



## Silent Meditation

We've forgotten that a rich life consists fundamentally of serving others, trying to leave the world a little better than you found it. We need the courage to question the powers that be, the courage to be impatient with evil and patient with people, the courage to fight for social justice. In many instances we will be stepping out on nothing, and just hoping to land on something. But that's the struggle. To live is to wrestle with despair, yet never allow despair to have the last word.”

~ Cornel West

We pave the sunlit path toward justice together, brick by brick.

~ Tim Cook

If my own experience can be trusted, then God does not call us once but many times. There are calls to faith and calls to ordination, but in between there are calls to particular communities and calls to particular tasks within them... but we are not meant to hear them all by ourselves. It was part of God's genius to incorporate us as one body, so that our ears have other ears, other eyes, minds, hearts, and voices to help us interpret what we have heard.

~Barbara Brown Taylor

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

May 21, 2017

10:55 AM

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ☩

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Jesus, the man from Galilee, be with you!

**Many: And also with you!**

*(Please pass the friendship pads so that all worshippers  
might have the opportunity to sign them)*

Opening Voluntary

“Moonlight”  
*Kristin Andes, harp*

Susann McDonald

\* Call to Worship

Jerry Rhyne

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Living God has risen upon you.

**Many: We are gathered here today to worship, celebrate, and respond to the call of God.**

One: We have come to acknowledge God’s gifts in each other and to celebrate our students and the invitation of one among us to publicly serve in ministry.

**Many: We have come to reaffirm our own callings, to remember God’s call to each of us.**

One: God be with us so that our lips speak words of grace and hope, our feet move swiftly to assist the helpless,

**Many: Our hands grow strong in the cause of love and justice, our hearts quicken in the service of reconciliation and care, and our spirits encourage the oppressed and neglected.**

One: God be with us.

**Many: We shall be named ministers of our God.**

**All: Arise, shine, for our light has come.**

*\* All rise in body or spirit ☉ Sing Response ☩ Hymnals located below pews*

\* Passing of the Peace

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of God's peace, for the peace of God is here to stay.

Many: Thanks be to God.

\* Hymn

“We are Called”

AUSTRIAN HYMN

We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives God's grace,  
One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.

Let us show how Christ has changed us and remade us as his own;  
Let us share our life together as we shall around the throne.

We are called to be God's prophets, speaking for the truth and right;  
Standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil into light.

Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill,  
That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.

“How You Love”

You are jealous for me

Your love's like a hurricane, I am a tree

Bending beneath the weight of your wind and mercy.

When all of a sudden

I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory

And I realize just how beautiful you are

And how great your affections are for me

*Chorus I: And oh how you love us oh*

*Oh how you love us, how you love us so (Repeat All)*

*Chorus II: You love us, oh how you love us*

*Oh how you love us, oh how you love!*

We are your portion and you are our prize,

Drawn to redemption by the grace in your eyes,

If grace is an ocean, we're all sinking.

And heaven meets earth with the force of a kiss

And my heart turns violently inside of my chest

I don't have time to maintain these regrets

When I think about the way *(Chorus II)*

Children's Message & Offering

Nancy Ellett Allison

*(Following the Children's Message, preschoolers go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children's Church.)*

Recognizing our Graduates

Steven Burleson

Annika Decker, Hannah Magraw, Daniel Tugel

New Life Stories

Questions & Responses of the Confirmand

Steven Burleson

\* Commitment by the Congregation

Steven Burleson

**One:** Will the members of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ please rise and join in offering our commitments and welcome.

**Many:** **We welcome you and celebrate your journey of faith. We promise to search with you for truth in Scripture and beyond; to walk with you in joy and sorrow; to support you, laugh with you, share silence, song and sacrament and to grow in Christian love and mutual appreciation. We will rely on God's sustaining presence as we journey forward together.**

**Mentor:** On behalf of the entire congregation, it is my pleasure to welcome you, Annika, as a full member of this church. Annika, Hannah and Daniel, we graciously extend the blessings of our congregation and look forward in anticipation to what the future will hold for all of us as you journey into your new roles and commitments with our love and support.

Prayer of Commitment

Steven Burleson



## SERVICE OF ORDINATION TO MINISTRY FOR CYNTHIA D. COBLE

### THE GREETING

Rev. Jerry Rhyne  
*Minister of Church Affairs, WNCA*

### THE REQUEST OF THE CONGREGATION

Mr. Jeff Hughes  
*President, HCUCC Consistory*

### THE EXAMINATION

#### THE ACCLAMATION

Rev. Rhyne: People of God, you have heard the promises Cindy has made. What is your will?

