

# **Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ**

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## **February 2nd, 2020**

*“Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ, will be an active family of faith in North Central Licking County, dedicated to building awareness of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit through meaningful worship, diverse service, and genuine fellowship.” - Mission Statement*



“So what if being born of the Spirit is something more like childbirth? But not just one and done. In my experience, being born anew—the pain and the beginning—is an ongoing series of births: repeatedly over the years, multiple instances of ripping pain followed by rushes of joy, hope, and possibility.”

*-Dani Scoville, Modern Metanoia*

Rev. Scott Schieber, Pastor

Mae Pound, Moderator

Debbie Smetts, Office Administrator / Newsletter Editor

Congregation, Ministers All

**Pianist: 8:30a** Sue Steele **Organist: 10:30a** Patsy Farmer

**Acolyte: 10:30a** Keegan Andrews-Gartner

**10:30a Greeter / Ushers:** Brad & Allyson Patton

**Liturgists: 8:30a** Christine Ramsey **10:30a** Amy Gartner





**February 2nd, 2020**

*8:30a & 10:30 a.m. service*

*\* stand if you are able † = 10:30 a.m. service only †† = 8:30 a.m. service only*

## **Ringling of the Bell**

### **Prelude**

### **Acolytes †**

### **Welcome**

**\* Hymn of Praise †**

*Immortal, Invisible*

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### **Call to worship**

**Leader:** Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world, God loves the world; we are the beloved!

**People:** **May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today, and renew our sense of calling.**

**Leader:** So come, with your tiredness, your frustrations and your discouragements; come with your doubts, your fears, and your longings; come, to discover yet again how Jesus reveals God's love and mercy.

**People:** **We come, in friendship to God and to each other, and in friendship to the world, to listen for God's Word to us, to offer our prayers, and to renew our calling.**

### **Prayer of Invocation**

#### **Old Testament Text**

**Psalm 112:1-9 (NRSV)**

Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments. <sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. <sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. <sup>4</sup>They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. <sup>5</sup>It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice. <sup>6</sup>For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. <sup>7</sup>They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD. <sup>8</sup>Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. <sup>9</sup>They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord!

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

#### **\* Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen**

#### **New Testament Text**

**I Corinthians 2:1-12 (NRSV)**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. <sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.

<sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— <sup>10</sup> these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

## **Joys and Concerns / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer**

*Candle Dedication: Terri Neal's Birthday.*

*Prayers for Our UCC Congregations: David's UCC, Canal Winchester*

## **Sharing of our Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

#### **\* Doxology**

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

#### **\* Offertory Prayer**

#### **\* Hymn †**

*Love Lifted Me*

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### **New Testament Text**

**John 3:1-17 (NRSV)**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

### **Sermon**

**Rev. Scott Schieber**

#### **\* Morning Hymn ††**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

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## **Holy Communion**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**God, you loved this world so much that you sent your own son, Jesus Christ to live and die among us, in order that we might have life. Forgive us for keeping that abundant life to ourselves, for jealously hoarding your generous gifts, for choosing self-interest over compassion and justice. Teach us what it means to live as children of the light, generously sharing your abundance with our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Loving God, we offer our thanks and praise for your mercy, for your love, for your kinship with us through Christ Jesus. Let us take the warmth we receive around your table out in love and friendship with the world around us. Amen.**

\* Hymn †

*In the Garden*

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\* **Benediction / Response -**

*Let There be Peace on Earth*

**Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally, let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

### **Postlude**

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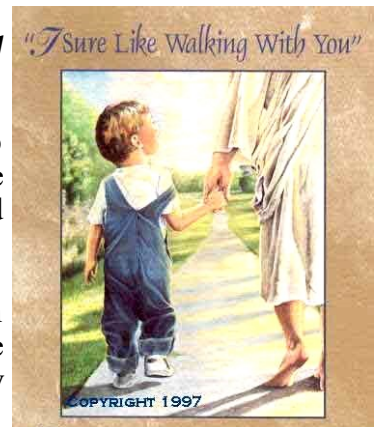
### ***If you have children... Sunday School is Offered during our 10:30a Service***

-**Newborn – 2 yrs old**, A Cry Room is available for your use during the worship service. It is located above the Sanctuary. You can use the stairs located through the door directly to the left as you exit the main doors of the Sanctuary. You can hear and see the service from this room.

- **3 yrs old - K**; your child is invited to Sunday School with our BUGs (Born Under God's Sun), which meets in the Lower Level Learning Center. To get to the LLLC, exit the sanctuary, go down the steps, and turn left and find the doorway which leads to the steps leading into the LLLC.

- **1st Grade – 3rd Grade**...your child is invited to Sunday School with our TIGERs (Trusting In God for Every Reason), which meets in the Lower Level Learning Center. To get to the LLLC, exit the sanctuary, go down the steps, and turn left and find the doorway which leads to the steps leading into the LLLC.

