

First Reformed United Church of Christ

*Where People Discover...
The Love of God
The Power to Love Others
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

March 18, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Lent 5

**“Finding Your Mystic:
Listening Beyond the Voices”**



LISTEN

Welcome! If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered and hearing devices are available. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.

Please enter quietly and settle into an attentive and relaxed state of being. Let us begin this season of listening, of hearing that still, small voice and finding our own true selves.

Music for Settling

***Evoking the Mystery with the Chiming of the Hour**

**Bringing in the Light of Christ*

“Come and Rest“

Solo: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
There’s a wisdom deep within that calls us closer.
Come and rest. Come and listen.
Lay the fullness of your lives before the Maker.*

Ellen Peterson

Welcome

Elizabeth Horton

“Come and Rest“

Solo: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
There’s a wisdom deep within that calls us closer.*

Ellen Peterson

People: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
There’s a wisdom deep within that calls us closer.*

Solo: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
Lay the fullness of your lives before the Maker.*

Ellen Peterson

People: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
Lay the fullness of your lives before the Maker.*

Examen

(A prayer practice where we review our actions)

For that which, then, I thought was right...
have mercy, God.

For that which, now, I regret...
forgive me, God.

For that which, hence, I know not what to do...
guide me, God.

Come and rest, come and listen.
Know that grace, forgiveness and guidance are available to you
at each and every moment that we turn to receive them.
Thanks be to God.

Silent Rest

Sit quietly in the silence without any expectation of what you “ought” to be thinking. Don’t worry about sounds from children or elsewhere—simply let them float into and out of your attention. And if you find it difficult to settle your thoughts, contemplate the following:

*Be Still,
and Know
That I Am God.*

*Opening Hymn

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” [Insert]

Children are invited to come forward on the last verse.

FIND

Young Disciples

Kids Club will meet with Edgar Miller, Sylvia Walser, John Smith, Aurelia Smith and Alice Gray in the Community Garden to help plant potatoes.

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

"The Teacher is here . . . and is asking for you." Jn. 11:28

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3. O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me; see, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me. Come home, come home,
 mer - cies for you and for me? Come home, come home,
 par - don for you and for me.

ye who are wea - ry, come home; ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!

“Meet Me Here”

Solo: *Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

Ellen Peterson

People: *Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

The Psalmist’s Prayer

Psalm 107: 23-32

Reader:

June Grubb

Listen, for the calm in the storm,

Listen, God is singing, God is singing.

Some of the redeemed had gone out on the ocean in ships, making their living on the high seas.

They saw what the Lord had made;

they saw God’s wondrous works in the depths of the sea.

God spoke and stirred up a storm

that brought the waves up high.

The waves went as high as the sky; they crashed down to the depths.

The sailors’ courage melted at this terrible situation.

They staggered and they stumbled.

None of their skill was of any help.

So they cried out to the Lord in their distress,

and God brought them out safe

from their desperate circumstances.

God quieted the storm to a whisper;

the sea’s waves were hushed.

So they rejoiced because the waves had calmed down;

then God led them to the harbor they were hoping for.

Let them thank the Lord for this faithful love

and God’s wondrous works for all people.

Let them exalt God in the congregation of the people

and praise God in the assembly of the elders.

Seeking the Word

Romans 12: 2-12

Elizabeth Horton

The scripture in this series will be done in an abridged “lectio divina” format—which means “divine reading.” We will hear the scripture read once and then we will let that resonate for a bit with some music for the inward journey. What words or phrases popped out for you in the reading? Feel free to doodle in your Worship Guide with that word or phrase if you wish. When the music is over, we will hear the scripture read again.

Music for an Inward Journey

“Grace Lifted Me”

arr. Patti Drennan

*In loving kindness Jesus came, my soul in mercy to reclaim,
And from the depths of sin and shame through grace He Lifted me.
He called me long before I heard, before my sinful heart was stirred,
But when I took Him at His word, forgiv’n, He lifted me.*

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

*His brow was pierced with many a thorn, His hands by cruel nails were torn,
When from my guilt and grief, forlorn, in love He lifted me.
In loving kindness Jesus came to save a wretch like me!
And from the depth of sin and shame through grace He lifted me.*

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; through grace He lifted me;
Through grace He lifted me.*

Hearing the Word

June Grubb

Romans 12: 2-12

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Homily

Elizabeth Horton

REFLECT

Appointment with God

***Solo:** Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

Ellen Peterson

***People:** Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Horton

Connecting

Mark Smith

Receiving our Tithes, Offerings, and One Great Hour of Sharing

***Prayer of Dedication**

June Grubb

***Closing Hymn**

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” [Insert]

