

Church of Christ, Congregational *United Church of Christ*

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Our Mission

We seek to be a Christian community
by worshiping God through prayer, music, and the proclaimed Word.

Following Christ's example,
we enthusiastically reach out to everyone with compassion, respect and love
so that we may grow in faith and commitment together.



January 22, 2023

Rev. Jennifer Geary, Interim Pastor
Rebecca Abalutzk, Music Director
Julie Desmond, Administrative Assistant

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www.millisucc.org

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Worship God, Serve Our Neighbors, Share God's Love

“Lighten Up” - January 22, 2023

*Indicates standing if you are able
B = Black Hymnal R=Red Hymnal

GATHERING

Prelude: *His Name is Wonderful*

Audrey Mieir

Welcome

PREPARE

Congregation sings:

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
When I feel afraid,
think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear
as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

Invocation

Leader: God who sang all creation into being,
we give you thanks for the sweet harmonies and soul-
stirring rhythms that lift up our spirits in the dance of life.
Open our eyes to the light of possibilities,
even when the day ahead holds difficulties.

People: **Be with us, near us, beside us. Amen**

***Opening Song:** *I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy*

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart
Down in my heart
Down in my heart
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart
Down in my heart to stay

Refrain:

And I'm so happy
So very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart
And I'm so happy
So very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.

I've got the peace that passes understanding
Down in my heart
Down in my heart
Down in my heart
I've got the peace that passes understanding
Down in my heart
Down in my heart to stay

Refrain

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer
Way down in the depths of my heart
Down in the depths of my heart
Down in the depths of my heart
I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer
Way down in the depths of my heart
Down in the depths of my heart to stay

Refrain

***Opening to God's Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIM

Congregation sings:

**More light, more truth
is breaking from Your Word.
More light, more truth,
Holy Spirit, help us hear what needs to be heard.**

Scripture: Scripture Isaiah 9:1-4 NRSVUE

Congregation sings

**More light, more truth
is breaking from Your Word.
More light, more truth,
Holy Spirit, help us hear what needs to be heard.**

A Time for Children of All Ages

Congregation sings:

**More light, more truth
is breaking from Your Word.
More light, more truth,
Holy Spirit, help us hear what needs to be heard.**

Scripture: Matthew 4:12-23 CEV

Sermon

Practices for the Week

RESPOND

Prayers

Sharing

Sung preparation: *Open Unto Me*

Open unto me, light for my darkness,
light for my darkness, open unto me.
Open unto me, light for my darkness,
open unto me, O God.

Pastoral Prayer

Personal Prayers

Lord's Prayer *(Most in our congregation use "B" on page 9 in the black hymnal. Use the words that work best for you).*

Musical Response

Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory: *Smile*

Charlie Chaplin

*Sung Presentation:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above you heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

God thank you for giving us times to grow and harvest,
and times to lay fallow and rest. As the snow blankets the
earth, may we feel the warmth of your love. Bless this
offering of our hands and of our hearts. Bless us as we
grow in faith. Amen.

GO FORTH

*Hymn # B 4 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

*Benediction

*Postlude: *He Is Exalted*

Twila Paris

Deacons: Lauren Briggs, Suzi Sennott and Wendy Schneider

Suggestions for Laughter Possibilities

Place this card somewhere where you will see it every day and remember to expose yourself to something funny throughout the week. (Remember that if you don't feel like laughing, it is OK...whether you laugh or not, seeing others laugh has benefits).

Some ideas:

- Google "funny animal videos" or babies laughing
- Find a movie you have laughed at before and watch it again
- Find a stand-up comedy show to attend or watch
- Gather with family or friends and share funny memories

God of delight, I give you thanks for good humor and joy! Open my eyes to the light of possibilities, even when the day ahead holds difficulties. Be with me, near me, beside me. Amen.



Laughter is the
best medicine.
Lighten it up!

Please stay for fellowship following the service.

One License #A-732166; CCLI # 1300459



For your convenience, you can now make donations and pay your pledge on-line. Just scan this Giving QR code.



Have a prayer request?

Please contact Mary Jensen to add it to the prayer chain at mejensen7@verizon.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting - Today

Immediately following Service

Marilyn Barber will be providing childcare during the Annual Meeting.

Sunday School - Today

Children, You are Special!

God created you just the way you are, special and unique.

Our focus scripture is Psalm 139:15 msg

"Body and soul, I am marvelously made!"

Join us as we explore some of the unique wonders of creation.

Children begin in worship and go to Sunday School following the Time For Children of All Ages.

Note: Next Sunday School dates are

February 12 and March 12 - mark your calendar.

M&M's (Monday Morning Group)

Mondays at 10:00 am in the Parlor.

Join in the fun of socializing with others. Many bring hand work, but you can just come to visit. ~ All are Welcome!

Zoom Bible Study

Join us each Wednesday at 9:30 am and at 7:45 pm. A group gathers on Zoom to listen and discuss one or more passages from the upcoming Sunday's worship service. Each gathering a stand-alone event. The weekly passages are listed under the Calendar of Events in the bulletin and on the website.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.millisucc.org for all Zoom links

Sunday, January 22, 2023

10:00 am ~ Worship Service

Sunday School

Annual Meeting immediately following service

Monday, January 23, 2023

10:00 am – 12:00 pm ~ M&M's in the Parlor

11:00 am – 1:00 pm ~ Reverend Geary Office Hours

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

7:00 pm – Missions Meeting on Zoom

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

9:30 am and 7:45 pm ~ Bible Study on Zoom

(Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:1-12)

Sunday, January 29, 2023

10:00 am ~ Worship Service

Refreshments following service

Sunday, February 5, 2023

11:00 am – 3:00 pm ~ All Church Retreat

GOD

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Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

1 Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore you, God of glo-ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re-lect your rays,
 3 You are giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blessed,
 4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore you, open-ing to the sun a-bove.
 Stars and an-gels sing a-round you, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!
 Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re-con-cil-ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, drive the storms of doubt a-way;
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Lov-ing Spir-it, Fa-ther, Moth-er, all who love be-long to you;
 Ev-er sing-ing, move we for-ward, faith-ful in the midst of strife,

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth-er, by that love our joy re-new.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us on-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759-1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846