



Community UCC  
805 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Live Stream Service  
March 29, 2020



# Community UCC

*We're worth our words*  
Welcoming Progressive Community  
*Vibrant Messengers of Hope*



Champaign, Illinois

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

March 29, 2020

## **Thoughts before worship:**

### *Measuring*

By Gunilla Norris

from *Becoming Bread Embracing the Spiritual in the Everyday*

When the yeast is added  
we will see in the honey water  
the unpredictable, the alive...  
Which we can never own or  
truly understand. We will see  
how it bubbles and froths—  
how it rises up – and we will know  
that we do not have control...

When the yeast is added  
to the sweet and the salty,  
the skin-temperature,  
warm-blooded water, we will sense  
the irrepressible and how it moves  
into the very cells of our bodies,  
into the blood and marrow. We are  
flesh and we are vulnerable

When the yeast is added-----  
the impulsive, the unmanageable,  
the free—we know we will be  
moved. Every part of the mixture!  
The inert lump of dough will come alive, will expand and yield.  
We will be lifted  
out of ourselves, beyond ourselves.  
We will be worked...

*We welcome you to our service this morning. Celebrating the diversity of creation, Community United Church welcomes persons of any age, ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or life condition. May the Divine Presence become real to you through this time of worship. We hope you come back!*

**Call to Worship**

The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

**O God, you know!**

We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

**O God, you know!**

The gift is sure and unmistakable:

**God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!**

Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

**And come to worship God in laughter and dancing!**

**Prayer of Gathering/Invocation**

Compassionate God,  
the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life  
for all who long for you.

One breath from you and we are rescued  
from the arid valley of dry bones,  
given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise you,  
and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children.  
Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit,  
that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom,  
and what looks to us to be death  
may be revealed as but sleep  
before the emergence of new life. Amen.

**Hymn***God Reigns O'er All the Earth*

NCH21

Words: Jane Parker Huber, Music Adapt: Franklin L Sheppard

- 1 *God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and valleys low,  
the farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beauty show.  
God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spreading plains,  
in rainbow hues – red, yellows, blues – of streams and country lanes.*
- 2 *God reigns o'er human life! Through youth and aging years,  
in death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.  
God reigns o'er human life! Our inspiration still.  
Through all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reigning will.*
- 3 *God reigns o'er time and space! In history's by-gone days,  
Christ's faithful folk in reverence spoke to bring God earnest praise.  
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er galaxy and sun,  
through timeless years the cosmos hears the heavenly music run.*
- 4 *God reigns! Emmanuel! God with us every day,  
in all our past and to the last, our comfort and our stay.  
God reigns! Emmanuel! Let praise to Christ be sung!  
God's presence here makes all things dear. Let joyful bells be rung!*

## Welcome, A Word About Worship, Centering

Introit

*Let Us Be Bread*

Thomas Porter

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

Together, we pray:

**Revitalizing God, your power goes far beyond our own, and yet still we act as though the pains of this world have final claim upon us. We give in to the despair and hopelessness of death, not trusting in your ability to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives. Forgive us for doubting your power to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience. Forgive us for wanting to limit you to “the last day” or “the world beyond this one”, not trusting you to move and act among us, within us, through us. Forgive us, and open our eyes to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst. (*silence is kept*)**

#### Prayer of Assurance

“Come out,” Jesus calls,  
and his word unbinds us from the oppressive weight of our past  
and pushes away the rocks that close us off from love.  
We are made free in the spirit of God, and forgiven all our sins.  
**We are raised to new life! Amen!**

### Passing of the Peace

### Children’s Moment

#### Prelude to Scripture

Whether we take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth, or story, let us listen now to the meaning they might hold for us on this day.