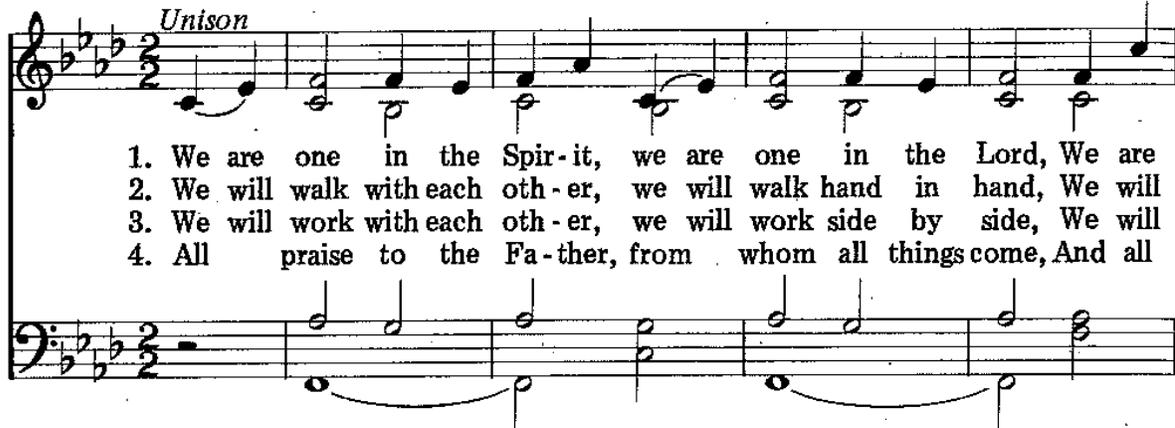
They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

By this shall all men know...if ye have love one to another. John 13:35

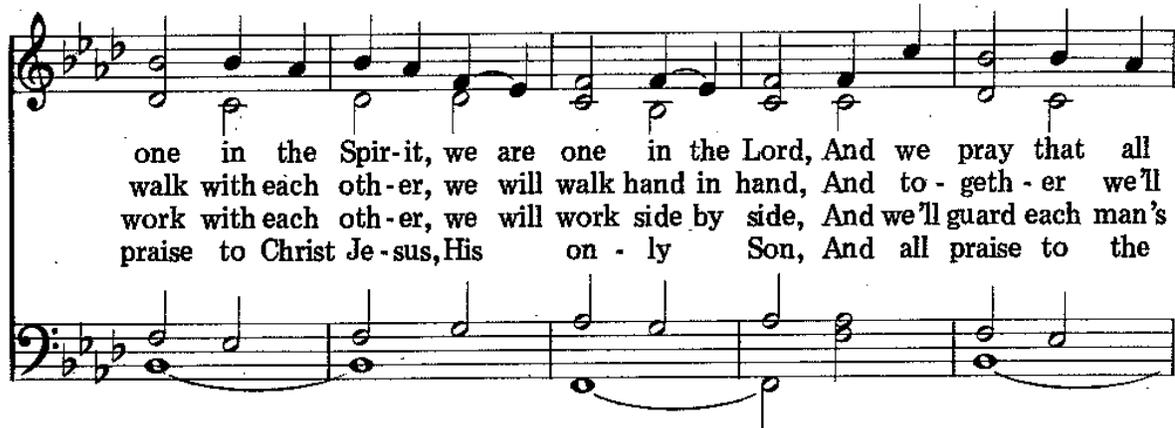
PETER SCHOLTES

PETER SCHOLTES

Unison



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, We are
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand, We will
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side, We will
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come, And all

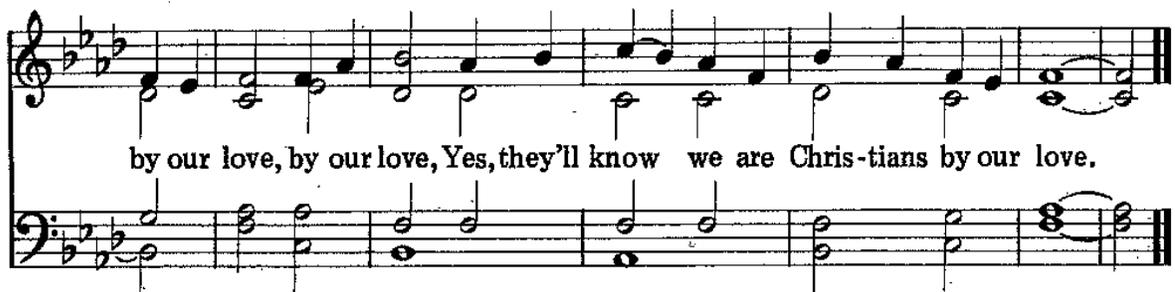


one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, And we pray that all
walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand, And to - geth - er we'll
work with each oth-er, we will work side by side, And we'll guard each man's
praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son, And all praise to the

Refrain



u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
spread the news that God is in our land: And they'll know we are Chris-tians
dig - ni - ty and save each man's pride:
Spir - it, who makes us one:



by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

PREPARE TO LISTEN IN THE WORLD

***Benediction**

***Congregational Benediction**

**We're so thankful that you are still speaking,
You're still speaking, gracious God.
For the sake of the world you are seeking,
We are listening, listening now.**

Please pass the peace with your neighbors as you move into the world.

