



Urbandale
 United
 Church of
 Christ
 God is still speaking

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are invited and welcome here.”

A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation

March 8, 2020

10:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The liturgical color for the Sundays in Lent is violet, representing repentance, sorrow and the mourning of royalty. We are leaving the sanctuary without banners to underscore how stark life is without God.



SERVING AT URBANDALE UCC THIS SUNDAY

Liturgist: K-2nd Grade Leaders
Ushers & Greeters: Jim Nervig, Adam Dirks, Diane Gladson, Bob Harding
Acolytes: Renfrow-Daly Family
Nursery: Anjy Allen, Susan Joynt

Opening the Church: Today, Jeff Couch **Next Sunday,** Mark Siegel
Sound Booth: Jon Duvick

GATHERING

We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Nametags and information packets are available at the welcome table at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Childcare is available in the nursery for children ages birth through seven. Please see an usher for location if you wish to use the nursery.

GREETING

“It’s precisely in times of spiritual dryness that we must hold on to our spiritual discipline so that we can grow into new intimacy with God.” Henri J. M. Nouwen.

TIME OF FRIENDSHIP

(Please ask before hugging or shaking hands with someone)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Near the Cross” K. McChesney
 Adult Handbells

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *Their flames symbolizing God’s Spirit.*

❖ *This symbol invites the congregation to stand in body or spirit*
Bold type indicates a unison response

❖ CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

ONE: People of God, come and worship the God who transforms the world by bringing new life into our midst!

ALL: The wonders we witness in this community of faith are indications that the power of God is at work!

ONE: People of God, open yourselves to the Spirit's coming! Let go of what you think you know and be prepared for what God will do next!

ALL: The Spirit blows where it will. We don't know where it comes from or where it will take us, but we trust God to bring us into a new creation.

ONE: People of God, don't give up hope! Look with expectation for a realm of God's making that will change the world!

ALL: God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten, the world might be saved!

❖ OPENING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

Hymnal 198

❖ INVOCATION

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

"God So Loved the World"
Adult Choir

John Stainer

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:1-17 (The Inclusive Bible)

¹A certain Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, ²came to Jesus at night. "Rabbi," he said, "we know you're a teacher come from God, for no one can perform the signs and wonders you do, unless by the power of God."

³Jesus gave Nicodemus this answer:

"The truth of the matter is, unless one is born from above, one cannot see the kingdom of God."

⁴Nicodemus said, "How can an adult be born a second time? I can't go back into my mother's womb to be born again!"

⁵Jesus replied:

"The truth of the matter is, no one can enter God's kingdom without being born of water and the Spirit.

⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the Spirit is Spirit.

⁷So don't be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above.

⁸The wind blows where it will. You hear the sound it makes, but you don't know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹"How can this be possible?" asked Nicodemus.

¹⁰Jesus replied, "You're a teacher of Israel, and you still don't understand these matters?"

¹¹"The truth of the matter is, we're talking about what we know; we're testifying about what we've seen – yet you don't accept our testimony.

¹²If you don't believe when I tell you about earthly things, how will you believe when I tell you about heavenly things?"

¹³No one has gone up to heaven

except the One who came down from heaven – the Chosen One.

¹⁴As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so the Chosen One must be lifted up,

¹⁵so that everyone who believes in the Chosen One might have eternal life.

¹⁶Yes, God so loved the world as to give the Only Begotten One, that whoever believes may not die, but have eternal life.

¹⁷God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten, the world might be saved."

In addition to the prose in John's Gospel,, there are long sections that have a poetic, almost lyrical tone. Most Greek texts do not make a distinction between these, but the editors of The Inclusive Bible have chosen to print these poetic sections by strophe, indicating that they are to be read with attention to meter and phrasing. How does treating these sections as poetry affect your understanding of the message?

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SERMON "Given a Do-Over" Pastor Dave

HYMN "We Stand Humbly in God's Grace" SPP 24

RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God, our heavenly Father and Mother, may your name be sacred to us. May your realm become a reality for us. May your desires be fulfilled among us as they are in your courts. Give us today what we need for life. And forgive us for our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Guide us in tempting situations, and protect us from the power of evil. For the realm that is coming, the power that is growing, and the glory that is building, all belong to you forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

ONE: God is good!

ONE: All the time!

ALL: All the time!

ALL: God is good!

ONE: Let us share the goodness of our God!

When the offering plate comes to you, we invite you to hold it for a moment and consider the many gifts that you can share. You may pray for a person or a ministry; you may commit yourself to a specific act of compassion; or you may resolve to work on a relationship that is in need of repair. Allow the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

OFFERTORY "I Am A Poor, Wayfaring Stranger" Anna Laura Page

Please sign the Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor.

❖ DOXOLOGY

tune: *Old Hundredth*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ CLOSING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

Hymnal 473

The candles are extinguished.

God's Spirit remains as a living flame in the hearts of God's people.

❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

Gregg Sewell

Please reshelve the hymnals and put this used Bulletin in the recycle basket.

PRAYER CONCERNS

To list someone in this section, *with their permission*, please email staff@urbucc.org by the weekly bulletin deadline.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers:

Jamel Carter...Don Walters

And our dear ones: **Laurayne Robinette...Alma Sims...Margaret Messenger**

Our member in seminary: **David Sheridan**

Awaiting ordination: **Lisa Griffith-Tierney**

Mission Partnership: **Simply Smiles Inc. & Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe**

To notify the staff of a prayer concern, please use the slips of paper in the pew rack and drop them in the offering plate.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides prayer shawls to people experiencing difficult circumstances or life transitions. For more information, email prayer.shawls@urbucc.org.