Congregation: **By the grace of God, she is worthy! Let us ordain her. Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Rev. Rhyne: Will you support Cindy in the ministry of Christ?

Congregation: **We will.**

#### THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Rev. Rhyne: Let us pray...Bestow on her the power of your Holy Spirit, confirming what we do.

Congregation: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

### THE DECLARATION

Rev. Rhyne

Presentation of Gifts from the Congregation

Called as partners in Christ’s service,  
Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing,  
Side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfill God’s chosen end.

Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,  
Christ’s clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering,  
Reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer poorer,  
All God’s people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission,  
In a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other’s burdens,  
Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision,  
Words of challenge, said with care.  
Bring new power and strength for action,  
Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person’s sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living,  
Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace.

\* Benediction

Rev. Cindy Coble

Postlude

Jared Fischer

No matter who you are  
or where you are on your 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. 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.

### CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

**Annika Decker**, the daughter of Joy and Kevin Decker, will be graduating from Lake Norman Charter School. Annika has been accepted and received scholarships from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC.

**Hannah Magraw**, the daughter of Kristin Andes and Tom Magraw will be graduating from Providence High School. Hannah has decided to attend the University of South Carolina.

**Daniel Tugel**, the son of Diane and Max Tugel, will be graduating from Cuthbertson High School. Daniel will be attending Lincoln College of Technology in Nashville, Tennessee.

### ORDINATION OF CYNTHIA D. COBLE

Cindy Coble, a graduate of Mount Olive College and Hood Theological Seminary, also served as our interim Minister of Youth and was actively engaged with the congregation while living here. Cindy will be ordained by Holy Covenant and begin her ministry as a Correctional Chaplain with the Southern Correctional Institute in Troy, North Carolina where she served as a volunteer for four years. Her wife, Kelly Wright, has been a supportive sojourner with her on this life quest. They have two young adult sons, Jordan and Shelby, and now live in Fayetteville, NC.

### HOLY COVENANT INVITES PROPOSALS FOR NEW MINISTRY

Do you know someone with a passion for a new ministry? *Would it succeed in south Charlotte?* Can you help us spread the word about available grant funding? The article below tells some of the story. The website gives full details. <http://www.unconventionalpilgrims.org/>.

## SOJOURNERS CLASS~

### NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL GATHERING

Journey with us Sundays, as we continue to explore a video series entitled "How Jesus became God" presented by Professor of Religious Studies, Bart D. Ehrman from UNC Chapel Hill. Everyone is welcome and no preparation is needed. We'll gather in the **Conference Room** at 9:45 AM.

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

Elder for May: Kathleen Smith, kathleenie53@msn.com or 704-614-7674

Deacons for May: Lynn Chavarria, Sally Duffy

Recyclers: Lynn Chavarria

Greeters: Bill Hildebrand, Connie Hildebrand

Ushers: Barry Holcomb, Sue Pascucci

Media: Brian Hankins, Jim Hong, Olivia Carney

Tabulators: Lori Cipot, Terry Raley-Dennis

Refreshments: Bill & Kim Tyler, Debbie Davis

### 12X12SERVE. STAND UP. SHARE.

Take action with Missions & Justice!

**Call your NC state Representative to oppose the deep cuts to our state's environmental protection agency.** Among the many bad provisions in the Senate budget, some of the worst would:

- eliminate DEQ's recycling and waste reduction programs, and
- make cuts to key DEQ staff and 14 administrative positions in regional offices.

Slashing DEQ's funding will result in dirtier air and water. Fortunately, the NC House can take a reasonable approach to environmental spending, and fix these mistakes. This budget is bad for people and a gift to polluters. **Tell your Representative to support a budget that gives DEQ the resources required to do its job and protects our environment:**

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/representation/WhoRepresentsMe.aspx>



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Members

Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Ginny & Bob Fisher, Jim Humphrey, Helen Lambert, Melissa Noll, Irene Mikkelson, Alice Phelan, Yami Senturias, Isabelle Reddy Powell, Caroline Utz

### Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Karen Bergstrom (Eric Bergstrom), Mildred Edenfield (Donna Collins), Kathy Gibson (Jeff Edwards-Knight), Bill Funderburk, Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), Aaron Johnson (Joy Johnson), Ashley Jones (Annette Shoop), Chuck McAllister (Donna Collins), David McLelland (Joe McLelland), Aldo Sanchez (Alice Phelan), Jessie & Craig Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Jimmy Simmons, Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Doris Storie (Garrett Barlow), Myra Thompson (Robert Shepherd), Wayne & Libby Walters (Barry Holcomb)

*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.*

**Holy Covenant United Church of Christ**

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

**Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music**

**Mr. Steven Burleson, Youth & Young Adult Pastor**

**Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant**

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