#### Sacred Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 130

<sup>1</sup>From a sea of troubles  
I call out to you, LORD.  
<sup>2</sup> Won’t you please listen  
as I beg for mercy?  
<sup>3</sup> If you kept record of our sins,  
no one could last long.  
<sup>4</sup> But you forgive us,  
and so we will worship you.  
<sup>5</sup> With all my heart,  
I am waiting, LORD, for you!  
I trust your promises.  
<sup>6</sup> I wait for you more eagerly  
than a soldier on guard duty  
waits for the dawn.  
Yes, I wait more eagerly  
than a soldier on guard duty  
waits for the dawn.  
<sup>7</sup> Israel, trust the LORD!  
He is always merciful,

and he has the power  
to save you.

<sup>8</sup> Israel, the LORD will save you  
from all of your sins

### Sacred Reading from the Gospels

John 11:1-45

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' <sup>27</sup>She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

### Postlude to Scripture

Together, let us say:

**May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of  
these words for our lives.**

Anthem

*When Jesus Wept*

NCH192  
Arr: William Billings

Message

*Yeast: Rise Up*

Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

### Call to Offering and Dedication

Like Lazarus we awake from sleep at the sound of Jesus' voice.

Like Lazarus, we have a new life in front of us – a resurrection life not meant to be hoarded, but to be shared.

Like Lazarus, we live in a state of thanksgiving for all that has been and hope for what is to be.

Like Lazarus, we have been given a gift that is meant for all.

So let us make our offerings at this altar, and pray that the wind of God may breathe upon all that lives upon the earth.

**Spirit of Life, we breathe our lives upon these gifts that they may become a fertile plain of green life and strengthened hope for all who live in the valley of dry bones. May the wind of your love carry these gifts far beyond us to the places most in need of your compassionate grace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Offertory

*Wounded Healer*

Audrey Assad

*Image of the Invisible  
In our pain we feel you near  
God of Heaven in flesh and bone  
By your wounds we shall be healed*

*No fire, no fury  
Just death into life  
Over and over  
Till all things are right*

*Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you  
Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you*

*No fire, no fury  
Just death into life  
Over and over  
Till all things are right*

*Arms stretched out not to part the seas  
But to open up the grave  
Blood poured out not for war, but peace  
And to show us God's own face*

*Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you  
Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you*

*Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you  
Wounded healer  
We give our hearts to you*

### Sacrament of Holy Communion

*[You are invited to break bread and drink at home – whatever you have, God will bless it.]*

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May the God of tears be with you.

**And also with you.**

Offer your hearts to the One who calls us out of death into life.

**Unbound, we bring our hearts to our God of new mornings.**

People of God, sing songs to the One in whom we hope.

**We rejoice in God, who dwells in our souls.**

In that first moment, God of wonder,  
you cried out, 'Unbind creation and let her go!'  
and flowers grew in the cracks of chaos,  
blustery winds played talk through the forests,  
lambs leapfrogged one another in the meadows.

Your hand came upon the dry dust of earth,  
and your Spirit breathed life into us.

You longed for us to be with you,  
but we allowed sin and death  
to lead us around by the nose.

You called to people,

'Prophesy!' urging them to call us back.

But we did not believe their words.

So you sent a certain man named Jesus,  
to cause new life to come upon us.

With those who have stood beside graves,  
and those who wait for signs of hope,

we sing our praises to you:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of our shadowed valleys.**

**All creation hopes in you and waits.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who calls us to new life.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

You are holy, Caresser of our souls,  
and Jesus is our Child, our Friend.

Seeing that those he loved were sick,  
he brought us healing.

Finding us wandering in despair,  
he showed us that our hope  
need never turn to dust.

Believing that you loved him,  
he went to the cross, for us.

And when he was in death's cold arms,  
you stood at the door of the tomb,  
crying out, 'unbind him, and let him go!'  
and our Resurrection and our Life  
came forth.

Believing that Christ is the One who calls us to new life,  
trusting that he is with us in our pain,  
we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

**Christ died, taking away the sins of the world;**

**Christ was raised, taking away the power of sin and death;**

**Christ will return, taking us by the hand to lead us home.**

In the bread and the cup,  
you give life to us,  
as the Spirit comes to dwell  
in every room of our souls.