This Week at UCC

Sunday, March 8

9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship: Recognizing

K-2nd Grade OWL

Special Music: Adult Choir

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Monday, March 9

6:00 pm Green Boat

Tuesday, March 10

11:00 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Parenting Way

6:30 pm Bible Study

8:00 pm Scouts

Wednesday, March 11

9:30 am Caregivers

5:00 pm Parenting Way

5:30 pm Spaghetti Dinner

WNA:

6:15 pm Adult Handbells

7:00 pm Adult Choir

7:30 pm AA

Thursday, March 12

9:30 am CCPE

7:00 pm Leadership Team

Saturday, March 14

9:00 am Private Lesson

1:00 pm Private Group

3:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

Upcoming Sundays

Sunday, March 15

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir & Raggedy Band

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Sunday, March 22

9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir & Raggedy Band

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

**No Adult Spiritual Formation Sunday, March 15th and
no Sunday School Sunday, March 15th and 22nd.**

UPDATE: The Listening Room will be unavailable due to construction and Family Promise until the end of March.

Sunday School

Preschool-5th grade will begin in the Sanctuary from 9-9:10am for songs then will head up to Room 202.

6-12th graders will meet in the Lower Level 1 Classroom with Laura Fefchak and Jennifer Gardner.

Adult Spiritual Formation Calendar

Today: Three Great Loves: What is Your Faith Story? Presenter: Tom Rendon

Next Sunday: NO ASF~ Spring Break

Kindergarden-2nd Grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) Recognition

Please join us TODAY in worship as we celebrate our children and leaders on their completion of the Our Whole Lives program for Kindergarten- 2nd grades. Our leaders will share their experience in worship. We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for a cake reception celebrating this ministry and our children!

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Easter Flowers

Easter is near and it's time to order your Easter Flowers! There are several varieties to choose from: Easter Lilies, Azaleas, Hydrangeas or Mums. Order envelopes are on the narthex table.

Orders are due Sunday, March 15th!

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Next Family Promise Week

Our next Family Promise opportunity along with St. Pius X is coming up soon-- **March 22-29 (Sunday to Sunday)**, when we will open our church to three families transitioning to permanent housing.

Plenty of slots are still open for meal, overnight, and kids' corner volunteers, as well as setup, tear down and laundry.

If you're available that week **please take a moment to see if there is a spot for you!** Either:

- check the big signup board in the Narthex at UCC
- go online to <https://signup.zone/uucc-fp>
- send Jon Duvick an email at jduvick@gmail.com and he can let you know what's available and sign you up.

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Dinner w/ Friends

This month we will be meeting Friday, March 20th, 6:30 pm at **Flying Mango**, 4345 Hickman Rd, Des Moines. Check out their website at <https://flyingmango.com/>

If you would like to join us for dinner, please rsvp Jeff Sontag at jeffsontag63@gmail.com or 515-554-2533 by Wednesday, March 18th so that reservations can be made.

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UCC Women Discuss Spirituality

Come join us **March 21st** for our women's fellowship. **9:00-9:30am**--Gathering time. **9:30-11:00am**--Program and Discussion. For our March meeting **Gail George will share what she is learning about the spirituality of the Maori, the indigenous people of New Zealand, from her recent trip there. There will also be opportunities to reflect on how your own beliefs compare.**

We invite ALL UCC Women who would like to explore **Mind/Body/Spirit/Heart** topics through conversation and activities. Please **RSVP** to jeanninedunn@gmail.com so we can prepare adequately.

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3530 70th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322

Phone: 515-276-0625 ▪ Fax: 515-276-2451

www.urbucc.org

www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC

“We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender identity and expression, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ’s image and striving for justice and peace.”

Staff

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor..... david.sickelka@urbucc.org
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator amy.murray@urbucc.org
Steven Linn, Music Program Director steven.linn@urbucc.org
Bobby Stinnett, M.M., Organist,
Children/Youth Choirs and Handbell Director bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org
Sophiap Eng-Swanson, Office Coordinator..... staff@urbucc.org
Sadmira & Umihana Omerhodzic, Custodian sadmira.omerhodzic@urbucc.org
The Rev. John Chaplin
Adjunct Minister for LGBTQ Concerns & Community Outreach john.chaplin@urbucc.org

Ministry Leaders

Caregiving Ministries:

Caregivers, Homebound Rachel Siegel..... caregivers.1@urbucc.org
Care Connectors..... care.connectors@urbucc.org
Listening Room..... listening.room@urbucc.org
Prayer Circle prayer.circle@urbucc.org
Prayer Shawl Ministry prayer.shawls@urbucc.org

Leadership Team:

Moderator..... Bob Harding moderator@urbucc.org
Vice-Moderator..... Jon Greising..... vicemoderator@urbucc.org
Treasurer Jim Nervig treasurer@urbucc.org
Financial Secretary..... Steve Looney..... financial@urbucc.org
Recording Secretary Sandy Gahn uccrecorder@urbucc.org
Ad Ministry Liaison Adam Dirks ad.ministry@urbucc.org
Christian Growth Liaison Chris Jordan christian.growth@urbucc.org
Membership Team Jon Greising..... membership.team@urbucc.org
Small Groups Liaison Rachel Siegel..... small.groups@urbucc.org
Worship Team Patricia Goldberg..... worship.team@urbucc.org
At Large Members: Kathy Marean, Jennifer Gardner, Wesley Keeler

Other Contacts:

Building & Grounds..... B&G.team@urbucc.org
Social Media Team Sandy Gahn social.media@urbucc.org

Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

For pastoral care, please contact Pastor Dave at 276-0625 (church office), 720-6389 (cell) or david.sickelka@urbucc.org. Pastor Dave is off on Mondays but will still respond to emergencies if you call or text.