirley Moder
Media: Brian Hankins, Joe Craig
Ushers: Barry Holcomb, Joy Johnson
Tabulators: Lori Cipot, Terry Raley-Dennis

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Paul Bomely, Gail Bushman, Leanne Bushman,
Ginny & Bob Fisher, Marianne Gannon, Karen Griffin,
Chuck Johnson, Joy Johnson, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson,
Deb & Yvette Ross, Dave Stoimenoff & Jim Germann,
Mamie Stokes, Sheryl Stogner, Jean Washburn
Diane & Steve Garvey in the death of Diane's sister, Loretta Giardino

Friends & Family Members

McKinzie (Sue Godfrey), Rose Bouchonville (John Maze),
Charlotte Carbone, Bill Funderburk (Donna Collins),
Frances Helms (Lynn Helms),
Mike Hinson (Kathi Smith), John Jacobsen (Holly Middleton),
Aaron Johnson (Joy Johnson), Barbara Lees (Donna Collins),
Urban Linn (Julie McLelland), Pat & JoAnn Murphey (Laura Murphey),
Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Charles Weaver (Susan Rettberg)

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***

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Mr. Jared Fischer, Music Director
Mr. Steven Burleson, Youth & Young Adult Pastor
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