Music for Going Out

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

Upcoming Events

WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP will meet briefly **today** in the sanctuary **following worship** to discuss the First UMC Tea Party to benefit Open Hands Ministries.

KIDS CLUB WILL HELP IN THE GARDEN TODAY. They will help plant potatoes with Edgar Miller, Sylvia Walser, John Smith, Aurelia Smith and Alice Gray.

THE CATAWBA SINGERS, presented by the FRUCC Arts Series and the Board of Evangelism, will perform **THIS AFTERNOON at 3:00pm** in the Sanctuary. This will be the third time this group has performed at our church, so we know this will be a real treat! A love offering will be collected to help cover their travel expenses and a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following their performance. Come enjoy and afternoon of music!

"40 BAGS in 40 DAYS" DECLUTTER CHALLENGE will continue until March 29th. You may continue to drop off items until that time. The yard sale is scheduled for April 7th.

*****SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY***** If you would like to reserve a copy of the directory, **please contact the church office by March 31st**. (336-248-2617 or carolyn@frucc.org.) There will be a cost for the directory, but at this time that amount is undetermined. You will be under **NO OBLIGATION** to purchase your reserved copy, but we need a general idea of how many to order. We are hoping to have these by the middle of April. A special thank you goes to Clifton Murphy, Nicole Smith and Nina Smith for their hard work and talents as they work toward completing the new directory!

NEW PRAYER REQUEST CARDS are located on the backs of the pews for your convenience to request prayer for someone in need. You may complete these and place them in the offering plate. The office will forward these requests to Ben Hale of the Evangelism Committee. He will send a card, if requested, to let the individuals know they are in our prayers. You may still continue to contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or the church office at 336-248-2617 or carolyn@frucc.org of any prayer requests.

HOLY WEEK

March 25: Palm Sunday Service at the Square following worship. Elizabeth Horton will be speaking.

Palm Sunday Lunch at the J. Smith Young YMCA. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 4-8 years old. You may purchase tickets at the YMCA Welcome Center.

Davidson/Forsyth District Palm Sunday Service at Hedrick's Grove UCC at 6:00pm. Rev. Colleen Samson, the new WNCA Minister for Church Affairs, will bring the message.

March 27: Community Meal at First Reformed UCC at 5:00pm. Menu includes: Spiral ham, green beans, braised potatoes, cole slaw and rolls. Contributions will go to Special Olympics of Davidson County.

March 29-31: Walk the Labyrinth in the Fellowship Hall
Thursday, March 29th 10:00am – 1:00pm and 5:00 – 6:00pm
Friday, March 30th 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Saturday, March 31st 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

March 29: Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

March 30: Good Friday

April 1: Easter Sunday Breakfast at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00am
Worship Service at 11:00am

Thank You for Serving Our Church

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Louise and Jacob Calvin Leonard, Jr.; given by their daughters Rhonnie and Merle.

USHERS: Steve Smith, Ted Smith, Vicky Gray, Amy Hedrick

PLATE ATTENDANT: John Smith

YOUTH USHER: Griff Smith

SOUND TECHNICIAN: John Gray

ACOLYTE: Ethan Lovell

GREETERS: Irvin & Doris Sink

BIBLE STEWARD: Claire Smith

NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}: Anne Bevan & Cheryl Walser

- ❖ **A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom {through left door at chancel.}**
- ❖ **A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child {through left or right door at chancel.}**

Our Church at Prayer

PRAYER CONCERNS: Remember those in the Armed Forces. To add a name to the prayer list please contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or the church office.

CHURCH MEMBERS: Carolyn Spivey, Peggy Bates, Ruth Fritts, Margot Everhart, Jo Hudson, Ruth Essick

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Hoyle Potts, Doris Flynt, James Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Valerie Price, Joyce Price, Rita Tussey, Adena Wall, Marzell Crotts,

OUR FRIENDS: Virginia Byars (friend of Alisa Johnson), Derrick Wong (friend of Joni Walser), Jeffery Saunders (Amy Hedrick's son), Debra Craver (friend of Alisa Johnson), Sharon Ward (friend of Alisa Johnson), Eric Varnadore (Carol Varnadore's son), Ashley Anderson (Lee Ann Peele's cousin), Nancy Barr (Betty Barr's mother-in-law), Judy Stanley (family of Alane Holste), Greg Nifong (Lib Sink's nephew), Danny Lloyd (Frank Callicutt's father), Lynn Mack (friend of Mary Berrier), Dot Crotts (Frank Leonard's aunt), Doris Brown (Mike & Lynn Brown's sister-in-law), Ronald Yates, (Eddie Yates' dad), Nell and Ken Holmes (neighbors of Jerry and Patti Lovell)

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292
336-248-2617

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastor, Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@frucc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care, Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com)

Director of Christian Education, Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)

Choir Director, Ellen Peterson Organist, Lee Ann Peele

Admin. Asst., Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Financial Secretary, Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)