

SHARE THE LOVE: TODAY IS THE LAST SUNDAY to remember our members at home with Valentine's Day cards. Fifteen bags, along with labels, are placed on the back pew of the sanctuary to collect cards. You may place your own cards in the bags or use one of the sets available in the Narthex. Please make sure you place cards in the bags before leaving church.

Please volunteer to help deliver the Valentine bags on February 13th or 14th, by signing up on the list on the back pew.

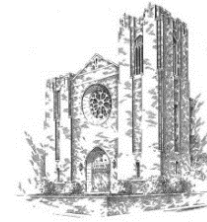
VERNON GASTON (V.G.) PRICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Vernon Price was a man with accomplishments in many fields of endeavor, yet the things most dear to him were very simple – his family, his faith, his students and his town. For this reason, his family requested that a scholarship be established in his name and that the recipients of the award encompass the ideals held most dear by V.G. **Applications are due to the church office by March 31.** (Contact the office for a copy of the application and list of the criteria.)

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES: Girl Scouts 2160 will be selling Girl Scout cookies the **whole month of February**. This year's cookies are:

Caramel delites (aka Samoas)	Adventurefuls (new this year -- brownie with caramel)
Toast-Yay! (cinnamon toast)	Lemonades
Thin Mints	Peanut Butter Patties (covered in chocolate)
Peanut Butter Sandwiches	Shortbread
Thin Mints	Caramel Chocolate Chip (Gluten-Free)

They are \$5 per box. Please contact Kivi or Jianna Miller to place an order. You can call or text Kivi at 336-870-0251 or email Jianna at jiannamiller@gmail.com. The troop will also be leading worship on Girl Scout Sunday, February 27, and that will be your last day to buy cookies at church. **Thank you for supporting our Girl Scouts!**

MINISTERS: The Congregation of **FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
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First Reformed United Church of Christ
*Where People Discover...
The Love of God...
The Power to Love Others...
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

February 13, 2022
The Worship of God

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

**Please stand as you are able*

Prelude

Christopher Kiser

***Chiming of the Hour**

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Cathy Whitley

God of our hearts...here we are!

We've come with thirsty hearts, praying that your word will satisfy us.

We come with aching hearts, praying for good news to comfort us.

We come with overflowing hearts, praying for a chance to share your love.

You, who know our hearts and hear our prayers,

Be with us now in this hour of worship. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

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***Invocation**

Cathy Whitley

Young Disciples

Rev. Evan Sieges & Cathy Browder

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 17: 5-10
(Common English Bible)

Cathy Whitley

The LORD proclaims:

Cursed are those who trust in mere humans, who depend on human strength and turn their hearts from the LORD.

They will be like a desert shrub that doesn't know when relief comes. They will live in the parched places of the wilderness, in a barren land where no one survives.

Happy are those who trust in the LORD, who rely on the LORD.

They will be like trees planted by the streams; whose roots reach down to the water. They won't fear drought when it come, their leaves will remain green.

They won't be stressed in the time of drought or fail to bear fruit. The most cunning heart— it's beyond help. Who can figure it out?

I, the LORD, probe the heart and discern hidden motives, to give everyone what they deserve, the consequences of their deeds.

Call to Confession

Rev. Horton

Responsive Prayer of Confession

God of Love

We confess we are sometimes impatient, and often unkind,

There are times we are rude and lift ourselves up as we put others down.

We confess that we are quickly angered.

We are quick to record how often we've been wronged

We confess that we put ourselves first.

We're reluctant to give, we are slow to sacrifice,

Loving God teach us to love

When we are tempted to assume the worst...

Remind us to trust

When we are tempted to assume all is lost...

Remind us to hope

When we are tempted to assume it will never happen...

