



*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.*

### *Silent Meditation*

Let me tell you who you are. You are a ray of God's own light. You say you seek God, but a ray of light doesn't seek the sun; it's coming from the sun. You are a branch on the vine of God. A branch doesn't seek the vine; it's already part of the vine. A wave doesn't look for the ocean; it's already full of ocean.

~Martin Laird

Jesus pointed to something he called God's domain, something he did not create, something he did not control. I want to discover what Jesus saw, or heard, or sensed that was so enchanting, so mesmerizing, so challenging that it held Jesus in its spell. And I do not want to be misled by what his followers did: instead of looking to see what he saw, his devoted disciples tended to stare at the pointing finger.

~Robert W. Funk

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
TRINITY SUNDAY

June 11, 2017

10:55 AM

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ✕

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ 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

Jared Fischer

\* Call to Worship

Darin Spencer, Bill Hildebrand, Micah Baldonado

*(from Psalm 65 for SOC UCC River Vigil Sunday)*

One: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.  
The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people  
with grain, for so you have ordained it. You drench the land's  
furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless  
its crops.

**Many: We give you thanks for the land, the waters, for the rivers,  
the lifeblood of our communities. Rivers bring us beauty, they  
bring us nourishment, they bring us life more abundant.**

One: The waters of Lake Norman, filled from the Catawba River.  
God's marrow, God's life.

**Many: God's marrow, God's life.**

One: The waters of Lake Wylie, filled from the Catawba River as it  
flows into the Wateree. God's marrow, God's life.

**Many: God's marrow, God's life.**

One: The waters of the Jordon River, where Jesus knelt for baptism.  
God's marrow, God's life.

**Many: God's marrow, God's life.**

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

**One:** Living God of our salvation, you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;

**Many:** You make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

**One:** Living God of our salvation, may you bless these waters of baptism: God's marrow, God's life.

**Many:** God's marrow, God's life. God's love for all the world!

\* Passing of the Peace

Micah Baldonado

**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 275

"Come Now, Almighty God"

ITALIAN HYMN

Come now Almighty God,  
Help us your name to laud;  
Our songs we raise:  
Ruler all glorious, o'er all victorious  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days!

Come now, Incarnate Word,  
By heaven and earth adored;  
Our prayer attend:  
Come, and your people bless, and give your world success;  
Grant us your holiness, Savior and Friend!

Come, Holy Comforter,  
Your sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour.  
Your grace to us impart, now rule in every heart,  
Never from us depart, Spirit of Power!

To you, great One in Three,  
Eternal praises be  
For evermore,  
Your sovereign majesty may we in glory see,  
And to eternity love and adore.

“How You Love”

J.M. McMillan

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.)*

Psalter

Psalm 8

Sue Pascucci

O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?  
Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.  
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.  
O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

## THE SERVICE OF BAPTISM

*We celebrate the baptism of Grant Roger Bergstrom  
whose parents are Eric David & Edytka Rozalia Bergstrom.  
Godparents are Noah Helfand and Athena Skaff.*

### CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

**Pastor:** Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Grant Roger Bergstrom as he is baptized, and as he lives and grows in Christ?

**All:** **We covenant with this family to surround them with our love for the strengthening of their life together; to accept this child into our loving care for shared responsibility in his growth toward 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.**

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in,  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.

Do not be a - fraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name.  
Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I  
love you and you are mine.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and lyrical, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the song, the second staff the second line, the third staff the third line, and the fourth staff the final line. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

\* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:16-20

Steven Burleson

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Jesus, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

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 "Worship & Doubt, Majesty & Mystery" Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation Steven Burleson

Offering Music Jared Fischer

\* Offering Response LASST UNS ERFREUEN

φ Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\* Offertory Dedication Nancy Ellett Allison

\* Hymn 473 "Blessed Assurance" ASSURANCE

1. Bless-ed assurance, Je-sus is mine!  
O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,  
Born of the Spir-it, washed in Christ's blood.

*Refrain:* This is my sto-ry, this is my song  
Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long;  
This is my sto-ry, this is my song,  
Prais-ing my Sav-ior all ne day long.

2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, perfect de-light!  
Vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
An-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove  
Echoes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. *Refrain:*

3. Perfect submis-sion, all is at rest,  
I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blessed;  
Watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,  
Filled with God's good-ness, lost in Christ's love. *Refrain:*

\* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

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. 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.

### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARY, *FROM THE ASHES*

Plan to join us following the service for a light lunch and discussion of the film, *From the Ashes, shown earlier today*. The movie captures Americans in communities across the country as they wrestle with the legacy of the coal industry and what its future should be under the Trump Administration. *From the Ashes* invites audiences to learn more about an industry on the edge and what it means for their lives.

