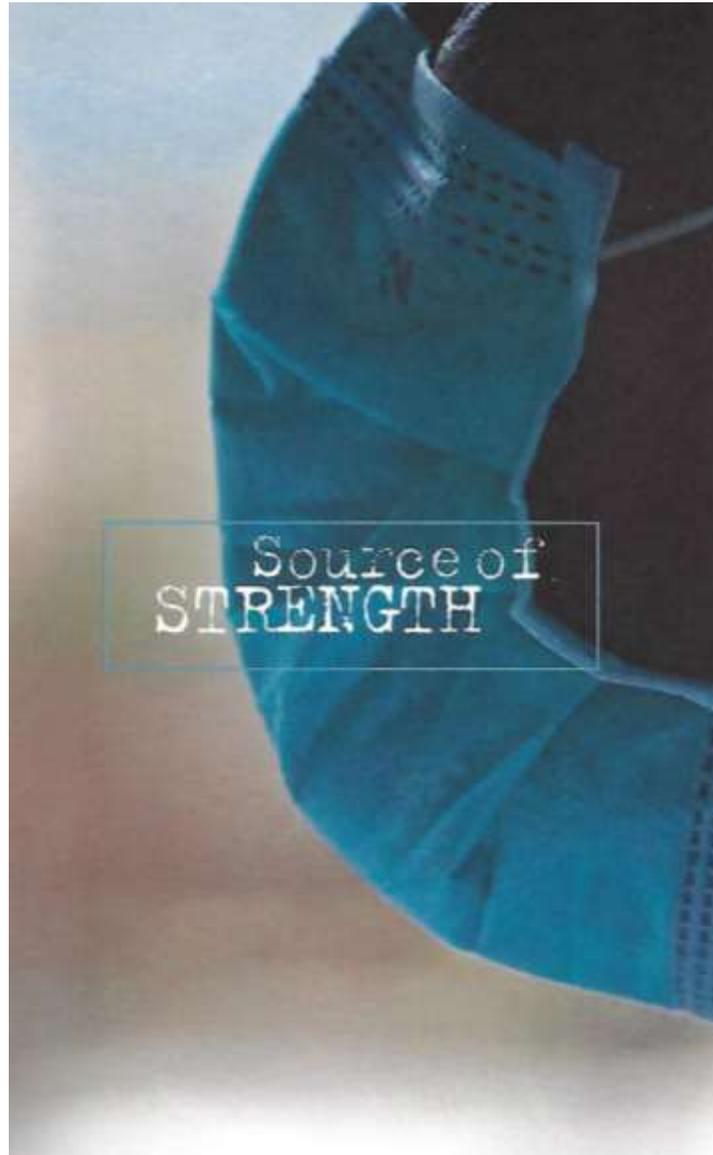


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
36721 Lake Shore Blvd.
Eastlake Ohio 44095 440.951.0291



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36721 Lake Shore Blvd.
Eastlake Ohio 44095 440.951.0291

Website: firstucceastlake.org
Email: pastorfirstucc@gmail.com

*No matter who you are
or where you are in life's journey,
you are welcome and wanted here!*

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation

Ministers - All of us!

Pastor & Teacher - Rev David T Herrin—216.832.3453

Director of Music – Jeffrey Jaskolka

Moderator - Diana Kurzawa

Christian Education - Pastor David

Financial Secretary - Donna Finch

Treasurer - Jim Lutz

Clerk - Judy DePasquale

Facilities Ministry - Charles Rumbold

Leadership Development Ministry - Betsy Taylor

Membership Ministry - Sherry Boyce

OCWM Ministry - Nancy Reeb

Spiritual Life Ministry - Betsy Taylor

Stewardship Ministry - Diana Kurzawa

*** Please rise in body or spirit.**



MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. As I turn to you in prayer this morning, God, bless me with a sense of purpose. As I go out into this day, show me what I am to do. Amen. *Mark 1:35*

Holy God, speak to us
what has been told from the beginning,
your Word that is the foundation of the world. Amen.
Isaiah 40.21

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

We are using the **BLACK Hymnal** today

Prelude ♪

Welcome

Pastor David

Ringing of the Bell

***Gathering Hymn**

#471

What a Covenant

***Call to Worship** *Isaiah 40.21,31*

One: Have we not known? Have we not heard?

All: Has it not been told to us since the beginning?

One: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their
strength;

All: They shall mount up with the wings of eagles;

One: They shall run and not be weary
All: They shall walk and not faint!