Remind us to persevere

Loving God teach us to love. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness and Sharing the Peace of Christ

*Hymn

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

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Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Horton

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music

"Love"

John Maze

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never, before attended one, you are welcome here.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

LITURGIST: Cathy Whitley

DIGITAL MEDIA TECH: Kivi & Jia Miller

SOUND TECH: John Gray

ACOLYTE: Lucas Peterson **BIBLE STEWARD:** Ethan Lovell

USHERS: Raeann Allred, James Gray

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Cathy Browder

CELEBRATIONS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

15th...Abbie Callicutt

17th...Lee Bouchard

Amy Hedrick

18th...Kalyssa Hutchens

19th...Susan Morris

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

18th...Jerry & Merle Hodges

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*Tammy Rhodes (Forsyth Hospital), Alane Holste, Myrtle Latimer, Kathleen Danze, Cheryl Walsler, Alisa Johnson

MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Lee & Ellen Bouchard, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Jeff Hutchens, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, John Potts & Janette Neal, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS:

The Family of Ken and Curtis Holmes (neighbors of Jerry & Patti Lovell), The family of Glenn York (Friends of Alane Holste), Kiana Sinz (friend of Patti Lovell), Earl Parker (Rev. Elizabeth Horton's father), Jimmy Grubb (Rev. June Grubb's brother), Marc Frye (son of the late Doris Frye, Ashley Thomason (Ron & Heidi Hutcheson's daughter-in-law)

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday, February 13:

- 9:15AM Adult Bible Study via Zoom:**
"The First Fruits" I Corinthians 15:12-20 (Facilitator: Smithie Parrish)
- 10:30AM Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)
- 10:45AM Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & Cathy Browder (Theater Room)

Following Worship:

- 11:45AM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A Time to Connect**
Following worship our congregation will meet with our 2022 Consistory to celebrate ministries fulfilled in 2021 and focus on current ministries and how we can connect in 2022.

6:00PM No Youth Meeting This Evening

Tuesday, February 15:

- 12:00PM 2CFAR** (via Zoom)
- 7:00PM Book Study** "The Book of Joy" (via Zoom)

Wednesday, February 16:

- 6:30PM No Choir Practice This Week**
Children's Fun and Games: Marge Doty & Renee White (Fellowship Hall)
Youth Study: Rev. Evan & Rev. June Grubb (Youth Room)

Thursday, February 17:

- 4-6:00PM Clothing Ministry Workday**
- 6:30PM PFLAG Meeting via Zoom**

Saturday, February 19:

- 12:30PM Saturday Lunch Ministry** (Kitchen)

Sunday, February 20: First Anniversary of Saturday Lunch Ministry

- 9:15AM Adult Bible Study via Zoom:**
"Raised In Glory" I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 (Facilitator: Eddie Yates)
- 10:30AM Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)
- 10:45AM Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & Alice Gray (Theater Room)

Following Worship

- Prayer Circle**
- 6:00PM Youth Meeting:** Rev. Sieges & **Volunteer Needed** (Youth Room)

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15: 12-20
(Common English Bible)

Rev. Horton

So, if the message that is preached says that Christ has been raised from the dead, then how can some of you say, "There's no resurrection of the dead"? If there's no resurrection of the dead, then Christ hasn't been raised either. If Christ hasn't been raised, then our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. We are found to be false witnesses about God, because we testified against God that he raised Christ, when he didn't raise him if it's the case that the dead aren't raised. If the dead aren't raised, then Christ hasn't been raised either. If Christ hasn't been raised, then your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins, and what's more, those who have died in Christ are gone forever. If we have a hope in Christ only in this life, then we deserve to be pitied more than anyone else.

But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He's the first crop of the harvest^[a] of those who have died.

Sermon

"Love Is: Beautifully Irrational"

Rev. Horton

Call to Serve and to Give

Prayer of Dedication

Cathy Whitley

***Benediction**

Rev. Horton

Postlude

Christopher Kiser

~ Please remain seated until the ushers direct you to exit. ~

After the service, you are invited to join in the Prayer Circle in the front of the sanctuary.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. Rev. 19:12

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 4. Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark! how the heav - en - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own;
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied;
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 his glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,
 no an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

WORDS: Matthew Bridges, 1851; and Godfrey Thring, st. 2, 1874
 MUSIC: George J. Elvey, 1868

DIADEMATA
 S.M.D.

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

"The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Deut. 33:27

1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain

lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing,
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing on Je - sus,
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing on Je - sus,

lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms; lean -
 lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on

ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,