You bless the bread, breaking it,  
so it might heal and strengthen us

so we can say  
to the barren, 'here is your life;'  
to the despairing, 'here is your hope!'  
As the grace-filled cup nourishes us  
we would go into the world  
to visit those who are sick,  
to wait with the expectant,  
to share tears with the broken.

And when you call of us to your side,  
we will join Lazarus, Mary, Martha,  
and all our sisters and brothers  
in forever singing your praises,  
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

### **Remembering the Story**

### **Sharing the Meal**

**Song** *Let us Break Bread Together on Our Knees* NCH330  
Harm: David Hurd

*1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.*

*Refrain:  
When I fall on my knees  
with my face to the rising sun,  
My God, have mercy on me.*

*2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]*

*3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]*

**Giving Thanks** *Sharing our Joys and our Sorrows*

**Prayer Response** *Spirit, Spirit, of Gentleness* NCH286  
James K Manley

*4. You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes,  
From the bondage of sorrow The captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, Our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions Your people arise.*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness.  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness. Stir me from placidness.  
Wind, wind on the sea.*

### **Commissioning of the Community**

**Hymn**

*It Is Well with My Soul*

NCH438

Words: Horatio G Spafford, Music: Philip P. Bliss

1 *When peace like a river  
upholds me each day  
when sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot  
you have taught me to say  
It is well  
It is well with my soul*

**Chorus**

*It is well with my soul  
It is well  
It is well with my soul*

2 *Though evil should tempt me  
though trials should come,  
let this blessed assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded  
my helpless estate  
and has paid life and blood  
for my soul*

3 *My sin oh the bliss  
of this glorious thought  
my sin not in part, but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross  
and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord O my soul!*

4 *O God, speed the day  
that is filled with your light,  
when the clouds are rolled back as a scroll  
The trumpet shall sound  
and the Lord shall appear,  
even so it is well  
with my soul.*

CCLI Song # 25376, Modified to match words of NCH Hymn #43

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response**

*Amen, Amen*

NCH161

African American Spiritual, Arr: Neisi T. Johnson

**Postlude**

*Amazing Grace*

arr: American Traditional

**Serving Today**

**Ministers:** The Community of Community UCC

**Preacher and Presiding:** Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

**Liturgist:**

**Organist:** Brian Clark

**Director of Music Ministry:** Kathy Lee

**Audio/Video:** Director of Campus Ministry, Rev Nate Brantingham

**Audio/Video:** Ilsa Kantola

**CUCC Staff**

<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser leah@community-ucc.org	<b>Parish Associate:</b> Rev. Connie Bandy   connie@community-ucc.org
<b>Director of Youth Ministries:</b> Jessica Smiley   jessica@community-ucc.org	<b>Director of Music Ministries:</b> Kathy Lee   k.kew.lee@gmail.com
<b>Childcare Coordinator:</b> Courtney Hayman   childcare@community-ucc.org	<b>Organist:</b> Brian Clark
<b>Faith Community Nurse:</b> Linda Morgan	<b>Office Manager:</b> Carla Rush   info@community-ucc.org

