



Faith

UNITED CHURCH *of Christ*

Sunday, March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Ted Brelsford | Pastor
Rev. Gary Burdick | Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Ruth Foley | Organist



Holy Humor Sunday

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Time of Silent Preparation

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist – Rev. Kayti Dean

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

People: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

INVOCATION

***HYMN** *Open My Eyes, That I May See* Gray Book #557

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not keep me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 18: 10-12, 21: 1-7

PSALM (read antiphonally) Psalm 150

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

***HYMN** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Black Book #2171

SCRIPTURE READING John 9: 1-41

SERMON “Laughter is the Best Medicine”

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD’S PRAYER

***HYMN** *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Gray Book #629, x2

***GIFTS and OFFERINGS** *There is an offering plate on the small table near doors as you exit the sanctuary. May God bless the missions of our church and the needs of the world through the gifts of our resources. Amen.*

***DOXOLOGY**

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING**

“Shalom To You Now”

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

***POSTLUDE**

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

For peace in this country and the world, for our military, for all who are at war, and those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. For those whose needs we do not know. For Bill Bates, Vickie Bieger, Sue Cook, Eleanor Cornwall, Stephen Dearth, Shay Decinney, Judy Delia, Barb Fink, Louise

Forney, Pat Granville, Jim Henry, Marcia Herren, Scot Kish, Eleanor Kraft, Carol Mueller, Phillis Potter, Claudia Renzi, Loretta Rishel, Tom & Marilyn Rucker, Joe Ryan, Sally Schutt, Fred Shear, Linda Smerka, Janet Taber, Bob Tills, and Joyce Whittemore.

For Those in the Military: Zachary Braun, Justin Buczek, Teegan Partridge, Cadan Skinner, Jamie-Lynn Smerka, Joe Solak, Mark Solak, Aaron Wellman and Mark Williams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pastor Ted is leading a book study on Thursdays during Lent February 23 – March 30, in the Gathering Room and on Zoom, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- There will be a **food drive** during the month of March **for VALOR** of Western New York which serves veterans. Items may be brought in and placed in the box by the secretary's office. Let us not forget those that are less fortunate than us this spring.
- There will be a **Christian Education meeting on March 26** following worship.
- The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00pm.
- Women's Support will not have a meeting in March.
- We will have a Maundy Thursday communion service on April 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a time of reflection and remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples as we share communion with one another.
- Reminder:

Weidner Chicken BBQ
Here at Faith United Church of Christ

On Saturday, March 25

11:30am – 3:00 pm

Or until they are sold out

Drive up take out only \$15.00

Includes ½ chicken, salt potato, macaroni salad,
roll and butter