

## **Serving Us Today**

**Disciples:** All Members

**Organist:** Ginny Beamish

**Minister:** Don Crist

**Altar Decoration:** Becky Pierce

**Liturgist:** Karen Spear

**Head Usher:** Mike Beamish

**Choir Director:** Becky Pierce

**Counters:** Mike Beamish &  
John Gibbons

## **This Week**

|   |          |                                       |
|---|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Today, Sunday, February 5 <sup>th</sup> | 9:30 am  | Sunday School                         |
|   | 10:30 am | Worship                               |
| Monday, February 6 <sup>th</sup>        | 6:30 pm  | Grandparent's<br>Support Group @ TGP  |
| Wednesday, February 8 <sup>th</sup>     | 10:00 am | History Team                          |
|   | 10:00 am | Membership &<br>Outreach              |
|   | 6:00 pm  | Choir                                 |
| Thursday, February 9 <sup>th</sup>      | 10:00 am | Twisted Stitchers                     |
| Saturday, February 11 <sup>th</sup>     | 12:00 pm | Macrame Worship<br>in Fellowship Hall |

***Wi-Fi Network: Welcome  
Passcode: hereiamlord***

**God is Still Speaking,**



**February 5, 2023**

**“The Meek”**

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

**130 S Walnut St**

**Troy, OH 45373**

**(937) 335-2028**

**Pastor Don Crist**

## INTROIT

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

### BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**PRELUDE** "Bread and Wine" Richard Blake

**OPENING WORDS** (Liturgist) Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10)

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Praise the Holy One! Be in awe of God!*

**People: Happy are those who delight in the Holy One's presence!**

*Liturgist: Arise for what is right. Be pursuers of justice.*

**People: Happy are those who delight in the Holy One's power!**

### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

**Sovereign God, we gather as a community to worship you in spirit and in truth. May we resist empty actions. Let our rituals and routines hold meaning and connect us to you. May we seek an encounter with you to receive your revelation and be transformed, healed, and renewed. Let it be so. Amen.**

\*HYMN: #23 "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven" (Red Hymnal)

**SCRIPTURE READING** (Liturgist) Matthew 5:1-5, 20:20-24

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "Thy Word" Michael W. Smith & Amy Grant



### Giving Statements

Giving statements are out and are in envelopes in the Narthex alphabetically.

### Adult Sunday School

Sunday school will be at 9:30am next Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> in the café. Next week's topic will be "From Literal to Loving – Declaring My Belief with Kindness" with Mike Beamish leading.

### Help Wanted!

Calling a few people who can tell the difference between a microphone and a flutophone! You might just be qualified to help us re-launch the Facebook Live program on Sunday mornings! We have had a request to start recording the service live again but we can't do it without people willing to be on a team to run the equipment, focus the camera, and turn it off again. Let us know if you are interested in helping in this way. Call the office, text the pastor, or just talk to us on Sunday morning.

### Grandparent Support Group

The Gathering Place is hosting a support group for grandparents raising grandchildren. It will be monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6:30-7:30p facilitated by Pastor Ann Marie Winters. To register, call Ann Marie at (330) 469-6296.

## **BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP**

Pastor Don Crist

**ALL:** And so we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Breath of God, Renewer of life, settle on these gifts and all who gather here, that we might be transformed in our remembrance of your radical love, your eternal embrace, and your grace that makes all things news.

For the sake of our shared lives, the life of this land on which we live, and the lives of those yet to come, nourish us and renew our hope that soon Christ may rise again among us.

### **SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS**

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Don Crist

**SONG:** “Change My Heart, O God” (see previous page)

#### **BENEDICTION**

Don Crist

#### **POSTLUDE**

“Vivace”

Robert

Schuman

*(All hymns used by permission, CCLI License# 11076943)*

**A TIME FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES:** Ginny will be leading us in song. All under 5 are invited to gather together in the Sunday School area at the conclusion of this time.

#### **MORNING PRAYER**

Don Crist

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

#### **SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING**

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Don shares the morning message.

#### **SERMON**

“The Meek”

Don Crist

#### **OFFERTORY INVITATION (Liturgist)**

The generous life imagines the possibilities of the kingdom of God realized through the sharing of our gifts. Generosity glorifies God and connects us as neighbors. When we give of our time, talent, and treasure, we declare our trust in the abundance of God’s continuing creative acts and participate in the realization of the kingdom on earth.

#### **OFFERTORY**

“Melody”

Robert Schumann

#### **\*DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**God of Heaven and Earth, receive our gifts as a deposit of trust in your faithfulness and a seed of hope for the flourishing of your kingdom. Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN**

If there are children in worship this morning, we invite them to come to the front for a few moments with Pastor Don. It is important that children know that they, too, are welcome at Christ's communion table.

**SONG OF PREPARATION: "Change My Heart, O God"**

Change our hearts, O God, make them ever true.

Cleanse our hearts, O God, May we be like you.

You are the Potter, we are the clay.

Mold us and make us, this is what we pray.

Change our hearts, O God, make them ever true.

Change our hearts, O God, may we be like you.

You are the Potter, we are the clay.

Mold us and make us, this is what we pray.

Change our hearts, O God, make them ever true.

Change our hearts, O God, may we be like you.

PASTOR: God calls us, community of saints, beloved of God, we are invited to come and gather at the table of love and belonging, to feast on the dreams of God, to be nourished by a taste of what God desires to do among us.

*LITURGIST: God calls us from halls of power, from labor and places of business; God calls us from classrooms and pulpits, hospitals and homes.*

PASTOR: God calls us as we are, from wherever we are, to come and be in beloved community with Christ, who lives and loves in every corner of our world.

*LITURGIST: God whispers "come" and live abundantly, turning from all that claim blessings flow from money, power, or control.*

PASTOR: Come, and love relentlessly; following Christ on paths of uncertainty, taking risks for one another, calling down unjust power from its throne and lifting up the lowly, the impoverished, the burdened.

**PEOPLE: To answer the call of Christ is to find ourselves no matter our social location, choosing to align ourselves with the oppressed, the sad, the lonely, the outcast, and the isolated, with the faith that together, we might experience new possibilities of healing, of connection, of freedom from all that destroys.**

PASTOR: When these are the desires of our hearts, we open ourselves to God.

*LITURGIST: Blessed are the meek, Jesus said, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

PASTOR: And so let us come to the table, expectant, eager, open to tasting the rich blessings of heaven born from unexpected places, and people, and experiences.

**PEOPLE: In this meal, we remember the life, death, and resurrection of the One who still takes on flesh among us today.**