



*"Thanksgiving
Chapel"*

stained glass by Philip Johnson 1906-2005.

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Tory Topjian, Guest Minister

Pam Kothrade, Musician

Rev. Dan Stark, Pastor

November 1st, 2020

The month of November is traditionally a stewardship season for churches in North America. The pandemic has caused all of us to look at our resources and focus on what is really important to us and what we have to let go of in order to survive. Whether we recognize it or not, we all have a money story. Often times we are uncomfortable talking about money and possessions, even though Jesus talked about them with transparency and vulnerability. In fact, Jesus talks about money and possessions more than he does about faith and prayer! Our money story, therefore, is a spiritual story. Today we begin a new liturgy and sermon series, *Our Money Story*, which invites us to name exactly what we're talking about and not skirt around it. The best stories captivate and transform us. They change how we live in the world. This stewardship season, you are invited to remember, release, reimagine, and restore your money stories so we can write the one God is begging us to live into.

Prelude *Shall We Gather By the River* arr. Mark Hayes

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*
**Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah,
Hallelujah hallelujah**

**Praise God in this holy place, Every nation every race,
Come make joyful music to the Lord, Sound the trumpet sound it clear
Sound it for the world to hear, Come make joyful music to the Lord**

**Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah
Hallelujah hallelujah**

**Everything that breathes now praise, Sing your songs let voices raise
Come make joyful music to the Lord, Play the cymbals play the lute
Play the timbrel play the flute, Come make joyful music to the Lord**

**Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah, Halle halle hallelujah
Hallelujah hallelujah**

Hal H. Hopson, © 1998 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI License 1905256

Opening Litany *Week One: Remember* Sarah Are
One: May we remember

All: That God created.

One: May we remember

All: That God liberated.

One: May we remember

All: That God fed.

One: May we remember

All: That God is *still* creating,

God is *still* liberating,

And God is *still* feeding us.

One: Let this be our story.

All: Let this be where we begin.

One: Let us worship holy God.

Written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Opening Prayer

Rev. Tory Topjian

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

Music and Words: Paul Vasile, ©2008, Paul Vasile. Permission granted by the composer for use in worship.

Prayer for Illumination

Sarah Are

Holy God,

There is something about scripture that stirs us awake.

For when we hear of a deep love that made room for everyone at the table,

We remember that we are hungry.

And when we hear of manna raining down in the desert,

We remember that we are lost.

There is something about scripture that stirs us awake,

And it feels like hunger and it looks like hope.

So stir us awake, oh God.

Remind us that this story starts with love and ends with love.

We are hungry, which is to say, we are listening.

Amen.

Written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

New Testament Ephesians 1:15-23 (TIB) Ephesians claims to be written from Paul, a prisoner for Christ. However, due to differences in language and content from many of Paul's other letters, many scholars believe Ephesians was written by a prodigy of Paul



"Apostle Paul" by Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1606-1669.

after the apostle's death. Ephesians proclaims the unity of Jew and Gentile in one household of God and spells out real life implications of the gift or reconciliation with God and our other fellow human beings. Ephesians encourages us behave toward one another with the same kind of self-giving love that Jesus practiced in his life and death.

From the first time I heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of the holy ones, I have never stopped thanking God for you and remembering you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Savior Jesus Christ, the God of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator. I pray that God will enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see the hope this call hold for you – the promised glories

that God's holy ones will inherit, and the infinitely great power that is exercised for us who believe. You can tell this from the strength of God's power at work in Jesus, the power used to raise Christ from the dead and to seat Christ in heaven at God's right hand, far above every sovereignty, authority, power or dominion, and above any other name that can be named – not only in this age, but also in the age to come. God has put all things under Christ's feet and made Christ, as the ruler of everything, the head of the church, and the church is Christ's body; Is the fullness of the One who fills all creation.

New Testament

Ephesians 5:15-20 (TIB)

Keep careful watch over your conduct. Don't act like fools, but like wise and thoughtful people. Make the most of your time, for those are evil days. Don't continue in ignorance but try to discern the will of God. Avoid getting drunk on wine – that is debauchery! Instead be filled with the Spirit, meditating on psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making music to God in your hearts. Always give thanks to Abba God for everything, in the name of Jesus our Messiah.

Sermon

Thanks for What We Have

Rev. Tory Topjian

Sermon Song

For the Fruit of all Creation

- 1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God, For his gifts to every nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**
- 2. In the just reward of labor, God's will is done, in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done. In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God. For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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:

~Don Antoniewicz as is sister recently passed away.

~Pam and Dean Kothrade as they navigate Pam's Brain tumor.

~Continued prayers for Ernestine Faja, Mary Ann Mowery's mom who is having several medical issues.

~Emily, daughter of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba as she has begun her radiation treatment.

~Maureen who has breast cancer from Sue Klockow.

~Jerry & Michelle from Diva/Divo who recently were displaced from their home for the next month or so from smoke damage from their basement dehumidifier starting a fire.

~Carol, Mike & Debbie's mother/mother in-law who has COVID and Debbie is caregiving for her and is also now healing from COVID.

~Jean, sister of Doris Piacentine and her niece who both reside in a nursing home in Mi have COVID. The niece was hospitalized and is doing ok but has Cerebral Palsy and is having trouble breathing. I pray they will be ok. From Doris Piacentine.

~Carol, Mike & Debbie's mother/mother in-law who has COVID and Debbie is caregiving for her and is also now healing from COVID.

~Kathy, Ken Klockow's sister who is hospitalized with a serious infection.

~Ken Klockow's sister who has had to be hospitalized again and is very depressed.

