

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 May 1, 2022

10am Samuel United Church of Christ

The Third Sunday After Easter

**indicates all who are comfortably able, please rise in body or spirit*

Welcome & Gathering Music

Announcements

Food & Paper Good Collection

Ringling of the Bells

Call to Worship

(Adapted from "Worship Ways")

One: Beware! Watch out! Be careful!

All: Watch out for what? What should we be careful of?

One: As we worship this morning you might just notice that
Christ is in our midst.

**All: But isn't that why we've come – to meet the risen Christ
in our lives?**

One: Yes, but when we meet Jesus, who knows what might
happen...

**All: The blinders we wear to the suffering of others might
fall from our eyes, the groans of creation might be heard.**

One: If we pay attention, we may be changed.

All: We want to be transformed.

One: This is a place of rebirth.

All: Come, let us be renewed.

Lord of the Dance

Unison G Em Bm Em

1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
 2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar-i-see, but they
 3. I danced on the sab-bath when I cured the lame, the
 4. I danced on a Fri-day and the sky turned black; it's
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high,

Am D7

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
 would not dance and they would not fol-low me; I
 ho-ly peo-ple said it was a shame; they
 hard to dance with the dev-il on your back; they
 I am the life that-'ll nev-er, nev-er die; I'll

G Em Bm Em

came down from heav-en and I danced on the earth. At
 danced for the fish-er-men, for James and John; they
 whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they
 bur-ied my bod-y and they thought I'd gone, but
 live in you if you'll live in me;

Am D7 C G Refrain G Bm

Beth-le-hem I had my birth.
 came to me and the dance went on.
 left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher-
 I am the dance and I still go on.
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the
Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may
be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

*A Prayer of Transformation

One: O God, you are with us in many different ways. Thank you for being with us now.

All: Risen Christ, lead us in the dance of life!

One: As we are going about our daily lives, you come to us – meeting us where we are.

All: Risen Christ, lead us in the dance of life!

One: When feel afraid and threatened, you can turn our sorrow into dancing.

All: Risen Christ, lead us in the dance of life!

One: In triumphant times of worship and praise, we feel your awesome presence.

All: Risen Christ, lead us in the dance of life!

One: In unexpected times, as we go about our work, suddenly you are there – supporting us, challenging us, forgiving us, blessing us.

All: Risen Christ, thank you for being with us now, and Risen Christ, lead us in the dance of life! Amen.

***Response** *“Lord of the Dance” (Refrain)*
 #261 UMH (purple)

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

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.

***The Response** *“Halleluja”* *#236 NCH*
(black)

**Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja. Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja.
Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja. Halle-lu-ja, Halle-lu-ja.**

A Story for the Ages - Acts 9:1–20

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” 5 He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” 11 The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” 13 But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.”

15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” 17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, 20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

Response *“Easter People” (St. 1) # 304 UMH (purple)*

**Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven’s choices;
heavenly music let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people let us sing.**

The Message – *Pastor Jeff Groene*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

“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.”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Hymn of Approach *“Become to Us the Living Bread”*

#630 UMH (purple hymnal)

**Become to us the living bread By which the Christian life is fed,
Renewed and greatly comforted: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Become the never-failing win, the spring of joy that shall incline
Our to bear the covenant sign: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**May Christians all with one accord Unite around the sacred board
To praise your holy name, O Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Sanctus *#793 NCH (black)*

Holy, Holy, Holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, God.

The Act Of Institution & Consecration

The Call to the Lord's Supper

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come for all things are ready.

The Communion

Anyone who seeks the presence of Christ and the community of God's people is welcome at the Lord's Table. We welcome children to share in this sacred meal and recognize this as a decision of each family. Today we are returning to passing bread and cup.

As the trays of bread are passed, the server will also have a basket with a sealed gluten free water and juice. Choose whichever you are more comfortable with. When the cup is served, you will find a red wine or a white grape juice. You are invited to hold the bread and the cup until everyone is served, so that we may all commune together.

*During the Serving of the Bread & Cup, the congregation is invited to sing:
"One Bread, One Body" #620 UMH (purple hymnal)*

620

One Bread, One Body

Refrain (Unison)

D7 G C G C G D Em B

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,

one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And

we, though man-y through-out the earth,

we are one bod - y in this one Lord. *Fine*

1. Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or free,
 2. Man-y the gifts, man-y the works,
 3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

wom-an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all. One
 gath-ered to one, for all.

***The Prayer Of Thanksgiving**

All: Eternal God, you have called your people from the east and west, from the north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence with us and within us. Go with us now we pray -- to the streets, to our homes and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Closing Hymn:**

"Christ is Alive"
 #318 UMH (purple)

Christ Is Alive

1. Christ is a-live! Let Chris-tians sing. His cross stands
 2. Christ is a-live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3. Not throned a-far, re - mote - ly high, un-touched, un -
 4. In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 5. Christ is a-live, and comes to bring good news to

6

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and all cre -

11

prais-es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 here and now and dwell in ev - ery place and time.
 midst of life, our Sav - ior in the God-head reigns.
 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 a - tion ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Challenge and Blessing

***The Postlude**

Liturgist: Chris Trousdale

Altar Flowers are placed by Peggy Newman In honor of the engagement of her granddaughter, Latrece Booker, to Vlad Athouriste.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Time - TODAY

Today, we will gather for fellowship time after worship. Our hope is that we will be able to be outside, but we will have plans for indoor, if the weather doesn't cooperate.

Graduates of 2022

Please let us know of anyone who is graduating this spring – from school, college, or program. We will share a list of all graduates at the end of the month.

Music for Service

If you are interested in playing special music for an upcoming Sunday, or in leading the hymns, please let Pastor Jeff know.

Children and Youth Minister Search Committee – Job Posted

We have worked on the job description and will be posting it. If you know of anyone interested, please contact someone from the Search Committee: Susan Craig, Leslie French, Pastor Jeff, Christine Krysowaty, Danielle Lindsey, and Alex Miller.

Director of Music Search Committee Forming

With the news of Nic Valdez's leaving his position at Samuel Church to allow more time to pursue his other professional endeavors, we are assembling a search committee who will work at writing a job description, identifying and interviewing candidates, and making a recommendation to the Consistory. If you are interested in serving on this Search Committee, please let Pastor Jeff or Tim Poor know.

Saturday, May 14 - Confirmation Class 10am-12pm

Confirmation Class with Possible Confirmation Rehearsal and lunch after class. We will tidy up unanswered questions, work on a group statement of faith, and talk about where we go from here.

Looking Ahead

Here are some important upcoming dates:

May 8: Mother's Day (No Fellowship Time)

May 14: Confirmation Class

May 15: Service, Fellowship Time with the Schroers

May 20: Youth Lock In

May 22: Service, and Celebration of Melissa Harlow's Ministry

May 28: Confirmation Rehearsal

May 29: Confirmation and Melissa's Last Day

May 30: Memorial Day