- **4th Grade – 7th Grade**...your child is invited to Sunday School which meets in the Lower Level Learning Center. To get to the LLLC, exit the sanctuary, go down the steps, and turn left and find the doorway which leads to the steps leading into the LLLC



### ***If you are visiting...***

Welcome! We pray that you'll find our worship service meaningful and uplifting, and our congregation welcoming and friendly. We know that coming to a new church can be a little uncomfortable. If we can assist you in any way, please let us know! During the worship service, please be sure to provide contact information on our pew pads so Pastor Scott can reach out and thank you for attending.

### ***If you have been attending ....***

and would like to be more involved in the worship service or other events, we have a number of support roles you could participate in.

When you hear Rev. Scott talk about signing up in the **Binder** or see "**sign up in the binder**" written anywhere, it is the **blue notebook** that is being passed around the sanctuary during the service. This notebook has all the available Positions, Mission Outreach Projects and Events that are currently open for volunteers or are happening at our church.

## Announcements and Information

**Utica Food Pantry Needs Volunteers** - Thursdays 2:30-5:30p. If you would like to help, even occasionally, please contact Pat Burress directly at 740-507-9862 to get on the schedule .

**Monday Noon Bible Studies** - This year we are using *Living Unafraid* by Adam Hamilton as a guide for our study. This is Hamilton's latest book. We will look at a devotion each week and the scripture he addresses. This book is available on Amazon and in electronic formats. Please bring the book and your Bible. We will pick up in January.

**Pastor Scott's Door is Open on Tuesdays by appointment.**

**Liturgist / Greeter Training** - Sunday, February 9th 9:35-10:20a. If you like to read, you can do this. Any aged reader is welcome.

**Fellowship Ministry Meeting** - Sunday, February 9th at 9:30a

**Quilt Club** - Wednesday, February 12th 6:30p

**TIGERs Activity Nite** - Sunday, February 16th at 6p

**Slipper Day** - Fun Day Sunday February 23rd. Everyone wear your favorite slippers to church.

**Cocoa and Cookies** - Sunday, February 23rd from 9:30-10:30a. The Fellowship Ministry will serve a hot cocoa bar and there is a sign-up sheet in the binder if you would be able to provide cookies.

**Fat Tuesday** - February 25th please plan to gather at Tee Jaye's Restaurant in Newark at 6p.

**Ash Wednesday** - February 26th. A lite meal at 6p and our worship service at 7p.

### Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ Prayer List

#### Prayer Concerns within our Family of Faith:

Betty Nash Gayle Gibson Bob Tucker Dave Nash Larry Smetts Ned Campbell  
Tom Siegel Becky Wright Marcie Williams Ed Hoskinson Jane Lake Donna Shipley  
Laurie Garno Owen Storts Angie Alexander Jim Farmer Austin Campbell Holly Berry

#### Prayers for our Shut-in:

Goldie Campbell

**Prayers for Our UCC Congregations:** David's UCC, Canal Winchester

**Prayers for Our Greater Church Family:** *(This list to start over every month)*



John Stout	Stewart Krulikowski & Family
Sharon Mummey	Theresa Gonda
Mark Frick	Sherry Gibson
Marsha King	Jesse Buchanan
Judy Schmoll	Christine Schmidt
Pat Toops	Lane Gibson
Chrissy King	



Continued prayers for all the troops that protect and serve this country and prayers of comfort for their families as they wait for their safe return. Chase Lasko, Tanner MacLachlan, Jared Grace, Nate Comer

In memoriam for the Family of: **Lois Rodenisin**

**This Week at Highwater, February 3rd - February 9th**

<b>Monday 3</b>	<b>Tuesday 4</b>	<b>Wednesday 5</b>	<b>Thursday 6</b>	<b>Friday 7</b>	<b>Saturday 8</b>	<b>Sunday 9</b>
<p>Pastor Scott Available</p> <p>Noon Bible Study</p>	<p>Pastor Scott Available</p>	<p>Pastor Scott Available</p> <p>Debbie in Church Office</p>  <p>Happy Anniversary David &amp; Jennifer Snyder</p>	<p>Pastor Scott Available</p> <p>Debbie in Church Office</p>	 <p>Happy Birthday Terri Neal</p>		<p>8:30a Worship Service</p> <p>9:30a Reader/ Liturgist Training</p> <p>Fellowship Ministry Meeting</p> <p>10:30a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30a Sunday School</p>

**Pastor Scott (c) 614 - 226 -1314**

**Scripture for Next Sunday, February 9th  
John 9:1-14 Psalm 119:1-8 I Corinthians 3:1-9**