



“I like geography best, he said, because your mountains & rivers know the secret. Pay no attention to boundaries.”

Brian Andreas, *Story People*:
Selected Stories & Drawings of Brian Andreas

***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 Burleson, Youth Pastor**

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
YOUTH SUNDAY

JUNE 5, 2016

“Like all walls it was ambiguous, two-faced. What was inside it and what was outside it depended upon which side of it you were on.”
— Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Dispossessed*”

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ✕

Steven Burleson

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.)

Special Announcement

Linda Miller, Supportive Housing Communities

Opening Voluntary

Jared Fischer

* Call to Worship

Jeremy Shoop

One: We gather in this space, a sacred place.

Many: **We gather here to break down walls.**

One: We lift our hands to pull out brick and stone.

Many: **Tearing down the walls that divide us.**

One: In its place, we plant trees of life in our midst.

All: **Trees to give shade and renewal for all.**

* Passing of the Peace

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

“ ‘Tis So Sweet”

'Tis so sweet to trust you, Jesus, just to take you at your word
Just to rest upon your promise, just to know that you are good.

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust you!
How I've proved you o'er and o'er,
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O, for grace to trust you more! (*And more, and more*)

O, how strong is your forgiveness, like a mighty river's flow!
Deep, I plunge, with full abandon, 'neath the healing, cleansing flood.
(*Refrain*)

Though the world may fall around me, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend,
This I know, that you are with me, will be with me to the end.
(*Refrain*)

“Instrument”

Where there is hatred Lord, let me sow your love
Where there's injury, let forgiveness be enough
Are we giving up, fighting the good fight
Where there is despair, just a flicker in the flame
Could break the veil of night

Refrain: Creator God and Son
O, Holy Spirit, three in One
I offer you myself, though I'm broken and spent
Let me be Your instrument

May I never seek, to be consoled as to console
May I understand, to be loved is to love, to be loved is to love

Let there be peace, pardoned in the pardoning
Born again when we die, You have raised us to new life

Children's Offering & Message

Steven Burleson

(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

Stephen F. Garvey

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Honoring our Graduates and Scholarship Presentation

Steven Burleson

Gift of Music

"Us For Them"

Music Cooperative

*When the lines are drawn, when you're in or out,
When it's us or them, and we shame the doubt,
It is all a lie, all we ever really need is love,
There's no need to shed more blood*

*Look upon the cross. Look upon the cross.
See the face of Christ; see the mercy in His eyes,
Every valley shall be lifted high.
Now our enemies are blessed, the heavy laden rest,
For His judgment is love*

*There is no more guilt, there is no more shame,
All our darkest sin, all our deepest pain.
Blessed are the poor, all the lonely broken lost and torn;
See a kingdom comes to us.
A war that's fought with love, our only war is love.*

*Prepare the way of the Lord, wielding mercy like a sword,
Every mountaintop will be made low.
Know, He holds the earth like dust, and His judgment comes to us,
And His judgment is love, His judgment is love.*

*We will not fight their wars, we will not fall in line,
Cause if it's us or them, it's us for them.
We reject the either or, they can't define us anymore,
Cause if it's us or them, it's us for them.*

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 7:11-17

Steven Burleson

Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!" This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

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.

Sermon

"Abject Bodies & Permeable Boundaries"

Steven Burleson

Offertory Invitation

Stephen F. Garvey

Offertory

S. R. Mercadante

"Concerto for Horn in D minor - *Larghetto*"
Jared Fischer, piano; Bill Tyler, French horn

* Offertory Dedication

Stephen F. Garvey

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

One: We invite all who celebrate Christ's life and love to join us at this table of fellowship.

All: We who have been wandering find a place here. Here with bread and wine we are welcomed by our true host, the Living Christ.

One: May those who are unsure find their place today. May those who have forgotten, rediscover joy in this sacramental welcome. We gather in the memory that we are called to be the people of God;

All: to participate expectantly in God's mission in the world.

One: Let us open ourselves to receive again the life which is given back to us

All: **that we might be the persons God intended.**

One: Let us celebrate the unknown, meeting it with confidence!

All: **All this we do because God so loved the world.**

One: Christ sat at the table with the twelve disciples and He took bread, and blessed, and broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." In like manner, he took the cup and said, "This is my blood of the covenant poured out for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

All: **As Jesus revealed the greatness of his love to his disciples, may we never forget His love and sacrifice for us. As Jesus showed us how to live, pouring out his life for others, may we never cease to see the face of Christ as we pour out our lives in service to each other.**

One: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

All: **Amen.**

One: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

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

Music during Communion

Jared Fischer

* Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

Spirit of freedom, Creator across the ages, may these few moments of re-membering bless this day and the days to come. May the spirit of the one who died that we might know what it means to live rest firmly within us. May we draw strength from Jesus' inner presence and face all that is to come in trust and hope. It is in his name that we give thanks for these sacred gifts and offer this prayer. Amen

* Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

Be thou my vision, O God of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
Guide me with thy hand when sight is obscured.
Fathering and Mothering, thy love is to me,
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only first in my heart,
High God of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High God of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

* Benediction

Steven Burleson

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. 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!

PICNIC TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Hosted by your Hospitality Team!

Join us following worship for fellowship and lots of fun!

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GAME DAY AND COOKOUT, JUNE 18

Holy Covenant Youth, parents, everyone is invited to participate in this inter-generational opportunity. On June 18th, we will have a cook out at **SHC- 2120 N. Davidson Street Charlotte**, from **12 noon - 2:30 pm**. We will be providing picnic food and drinks for 70 residents and the church volunteers. This will be a time to prepare, serve and get to know our neighbors. Linda Miller will be giving us a tour prior to the project. We will also play games with the residents; Pictionary, basketball, pool and card games. This is an important way for us to be present with folks in our community that are just getting back into housing. Contact **Steven Burleson** to RSVP. Donations welcomed. Next opportunity will be July 23.

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.

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. Note "Sandwich Ministry" in the memo of your check.

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*.

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

Elder of the Month: Yvette Ross

Greeters: Bill Hildebrand, Connie Hildebrand

Media: Brian Hankins, Joe Craig

Ushers: Kelly Gimlin, Jill Gregg, Barbara Schneller, Moses Taylor

Tabulators: Kelly Gimlin, Julie Klever

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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)