



**Faith**  
UNITED CHURCH of Christ

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

Sunday, February 16, 2025  
10:15 a.m. Worship Service

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

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## WELCOME

*Time of Silent Preparation for Worship*

## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 1)

Leader: Happy are those who follow in God's ways.

**People: God's ways are just and merciful.**

Leader: Those who follow God's ways are continually  
nourished in faith.

**People: In all that they do, they prosper.**

Leader: Come, let us open our hearts to God's compassionate  
love.

**All: Let us celebrate God's mercy and justice. AMEN.**

## INVOCATION

\***HYMN** *God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven* Gray, #366 vs. 1,2,3

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,  
we have sinned  
in what we have thought and said,  
in the wrong we have done  
and in the good we have not done.  
We have sinned in ignorance,  
we have sinned in weakness,  
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry.  
We repent and turn to you.  
Forgive us, and renew our lives  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

**\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

**\*THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

**CHILDREN'S LESSON**

**SCRIPTURE READING**          Jeremiah 17:5-10

**ANTIPONAL READING**          Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on the law they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water  
which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not  
wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

**The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
**for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**\*HYMN** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Gray, #45

**SCRIPTURE READING**          Luke 6:17-26

**SERMON** *"Of Blessings and Woes"*

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER** (Arieanna Zawistowski)

Promises of the Congregation: We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love, and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

## PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

\***HYMN** *We Walk by Faith* Black, #2196 vs. 1,3

\***GIFTS and OFFERINGS** *There is an offering plate on the table at the entrance to 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**

**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. And also for those whose needs we do not know. Bill Bates, Vickie Bieger, Sue Cook, Gary Cook, Stephen Dearth, Sonne Durphy, Barb Fink, Louise Forney, Scot Kish, Eleanor Kraft, Carol Mueller, Claudia Renzi, Chuck & Sheila Recktenwalt, Tom & Marilyn Rucker, Joe Ryan, 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, Justin Slighter (Air Force), Joe Solak, Mary Solak, Aaron Wellman, and Mark Williams.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Confirmation class meets today** at 11:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room.
- Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> **Board Meeting** 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> **Worship & Music Group Meeting** 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> **Women's Group** preparing meal for Grace House.
- Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> **PPRC Meeting** after worship.
- **Mediation class** at the church on Thursdays at 6:30. If interested, please contact Katherine Meckes ([katherine.meckes@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.meckes@gmail.com), 716-697-2296).

## OPERATING BUDGET INCOME & EXPENSES

Average weekly operating expenses: \$2492  
Offering collection from February 9, 2025: \$7355  
Current: \$7345 Benevolent: \$10  
Attendance on Sunday, February 9, 2025: 33