***Opening Hymn**

#592 God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command

***Invocation and Lord's Prayer 1 Corinthians 9:22**

Gracious God, you call us to follow the Christ and spread the good news of your love for all people. Help us to become all things to all people that we might reach many with your good news. For those who have not come to believe we pray for them saying: 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, for ever. Amen.

***Glory Be to God #195 twice**

*Glo-ria, glo-ria, glo-ria, glo-ry be to God on high!
 And on earth be peace to the people in whom God is well pleased*

Right Hand of Fellowship—Bow of Namaste

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S MESSAGE

Hymn of Praise ♪ #560 *By Whatever Name We Call You*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 40.21-31

Psalm 147. 1-11,20c

1 Corinthians 9.6-23

Mark 1.29-39

Word with young worshippers and Pastoral Message

Hymn of Reflection

#472 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

WE PREPARE TO SERVE THE WORLD

Prayers of the People— God, hear our prayer.

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all crea-tures high and low.

Al-el-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise God, in Je-sus ful-ly known:

Cre-a-tor, Word, and Spir-it One.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Holy Communion on Epiphany

Pastor: The Lord is here.

People: The Lord's Spirit is with us.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Communion Hymn** ♪ #332 *As We Gather at Your Table*

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Holy One, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth! You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy are you, O God of love and majesty, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself to be our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to Christ's Light. By the baptism of his suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks to

you, broke the bread gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **People: Amen!**

Pastor: Likewise, when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." **People: Amen!**

Pastor: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Love, O Lord, until you come again.

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

People: Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Gracious God, now and forever. Amen!

Pastor: Because there is one loaf we, though we are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break, it is a means of sharing in the body of Christ. And the cup over which we give thanks, it is a means of sharing in the outpoured blood of Christ. Come for all things are ready.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We, from among the gentiles give you thanks for the gift of the Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Holy God you have poured out on us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives. May this light be revealed to all the nations of the world.

***Closing Hymn** ♪ #1 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

After the Closing Hymn, we make a circle around the outside of the pews for the Commissioning and Blessing.

***Commissioning** *1 Corinthians 9.18*

Let us spread the gospel free of charge.

♪ *Halle, halle, hallelujah (3x) Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

***Blessing** *Mark 1.31*

May the Spirit of Jesus take your hand and lift you up so that you may be of service to others.

♪ *Halle, halle, hallelujah (3x) Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

***Postlude ♪**

Questions for Reflection

What does Paul mean when he says that he became all things to all people so that he could save some (1 Corinthians 9:22)?

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Join us for coffee hour following worship. We don't serve just a cup of coffee, we serve a cup of justice!

If you are interested in learning more about First United Church of Christ, or becoming a member, please speak to our Pastor or Moderator.

Please sign our guestbook as you leave worship today

Office Hours: By appointment.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 7, 2021

Mark 1:29-39

Source of Strength

Simon Peter's mother-in-law speaks:

"Peter was like a son to me, even though I did not bear him. So, when he put down his fishing nets and started to follow the Teacher, I paid attention. Some of the other women in the village said they were irresponsible, and if they stopped the work we counted on, we all would starve. "Fishing for people!" they scoffed, "THAT won't put bread on the table." I never said much in those conversations. In truth I never said much at all.

When we heard the Teacher was coming for a meal, I felt this might be my chance to listen, to finally understand his teachings. The other women and I worked all the day before and all through the night to make everything just right. By midday, I felt heavy and moved slower and slower. Finally, the other women saw and urged me to bed, but I was determined to meet the Teacher so without a word I tried to keep to my work. At last I took to bed. I tried to stay awake, but the sickness made me sleep.

When I woke up, the Teacher was there. That strange light that always seemed around him shone in the darkness of the room. His hand on my forehead was cooling and his touch was light, but it filled me with a new strength. All at once, I understood his strange command. To fish for people was to bring them near to God, to one another. I wanted to be one of those fishers, and in that moment, I knew that I would be able to. No longer heavy with fever, I rose.

Serving quietly was the chance to be near the table, and to hear what the Teacher was saying. As fast as I could bring bread and wine to the table, it was gone! First, the neighbors came pouring in, and then people I had never seen before. With that cool touch, he healed them all.

Early the next morning, I was up before the rest and I saw The Teacher slip out the door. I understand what it's like to need a few quiet minutes with the Holy One.

So, when the others asked where he was, I kept silent. But when they started to get ready to go, to look for him, I packed a bag and I followed. And I'm following still. We don't have to be preachers or have our names recorded in books to follow. We just have to be ready, to rise up, to listen and to go when he calls."