

The United Church of Phelps
January 23, 2022

Announcements, Joys & Concerns (Liturgist)

Prayer for Joys & Concerns (Pastor)

Loving God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, we ask you to heal those known to us today who suffer from illness of any kind. Soothe those whose bodies ache, and calm those with anxious and worried minds. Cast out all that we carry within, that we don't need, and teach us to trust you with our entire being. Help us to proclaim the message of wholeness and salvation that you have taught us, for we strive to be your faithful disciples. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Centering Music: Prelude on "St. Crispin" (arr by Matthew Pascazio) tune: St. Crispin by George Elvey

Call to Worship (Liturgist)

Leader: Come along with me as a sojourner in faith. Bring along a sense of expectancy, a vision of high hopes, a glimpse of future possibility, a vivid imagination. For God's creation is not done.

People: We are called to pioneer a new future with God. As we venture forward, we leave behind our desires for a no-risk life, worldly accumulations, and certainty.

Leader: Let us travel light in the spirit of faith and expectation toward the God of our hopes and dreams.

People: Come along together as sojourners in faith, knowing that God goes with us and God is here now!

Hymn Take Time to Be Holy

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in him always, and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,
And run not before him, whatever be tide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

Call to Confession (Liturgist)

We know that we have not lived according to God's desires for us. The brokenness in the world, and the sin and emptiness in our hearts, threaten to consume us. Yet God is our hope and our firm foundation. Let us confess our sin before our gracious God.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, forgive us for failing to understand and accept the great demands placed upon us by your love. We enlist in your causes, but find ourselves losing interest. We promise to be courageous, but find ourselves afraid. We want to be sensitive, but find ourselves hard and callous. Forgive us; take our limitations and turn them into possibilities for service. Have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear this good news. Jesus Christ is our Savior! His power is unequalled, his grace is unrestrained, his strength is steadfast, and his embrace is sufficient to carry all that we are and hope to be. Friends, believe the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings (Pastor)

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts of time, talents and treasures. Use us, and what we have gathered, to feed the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Chat (Pastor)

Scripture Reading: Luke 4:14-21

Biblical Storytelling by Donna Crouse

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. ¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Message (Pastor)

Want a piece of P.I.E.?

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (Pastor)

Lord God, we give you thanks for all your gifts to us — for daily food, for health, for each breath we take, for freedom to choose, and for the gifts of your word, your power and your love. Our hearts are truly overwhelmed, O God, when we consider how you have entrusted so much to us. May we be worthy of that trust. May we be a people who are unafraid to live as fully and as richly as you want us to live. Help us, O God, as followers of Jesus, to multiply all that you have given us, to risk spreading your word, to gamble by loving those whom others think worthy only of hate, to take chances by doing good to those who have not done good to us. Help us be faith-filled and desire to increase your glory and your goodness in this world. Make us people who share in both word and deed that which you have given to us. We pray all this in Jesus' name who taught us to pray...

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow

I can hear my Savior calling, I can hear my Savior calling,
I can hear my Savior calling, Take thy cross and follow, follow me.

Refrain

Where he leads me I will follow, where he leads me I will follow, where he leads me I will follow; I' go with him, with him all the way.

I'll go with him through the garden, I'll go with him through the garden,
I'll go with him through the garden, I'll go with him, with him all the way.

Refrain

I'll go with him through the judgement, I'll go with him through the judgement
I'll go with him through the judgement, I'll go with him, with him all the way.

Refrain

Blessing (Pastor)

May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.
May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need.
May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.
Go in peace and go with God!

Departing Music Fanfare in G by John Dixon