



“Bountiful” by Mike Moyers, 2018.

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Laura Blanco, Pastor
Matt Lawrenz, Musician
Liturgist, Randene Wick

www.uccmke.org
www.facebook.com/groups/christchurchucc

Welcome to Christ Church UCC! Today we explore stewardship themed scriptures for this Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost with guest preacher, Rev. Laura Blanco. All are welcome!

Prelude

Amazing Grace

Stamm

Words of Welcome

Opening Song

For the Beauty of the Earth

#40

Call and Response

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

Many: I will sing praises to God all my life long.

One: Happy are those whose help is in God, creator of heaven and earth, who is forever faithful;

Many: seeking justice for the oppressed and for the hungry;

One: setting prisoners free and opening the eyes of the blind;

Many: lifting up those who are bowed down and loving the righteous.

One: The Lord protects strangers and upholds the orphan and widow;

Many: but the way of the wicked is brought to ruin.

One: The Lord our God will reign forever, for all generations.

All: Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer

The Gloria

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Music and Words: Paul M. Vasile

Children's Lesson

A Life That Matters: Generosity

A Lesson from the Hebrew Bible

1 Kings 17: 8-16

⁸Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹"Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son." ¹⁴For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

A Lesson from the Gospels

Mark 12:38-44

³⁸As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Sermon

Rev. Laura Blanco

Sermon Response

He Comes to Us As One Unknown

#412

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

**All: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify,
You call the worlds into being,
 create persons in your own image
 and set before each one the ways of life and death.
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
 you have come to us
 and shared our common lot,
 conquering sin and death
 and reconciling the world to yourself.
You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
 creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
 binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.
You call us into your Church
 to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
 to be your servants in the service of others,
 to proclaim the gospel to all the world,
 to resist the powers of evil,
 to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
 to join him in his passion and victory.
You promise to all who trust you
 forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
 courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
 your presence in trial and rejoicing,
 and eternal life in your realm which has no end.
Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3

We pray for:

Doris P – Prayers for Doris as she is once again hospitalized.

Molly B – Prayers of thanksgiving for Ian as he is in remission for Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Jill U – Prayers of thanksgiving for Jill's friend Bill, who has moved from the hospital to rehab for COVID. Prayers for all who are affected by the virus.

Jan N – Prayers for Jan's sister who had an adverse reaction to her booster shot.

Prayer Song

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

#489

Lord listen to Your children praying

Lord send Your Spirit in this place

Lord listen to Your children praying

Send us love send us pow'r send us grace

Ken Medema, © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI License # 1905256

The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Doxology

**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.
A-men.**

Prayer of Dedication

All: God of endless generosity, we lift our offerings to you, fully knowing our gifts fall short when compared with the poor widow Jesus saw who gave two small coins in her temple offering. We know that until we have experienced a moment of that kind of trust, gratitude, and sacrifice, we don't know the heights of joy that generosity can bring us. Until that time, grow our hearts in giving and in compassion for those our offerings will touch and bless. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

One: The table to which we gather is the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is Jesus Christ who invites with his love and great mercy all those who desire to live in peace with God and with their neighbor. As a beloved community, let us confess our offences.

All: It is by your grace that we are here before your presence, O God. Not by our merits, but by the merits of Jesus Christ. We confess that we haven't loved as you love, we have not acted on behalf of the vulnerable as you have commanded, and we have not forgiven as you have forgiven us. Forgiveness. Liberate us. Renew us. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (silent)

One: Let us pray in silence.

Assurance of Pardon

One: We are forgiven, liberated and renewed in Christ Jesus.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

The Sacrament of Communion

One: May the Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up our hearts to the Lord.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Give thanks to God.

Many: It is right and just to give God thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and just to give you thanks, Divine Creator, maker of new paths. You formed this diverse creation with your creativity and joy and you called it good. Also, to each of us, you created us with love and tenderness in order that we might be in your likeness and image in this world. But we wandered from the path, O God, and we began to forget what your image in us looked like and we turned our eyes from you. Thanks be to you, O Holy God, that you do not give up on your creation. You forge a new pathway where there are no pathways. You lifted up your servants, both men and women and friends in faith and forge a new people filled with hope and purpose. And so with all your angels and archangels we praise you with this unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty

Heaven and Earth praise you the same.

Blessed is the One, who comes in God's name

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Invitation

The Sharing of Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We give you thanks, Eternal God, for this holy mystery given to us. Help us to live in this world like your people always committed to making new ways, changing direction and destinies and closing the gap of indifference and inequality as united, we continue to do justice and make peace. Amen

Closing Song

Amazing Grace

#422

Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Haan

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Some Prayers and Liturgies by UCC Worship Ways and A Sanctified Art LLC

Happy Birthday to these friends!

11/12 Rosemary Flynn

11/12 Laurel Dayton

Confirmation Class

Join us after worship in the Pine Room outside the fellowship hall.

Memorial Sunday, November 21st

As the season of Pentecost nears conclusion, the church is called to celebrate the saints of God. At Christ Church we hold an annual candle lighting remembrance during our worship service. We traditionally name our church members who have died in the past year (since November 2020). Additionally, if you would like to lift up personal family members or friends in this observance, please contact the church office at 481-3530 at Office@uccmke.org by **November 16**.

Thanksgiving Baskets

The Social Concerns Committee is asking for donations for Thanksgiving baskets we are making and delivering to our 10 shut-ins. Please consider donating muffins or mini breads, fall decorations, candy or a monetary donation. We will need all donations brought to church by November 7th. We also need volunteers to deliver the baskets. Please contact the Social Concerns Committee with any questions. Thanks, - Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sara Rogers, Randene Wick

Chili Dinner

A big thank you to everyone who helped out with our Chili Dinner last night. What a great night it was! We had amazing food and fun fellowship together as the family of Christ Church. (What will be our next fun event? Let's talk...) ~ Pam and Dean Kothrade

Bay View Community Center Toy & Gift Program

We will once again be partnering with the BVCC to provide Christmas gifts for children and seniors in the area. The gift tag suggestions should be available the 2nd week of November and gifts will be due the 2nd week of December. Specific dates and detailed information will be available when you receive your gift tag. Help make the holidays brighter for those in need.

The Social Concerns Committee - Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sara Rogers, Randene Wick

Divine Intervention Volunteers Needed

Please help fill up the Friday dates as building reps for DI-SOS. It's a mere 1½ hour time commitment.

Set up approx. 4:45 pm

Tear down 6:00 pm

Finish 6:15 pm

I am always willing to train anyone wishing to participate in this ministry. You will be amazed at seeing 45 hot meals distributed in about 15 minutes each Friday evening! The pandemic is waning, but the effects still linger in the Bay View community.

~ Jim Wick jameswick73@gmail.com , 414-614-2612

Crochet Class

November 13th & 27th 10am to 12pm

Quilting

Tues, Nov. 9th and Nov 23rd at 10:00 AM

Office Administrator Position

The volunteers continue to help out in the office as the Personnel Committee continues to search for a candidate for the Office Administrator position. If you know of anyone interested in this position, please contact Dick Gaeth, Randene Wick or Dean Kothrade.

Interim Pastor update

On Tuesday, November 2 the Church Council interviewed a candidate for the interim pastoral position. More information will be forthcoming.

If you should need to contact Pastor Stark, please email pastor@uccmke.org.

You can make your offering to Christ Church at www.uccmke.org/donate or by mailing a check to Christ Church, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207

