



Silent Meditation

Spirituality is, ultimately, about what we do with that desire. What we do with our longings, both in terms of handling the pain and the hope they bring us, that is our spirituality.

~ Ronald Rohlheiser

The first duty of love is to listen.

~ Paul Tillich

God must be at least personal, for that is the greatest mystery.

~ Paul Tillich

Courage is not simply one of the virtues but the form of every virtue at the testing point, which means at the highest point of reality.

~ C. S. Lewis

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST ~ REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 28, 2018

Gathering Music

Kathleen Smith

Welcome and Announcements

Nancy Ellett Allison

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

Kathleen Smith

* Call to Worship

Psalm 34

Keith Dennis

One: I will bless the Living God at all times;
God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**Many: My soul makes its boast in God;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

One: O magnify the Almighty One with me,
and let us exalt God's name together.

**Many: I sought the Living One,
who answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

One: Look to God, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**Many: This poor soul cried, and was heard by God,
and was saved from every trouble.**

One: The angel of the Living God encamps
around those who fear God, and delivers them.

**Many: O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God.**

One: O fear God, all holy ones,
for those who fear God have no want.

**Many: The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Living God lack no good thing.**

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

* Passing of the Peace Keith Dennis
One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of peace, for the peace
of Christ is here to stay.
Many: **Thanks be to God!**

* Hymn 439 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” EIN’ FESTE BERG

Children’s Message Nancy Ellett Allison
*(Following the Children’s Message, pre-schoolers go to extended care and
those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children’s Church.)*

Stewardship Witness Nancy Ellett Allison

* Hymns of Reflection “Open My Eyes”
words & music by Clara Scott

**Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth You have for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unlock and set me free.
Silently now I wait for You, ready my God, Your will to see,
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth You send so clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will
disappear.
Silently now I wait for You, ready my God, Your will to see,
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my mouth, and let me bear, gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare love with Your children thus to
share.
Silently now I wait for You, ready my God, Your will to see,
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

“I Am Willing”
words & music by Holly Near

**I am open and I am willing, to be hopeless would seem so strange;
It dishonors those who go before us so lift me up to the light of change.**

“Amazing Grace”
words & music by John Newton

**Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
T'was blind but now I see**

**T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
T'was grace that brought us safe thus far
And grace will lead us home,**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

Prayers of the People

Nancy Ellett Allison

Gospel Lesson

Mark 10: 46-52

Nancy Ellett Allison

(Jesus) came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly

ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Jesus stood still and said, ‘Call him here.’ And they called the blind man, saying to him, ‘Take heart; get up, he is calling you.’ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ The blind man said to him, ‘My teacher, let me see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has made you well.’ Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Sermon “What Do You Want?” Anne Findlay-Chamberlain

Offertory Invitation Nancy Ellett Allison

Offering Music Kathleen Smith

* Offering Response 55 MARION

**φ 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 Nancy Ellett Allison

The Reception of New Members

Questions of the Candidates Nancy Ellett Allison

Response of the Congregation

One: Will the members of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ please rise and join in the mutual promise and welcome?

* Many: **We welcome each of you and celebrate your journey of faith. We promise to search with you for truth in Scripture, word and witness; to walk with you in life’s joys and sorrows; to support you when life is shaken; to laugh with you when life lifts your spirit; to 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.**

Greeting of Christian Love

Hosts: *On behalf of the entire congregation, it is our pleasure to welcome you as full members of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love and welcome.*

* Hymn 526

“We are Walking in the Light of God”

SIYAHAMBA

We are walking in the light of God;
We are walking in the light of God. *(repeat)*
We are walking (walking, we are walking)
Oh, we are walking in the light of God. *(repeat)*

Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. *(repeat)*

Si-ya-ham-ba (ham-ba, si-ya-ham-ba)
Oh, Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. *(repeat)*

We are singing in the light of God...

* Benediction

Anne Findlay-Chamberlain

* Benediction Response 391

NEW DIMENSIONS

φ God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar;
We, your people, ours the journey now and ever,
Now and ever, now and evermore.

Postlude

Kathleen Smith

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.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members Cherie and Bobby Maestas. Many thanks to our host Suzanne Lamorey, for guiding our new members.