**Your Ministry Team Leaders**

<b>-Community Building:</b> Peg Wade and Randy Musser	<b>-Usher Coordinator:</b> Russ Houglund
<b>-Care Team:</b> Jeff & Tina Stovall	<b>-Sound Coordinator:</b> Roger Wade
<b>-Prayer Shawls:</b> Elena Kasper	<b>-Clerk:</b> Shane Brownfield
<b>-Meal Train:</b> Jennifer Robbennolt	<b>-Moderator:</b> Jon Ebel
<b>-Driver's Ministry:</b> Becky Sheridan and John Osborne	<b>Past Moderator:</b> John Murphy
<b>-Card Ministry:</b> Peg Wade	<b>-Incoming Moderator:</b> Elizabeth Shack
<b>-Healing Music Ministry:</b> Marilou Hinrichs	<b>-UCC Campus Ministry Liaison:</b> Ilsa Kantola
<b>-Health and Wellness Team:</b> Doug Irwin	<b>-Pastoral Relations:</b> Cara Finnegan
<b>-Finance:</b> Roger Wade (treasurer), David Willcox (financial secretary)	<b>-Personnel Committee:</b> Anna Barnes
<b>-Mission:</b> Nancy Smith and Ramona Oswald	<b>-Sound &amp; Ethical Practices (SEP):</b> Grant Robbennolt and Kyle Mahannah
<b>-Identity:</b> Keri Evans and (pending)	<b>-Buildings &amp; Grounds:</b> Tom Ward and Matthew Hart
<b>-Children &amp; Family:</b> Julie McClure and (pending)	<b>-Contracts &amp; Insurance:</b> (pending)
<b>-Worship:</b> Chase Skye and Susan Pawlicki	

**United Church Foundation (UCC Campus Ministry)**

**Director of Campus Ministry:** Nate Brantingham (nate@ucccampusministry.org)

<http://community-ucc.org/campus-ministry/>

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**Community United Church of Christ**

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# Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies."  
John 11:25 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 11:1-45 (NIV).



L A Z A R U S E S L E E P M P  
 Q E N T R A N C E B D F L Y U  
 L J O A S O W D Y L I F E V L  
 F N I K T W E I X L G T O M B  
 X Y K S C Q E S F O E D Z N R  
 P R A Y E D P C F V R E E E D  
 B K Q W E S I I A E C A H V X  
 G L F K K N N P O A V T C V R  
 R L A Z U K G L G T O H G A E  
 I W O H F E E E Z R R H H V R  
 S F C R X J W S B J T T E S A  
 E H W Y Y N Y B N S R I U W A  
 L W B P O M A R Y A L S H M K  
 G C Q L W H J S M E E R A X G  
 B H A E U U Q H B J S I C K V

MARY	WAKE	SICK	LAZARUS	BROTHER
JESUS	STONE	DISCIPLES	LIFE	BELIEVE
PRAYED	WEEPING	GLORY	MARTHA	RISE
ENTRANCE	LOVE	DEATH	TOMB	SLEEP

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 29, 2020

John 11:1-45

### Breath of Hope

Today we rejoice with Lazarus and his family as he is invited by his friend Jesus and his community out of the tomb. Having been separated from life, how thankful he must have been to once again be able to smell, taste, hear, see and touch!

Too often, we take our senses for granted. You are invited this week to take a few moments to celebrate each of the senses. If one of the senses is not available to you, or if a sense is diminished, how can you express gratitude for what you *are* able to experience?

Celebrate the gift of smell. Remember your favorite fragrances. What are they? Are they nature's perfumes, like certain flowers? Are they aromas of cooking? Are they smells of a certain place or building? Can you think of a time when your sense of smell helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of smell.

Celebrate the gift of taste. Remember ways in which your sense of taste has been a gift. When has your sense of taste brought you joy? Think of your most favorite tastes. Remember salty and sweet. Think of the texture of food on your tongue. Can you think of a time when your sense of taste helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of taste.

Celebrate the gift of hearing. Remember ways in which your sense of hearing has been a gift. When has your sense of hearing brought you joy? Imagine now your most favorite sounds. What are they? Think of loud sounds, soft ones, familiar sounds, unfamiliar ones. Can you think of a time when your sense of hearing helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of hearing.

Celebrate the gift of sight. Remember ways in which your sense of sight has been a gift. When has your sense of sight brought you joy? Think of your most favorite sights. What are they? Remember colors and contrast. Can you think of a time when your sense of sight helped you to understand God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of sight.

Celebrate the gift of touch. Remember ways in which your sense of touch has been a gift. When has your sense of touch brought you joy? Remember textures and shapes. Can you think of a time when your sense of touch helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of touch.



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8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE  
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