

Welcome to Samuel UCC
No matter where you are on life's journey,
YOU
are welcome here!

- We are **REQUIRING** everyone wear a facemask. (*Children 3 years and younger would be exempt from the mask requirement.*)
- You may move about and greet one another during “The Passing of the Peace.” As always, be respectful of other’s comfort levels regarding touching.
- The offering plate will be at each entrance to the sanctuary.
- Congregational singing of hymns is permitted for those who have been fully vaccinated.
- At this time, we will not be having a formal indoor fellowship time after church, but you are invited to talk with each other after worship in the sanctuary or outside.
- Children are invited to stay in service for Children’s Time (called “*A Story for All Ages*”) and then join Sunday School.
- Children aged 3 and under are welcome to join our staffed and vaccinated Nursery in the fellowship hall.

Sunday March 27, 2022
10am Samuel United Church of Christ
The Fourth Sunday of Lent

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and hearing assistance devices are available.
**indicates all who are comfortably able, please rise in body or spirit*

Welcome & Gathering Music

Announcements

Mission Moment - *The Food Pantry at Centennial Christian Church*
Harry and Pat Penelton

Ringling of the Bells

Opening Words (*Adapted from Worship Design Studio "Enough"*
Resources)

Song and Procession "*Good Enough*"
by Marcia McFee, Marsha Moors-Charles, and Chuck Bell

During the song, the children and youth will bring the flowers on the window boxes and place them on the ladder by the alter. They may take their place at the front for Children's Time.

**What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of
sorrow?**

**Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays,
mistakes we made?**

**Sometimes we get what we get, life disappoints us and yet,
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.**

A Story for All Age – *Children’s Time with Melissa Harlow*

***Opening Hymn – “O God, How We Have Wandered” #202 NCH
(Black)**

O God, How We Have Wandered

202

Kevin Nichols, 1980; alt.

Luke 15:11-32; 2 Cor. 5:16-20

1 O God, how we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O God of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

In fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
By faith we are re - turn - ing with hope and trust in you.
Com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, our peace and hope as - sured.

But how, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we turn with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us, and home re - joic - ing bring,
Grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

As dis - tant but com - pell - ing, you call us each by name.
In glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

***A Prayer of Transformation**

(Adapted from Worship Design Studio "Enough" Resources)

One: Let us pray together...

All: Holy One, God of Forgiveness, we call out to you, and you surround us with deliverance. You love us infinitely more than we love ourselves or others. Open us this day to your counsel, helping us be more merciful, more grace-filled, so that we might rejoice in simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

The Passing of the Peace

If you are worshipping with us on Zoom, we invite you to wave your hands to those around you. You may also want to unmute yourself and greet one another with the "Peace of Christ be with you." For those who are in person, we invite you to greet one another, but be attentive to those who may not want to shake hands. If someone waves that is a cue for a wave back.

Response

"Come to Me"

by Grundy

**All who are weary, all who are burdened down,
Come to me, come to me, come to me and I will give you rest.**

**My yoke is easy, my burden feels so light,
Come to me, come to me, come to me and I will give you rest.**

A Story for the Ages – *Luke 22:28-34*

²⁸ “You are those who have stood by me in my trials; ²⁹ and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, ³⁰ so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹ “Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded^[a] to sift all of you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” ³³ And he said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!” ³⁴ Jesus^[b] said, “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

Response

“Doxology”

NCH #778 (black)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

Message – *Student Pastor Chris Trousdale*

Special Music –

*“The Garden Song”
Performed by Dan Touchon*

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

2 Cor. 5:16-17

Brian Wren, 1978; rev. 1983

Unison

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -
 2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y
 3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the
 4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and
 * In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and

mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is
 Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of
 past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -

bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID Policies Update: Masks Still Required

At the recent Consistory meeting, it was decided to continue to require masks during in person activities. We are watching the numbers and the news closely and will be addressing the issue every month.

Food Collection NEXT Sunday, Apr 3

Bring your nonperishable food for the Centennial Christian Church Food Pantry next week!

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Special Offering Received TODAY

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Church's Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Three Ancient Contexts of the New Testament: A Lenten Series

March 30th from 7-8:15pm on Zoom

Meeting ID: 814 2630 7845

Rev. Dr. Ron Serino is currently the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Memphis and holds a PhD in Biblical Interpretation from Brite Divinity School (Texas Christian University), a M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary (NYC), and a B.A. from Emory University. His research uses critical race theory (critical whiteness studies) to explore the role of biblical interpretation in constructing race and sanctifying racial whiteness in early modern Britain and its American colonies. He previously worked with people experiencing homelessness in Maryland and with First Congregational UCC, St. Louis.

Lent 2022: Good Enough

This Lenten Season we are using a resource from the Worship Design Studios to focus our attention on how we can affirm a faith that is blessed, regardless of where we find ourselves on the ladders the world wants us to climb. We will put away the lure of perfectionism and learn to lean into embracing the persons, the people, the community of faith as God has created us.

Holy Week Services:

Sunday, April 10 at 10am - Palm / Passion Sunday

Thursday, April 14 at 7:30pm – Maundy Thursday Service

Saturday, April 16 time TBD - Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 17 at 10am - Easter Sunday

Sign Up to Sponsor Easter Flowers on the clipboard or at samuelucc.org

Spring is around the corner and so is Easter. Decorate our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday with your choice of Tulips or Daffodils - \$13 each.

**Next Conversation on Race and Justice Sunday, Apr 3 7:00pm
Meeting number 852 0786 6939**



The Mission Statement of Samuel Church

Samuel Church, gathered by Grace,
Nourished by the Word,
and Renewed by the Holy Spirit,
is a welcoming, caring community of faith.

In response to the gift of grace, and in affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ, we welcome all persons into our fellowship. We seek to be a congregation that includes persons of any race, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, marital status, faith understanding, mental and physical ability, and socio-economic background. We welcome all to share fully in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship, rites and sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of the community called Samuel Church.

SAMUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.samuelucc.org

Ministers	All the Members of Samuel Church
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Jeff Groene
Minister of Outreach to Children, Youth, & Families	Melissa Harlow
Director of Music	Nicolas Valdez
Student Pastor	Chris Trousdale
Office Administrator	Anna Muhm
Nursery Caregiver	Leslie French
Preschool Director	Jane Strauss
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Dr. Hale Schroer