PLEASE WELCOME GUEST PREACHER THE REV ANNE FINDLAY-CHAMBERLAIN

Rev. Anne Findlay-Chamberlain is an ordained United Church of Christ pastor, and serves with *In Christ Supporting Ministries*, a validated ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte, where she focuses on practical spirituality. After serving as senior pastor in Hawaii for 15 years, she is now practicing spiritual direction for individuals and groups, and leads retreats. She and her spouse, Rod, have two adult children and four grandchildren.

MINISTRY DURING OUR INTERIM: THANK YOU TO KATHLEEN SMITH

Kathi Smith has been a member of Holy Covenant since 2002 and throughout her membership has been engaged in our music ministries. We are grateful to Kathi for leading us in worship today as we begin this interim time together.

CHOIR REHEARSAL FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Following worship today you are welcome to stay and join our choir for Advent and Christmas music rehearsals. Most Sundays following worship we will be gathering. Share your musical gifts with Holy Covenant and join the choir! Contact Lisa Cloninger at lisacmsw@hotmail.com for more info.

WHAT SHALL I BRING?

Thanks to everyone who has responded with information on their planned giving to Holy Covenant for 2019. The current totals are General Fund, \$120,730 or 61% of goal, and Building Fund, \$ 38,870 or 77% of goal. Please prayerfully consider what you will bring to Holy Covenant in 2019 and respond on your planned giving as soon as possible. An online commitment can be made at HolyCovenantUCC.org.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR NOVEMBER 10-11

HCUCC's Annual Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for the weekend of November 10-11. Setup is on Saturday, with a reception and early sale event that evening. The bazaar will continue Sunday morning before and after the church service. If you plan to participate. contact Kim Tyler, yhr762@yahoo.com or Kay Smith at happyartbykay@gmail.com.

ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK, NOVEMBER 18

Our 2018 Annual Meeting is our opportunity to discuss and share the work of the church with the entire congregation. To conduct the business of the church we need a quorum - and that means we need our members present! If you have any questions about the annual meeting, please contact Consistory President **Jeff Edwards Knight**.

A potluck will follow the meeting. Please bring a main dish, salad, or dessert. Beverages will be provided.

HCUCC YOGA4ALL, WEDNESDAYS

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities....Beginners and those who are yoga-curious are encouraged to attend. Join us at 7:30 PM

HCUCC BOOK CLUB

The HCUCC book club reading schedule:

November 14- Varina by *Charles Frazier* discussion leader is Jon Heaslet
We meet at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP - KEEP IT SIMPLE!

To help keep us organized, we are now using an electronic signup for volunteers called **SignUpGenius**. You can use the link below to sign up, and you can still sign up on paper if you prefer. <https://tinyurl.com/hcuccsnacks>

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT 2019, JANUARY 18-21 AT BRCC

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly (Micah 6:8). Registration and information at www.UCCWinterYouthRetreat.org. Contact Dawn in the church office if you plan to attend.

UPPER ROOM MINISTRY, NOVEMBER 12-16

HCUCC's *Upper Room Ministry*-can you join us for a meaningful time of prayer, bible study or conversation, with our neighbors at Urban Ministry Center? If so, please contact Phil Kaveler, pwkaveler@yahoo.com. November 12-16, 12-12:30 pm.

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

Elder for October: Faye Humphrey, fghumphrey@yahoo.com or 704-618-2750

Deacons for October: Joe Behr-Stenzel, Debbie Davis

Greeters: Carl Johnson, Phyllis Johnson

Ushers: Shakti Subramanian, Michael Sladek, Eileen Howe

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger, Renee Brown

Tabulators: Terry Raley Dennis, Karen Long

Refreshments: Bob Saylor

Recyclers: Phil Kaveler

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Friends and family in the death of Isley Mae Whitfield

Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Donna Collins, Kevin, Joy & Ben Decker, Linn Finger, Jill Gregg, Eileen Howe, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Ed Sharp, Caroline Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Caryn Capps, Ashley & Baby Evelyn Kate Cregan (Barbara Schneller), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George Jongeling (Darline Warren), Joe Robinson (Bill & Kim Tyler), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Beckye Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary West (John Rapp), Wanda Williams (John Rapp), Twana Deese (Donna Collins), Family of Rick (Donna Collins).

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Rev. Frederick D. Robinson, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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