### NEW MEMBER/INQUIRER CLASSES

If you would like to get more involved, learn more about our congregation and the United Church of Christ, and join our church, we encourage you to attend our Inquirer's Classes. We will welcome new members July 16.

**June 18, 9:30 AM: Who We Are & What We Believe**

**June 25, 9:30 AM: History of UCC & Holy Covenant**

**July 9, Luncheon: Organization & Opportunities for Involvement**

Childcare is available for all age children. If you are interested in attending, please contact Debbie Davis, [debbiekdavisnc@gmail.com](mailto:debbiekdavisnc@gmail.com).

## **PLAY SET ASSEMBLY, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 10 AM**

Help “raise the barn”/assemble the play-swing set next Thursday! You don't need to be an expert with tools - having people to read the directions out loud and identify/sort the pieces will be very helpful. Contact Ann Watkins, [annhwatkins@gmail.com](mailto:annhwatkins@gmail.com), if you can assist on that day.

## **12x12 SERVE. STAND UP. SHARE.**

Take action with Missions & Justice! We need to be heard; we need to act! M&J wants to know how the people of Holy Covenant are responding to the many issues facing our people and our society today. Write your mission, drop it in the basket in the Gathering Room and M&J will track them as the year goes along.

- Salisbury Gay Pride Festival on **June 24**. Let's show the folks of Rowan County that we are welcoming to all and all are valued. Contact Joe Kiser for participation times, [icscoobydoo@icloud.com](mailto:icscoobydoo@icloud.com)
- Join in the HCUCC Earth Care Ministry. Contact Phil Kaveler for additional information, [pwkaveler@yahoo.com](mailto:pwkaveler@yahoo.com)
- A call to your member of the General Assembly stating your opposition to H.B. 746 would be an important advocacy step on behalf of North Carolinians. The Council's **Gun Violence Prevention** page offers a variety of denominational statements and liturgical resources that you might share to help your elected leaders appreciate your concern from a faith perspective.

## **SOJOURNERS CLASS~NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL GATHERING**

Join us for "How Jesus Became God" with Lecture 6 on Sunday, June 18 in the conference room. Also of interest, Kathy Izard, the author of *The Hundred Story Home*, which we read just recently will be at the Myers Park Branch of the public library on Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

## **BOOK CLUB MONDAY, JUNE 12**

The book club meets at 10:30 a.m. on the second Monday of the month at SouthPark Christian Church. We hope the you can join us for great discussions and fellowship.

June 12, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles discussion leader Sharon Landis; July 10, *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren, discussion leader Diane Burleson.

## **7TH ANNUAL SALISBURY PRIDE FESTIVAL, JUNE 24, 11AM -5PM**

Many thanks to the volunteers who have signed up to staff HCUCC's first ever booth for this event! All are welcome to drop by and show your support! [www.salisburypride.com](http://www.salisburypride.com)

## **2017 CHARLOTTE PRIDE FESTIVAL AND PARADE, AUGUST 26-27**

Save the date! HCUCC will have a booth again this year and your participation will be needed. Let's share the word that Holy Covenant and the UCC welcomes all! Contact Joe Kiser, [icscoobydoo@icloud.com](mailto:icscoobydoo@icloud.com) for more information. [www.charlottepride.org](http://www.charlottepride.org)

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

Elder for June: Jeff Hughes, [jeffhugh@msn.com](mailto:jeffhugh@msn.com) or 704-577-3068

Deacons for June: Martha Bomely, James Hong

Recyclers: Diane Rogers

Greeters: Anne Hayes, Lisa Sherman

Ushers: Kevin Edwards Knight, Tom Magraw, John Maze

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger, Olivia Carney

Tabulators: Kelly Gimlin, Terry Raley-Dennis

Refreshments: Eric & Edy Bergstrom

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Members

Laura Murphey & Lynn Helms in the death of Laura's father, C.A. "Pat" Murphey

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

### Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Linda Burby, Mildred Edenfield (Donna Collins), Kathy Gibson (Jeff Edwards-Knight), Peace Hale (Ben Hale), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), Ashley Jones (Annette Shoop), Chuck McAllister (Donna Collins), David McLelland (Joe McLelland), Aldo Sanchez (Alice Phelan), Naomi Scheiperpeter, Jessie & Craig Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Becky Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Doris Storie (Garrett Barlow), Myra Thompson (Robert Shepherd), Virginia Tomlinson (Tommy Tomlinson & Alix Felsing), 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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