~Dan, friend of Molly Pufall Brown, who is bed ridden from an undiagnosed illness that has resurfaced. Prayers also for his wife and 2 young children.

~Kelley, friend of Nancy Charles who recently found out she has an early stage of Breast Cancer.

~Bernee, friend of Nancy Kaye who just received the news that she only has a couple months to live from Lung Cancer. She will be entering hospice soon.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck. Prayers for continued healing.

~Linda who resides in Connecticut, daughter of Jackie Struck who is getting wound care for bed sores. Prayers for continued healing.

~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she has health issues from complications of Diabetes. Continued prayers are requested.

~Tracy, daughter of Nancy Kaye, who was released from the hospital is at home with Nancy awaiting Liver and Kidney transplants. She is doing well.

~Nick, Brad and Nancy Charles nephew, who is battling heroin addiction, is out of prison and battling the difficult transition back into "normal life". Prayers for his family as well.

~Family of Ken and Sue who live in California close to where the fires are happening as they are getting closer to them.

~Julene Flanagan's nephew who is dealing with Bipolar disorder and now out of the hospital struggling to get into a healthy daily routine.

~Julene Flanagan's husbands uncle from Alaska who is suffering from Kidney Disease and is now in assisted living and for his son who is going thru health issues as well.

Prayer Song *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
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.

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.**

Prayer of Confession Sarah Are
**Holy God, We admit to remembering the wrong things.
We remember worldly lessons like,
"Everyone for themselves,"
"An eye for an eye," and
"All is fair in love and war."**



*"Money for Nothing" by Sahand Hoseini |
unsplash.com @ Sahand_Hoseini*

And yet, we forget to forgive 70 times seven,
To love our neighbors as ourselves,
And to live like the body of Christ.
Why is it so hard to remember the right things?
Release us from our muscle memory and
Re-center us in a new place,
A fresh place,
A space grounded in your love.
Help us to receive your word anew,
And to consider stewardship not with the world's rules,
But with your rules.
Help us remember.
With hope we pray, Amen.

Written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication

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.*

Closing Song *Go My Children, With My Blessing*

**Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In My love's baptismal river, I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing - You are My own.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory,
Go My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.
I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children, I will keep you And give you peace.**

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Sending Blessing

Postlude

Voluntary on "Lobe den Herren"

arr. Hugh S Livingston Jr

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JOY

~A joyful congratulations to Mary Heckman, mother and mother in law of Sonia and Dan Stark as she will retire this Tuesday after 40 years of Public Health service in Goodhue and Winona Counties in Minnesota. "We get to travel this weekend and celebrate with her." Sonia Stark.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE WONDERFUL PEOPLE!

Patricia Griebenow - November 1

Duane Zieman - November 1

Alexandrea Kofler - November 4

Amanda Oleson - November 6

Nancy Charles - November 7

OPPORTUNITIES

BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY THANKSGIVING MEAL DONATION REQUESTS

Please consider donating food to help our neighbors enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal this year.

For the next few weeks the community center is requesting donations of the following:

CANNED: Green Beans, Cranberries, French's Dried Onions, Evaporated milk, Pumpkin, and Gravy.

PACKAGED: Instant Mashed Potatoes & Stuffing. Second Harvest will provide Turkeys. Monetary donations are always appreciated as well.

Donations can be dropped off at the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:

Tuesdays thru Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.

CHRIST CHURCH ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Endowment Committee has begun taking Grant Requests for 2020. Request forms can be found in the church office or on the rack outside of the worship area. You can also request one be mailed to you from the church office as well. Deadline for submitting your requests is November 30. Forms can be given to any Endowment Committee member or turned into the church office. Prospective applicants should note that this is the only time Endowment Grant Requests are considered. Money available from various investments has been calculated and will be given out in this time frame. The Endowment Committee will meet in December to review the various requests and funds will be distributed shortly thereafter. The process begins again in the Fall of 2021.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS/HAT AND MITTEN TREE/COOKIE DONATIONS

The social concerns committee would like to let you know that we will once again be doing Christmas gifts for children and adults through the Bayview Community Center. Details will follow in the November Chronicles. We will also be collecting hats and mittens that will be donated to the Bayview Community Center. As in previous years we will donate cookies to be distributed to seniors. They are requesting this year that cookies be wrapped by the dozen in a bag or container. This is so that there is minimal handling of the baked goods. Can you please contact the office to let us know if you are willing to bake a dozen or more cookies by November 1st so that we can supply a cookie count? Thanks, Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sara Rogers and Randene Wick.

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If you should need to contact Pastor Stark, please email pastor@uccmke.org.
Christ Church UCC, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207.

We are currently gathering in person for worship with safety and sanitation protocols in place. Learn more here. <https://www.uccmke.org/covid-19>

You can make your offering to Christ Church through [PayPal](#) or by mailing a check to Christ Church, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207.



**CHRIST CHURCH UCC
ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
SERVICE OUTREACH GRANTS**

Applicant's Name: _____ **Amount Requested:** _____

Contact Info - Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

In completing this application, please be as detailed as possible and provide all information requested.

(Please use the back of the application if more room is needed.) Applications that are incomplete will not

be considered. If your request is approved, the funds will not be released without an invoice for the

materials or a proposal for services requested. Return the application by November 30, 2020.

1. Describe the project in detail by including the following information. What is the project?

Where is it located? Is it a project that will affect the church or its operations? Is it a project

that is for an organization in the wider community?

2. Describe how the funds will be used. For what portion of the overall project are you requesting

funds? Is there a date on which the funds will be required?

3. Recipient/Payee Name and Address: _____

4. After completion of the project, please provide evidence that the request has been fulfilled.

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**Endowment Committee Use:**

**Action taken by the Endowment Committee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_