

Singing our Way to Healing

April 18, 2010

with deepest appreciation to
EUCC member, writer, and healer
the Rev. Dr. Deborah Patterson

The fruit of the Spirit are within us and around us, and available to all through God's bounteous love and compassion. At times of illness, it seems, we need them even more, as we care for ourselves, or care for others. Not all the fruits of the Spirit are ones we really want to have to practice (like patience, for example!) yet they are each a blessing to us when we really need them.



Morning on St. Joseph Island,
Ontario, Canada

The Other Evangelical Evangelical United Church of Christ

Following the God
made known in the life
and teachings of Jesus...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

When Jesus sent out his disciples, he gave them a mandate to preach, teach, and heal. Over the centuries, the church has been doing very well with preaching—two thousand years after Jesus walked this earth, most Christian communities have preaching as a regular part of worship. The church has also been doing well with teaching—most congregations have active and vital Christian education programs. The church has never quite made up its mind, however, about where it wants to stand regarding Jesus' commission to heal.

Deborah Patterson, The Essential Parish Nurse

May our gathering and prayer today
be an affirmation of our acceptance of Jesus' call to ministry.

*HYMN

God is Still Speaking tune: Morecambe

*"...and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire,
and after the fire, a still, small voice." I Kings 19:12*

**There is a comma, where we fear a pause,
life rushes onward, past the grave and cross.
God is still speaking -- still and quiet voice --
more truth to break forth, giving each a choice.**

**Look to the morning past the cold of night.
We say with courage, "All will be made right."
Seeking brings life, not doctrine made of stone:
God is unfolding truth, not we alone.**

**We are God's people, spirit, dust and bone.
Truths we hold dear were yesterday unknown.
In our tomorrows there will surely be
questions to challenge us, new shores to see.**

*HYMN

Spirit of God is Love tune: St. Joseph

*"The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."*

Galatians 5:22-23

Chords: C, Em, Am

Spir - it of God is love _____ Spir - it of God is
Spir - it of God is grace _____ Spir - it of God is
Spir - it of God is truth _____ Spir - it of God is
Spir - it of God is here _____ Spir - it of God is

Chords: G, C, F

pa - tience Spir - it of God is gen - tle - ness
mer - cy _____ Spir - it of God is heal - ing in -
know ledge _____ Spir - it of God is wis - dom that
wait - ing _____ Spir - it of God is ev - ery - where

Chords: G, C, F, G, C

known Through care as we com - fort a child _____
spired Through hope as we of - fer com - pas - sion.
grows Through time as we o - pen our - selves _____
known Through peo - ple who long for God's peace. _____

In our Prayers

*LITANY (people's response in **bold**)

One: God calls forth life from the waters above the earth,
and healing from springs of eternal love.

Many: **We worship the God who has made us whole—body, mind
and spirit—and placed us as stewards of all the earth.**

One: We sing praise to God because we are grateful
for God's faithfulness in trial and rejoicing.

Many: **There is nowhere we can go from God's presence.
God come to us with compassionate, strengthening love.**

One: God calls us to respond with courage and steadfastness, as partners in bring-
ing hope and peace in the world.

Many: **Let us worship together the God who has made us whole,
forgiven our sins, and graced us with talents and challenges.**

Deborah Patterson, The Essential Parish Nurse

*HYMN

Called Forth

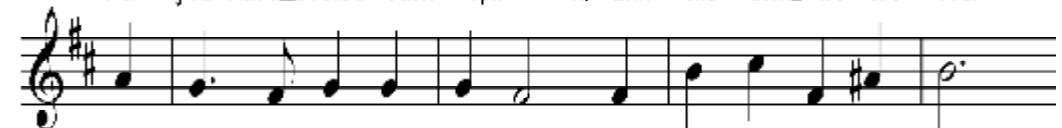
tune: Deaconess



Called forth as pil - grim_ peo - ple, like_ those who've gone be - fore,
God, help us re - build shel - ter for_ ci - ties_ torn with pain,
Oh, strength - en us with_ cour - age and_ grant us_ dai - ly bread,



We seek the_ good of_ neigh - bors, the lone - ly, _ hun - gry, poor.
And lenc us_ hearts of_ long - ing for hope on_earth to reign.
For you have_ birthed each spir - it, with wis - dom_ we are fed.



We wel - come ev' - ry stran - ger, We share God's gifts of grace.
The peace of Christ sur - rounds us and is in love re - vealed -
Let those with whom we jour - ney know your a - bid - ing care.



God sends us out as_ part - ners, new_ cha - leng - es_ to face.
All bro - ken bo - dies_ tend - ed and_ wound - ed_ spir - its healed.
Make us a faith - ful_ peo - ple who_ your com - pas - sion share.

CHANCEL STEPS

We invite children of all ages to a time of sharing on the chancel steps. Following this time, young children may choose to go to the nursery. At the 11:00 a.m. worship we also offer Shepherds, a preschool play time in the Red Room (lower level).

ANTHEM 11:00 AM "Your Hands are God's Hands" Deborah Patterson
Chancel Choir

The tune, *Deaconess*, is named for the Deaconess sisters, clergy, and lay people whose healing mission began in St. Louis in 1889.



The first Deaconess Sisters in St. Louis, Missouri, late 1800's

Frederick Buechner, in his book, *Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC*, had these words to say about vocation: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." When we are doing what we love, our lives have purpose and meaning. Gary Gunderson, with Larry Pray in *The Leading Causes of Life*, list the five leading causes of life as *connection* to others, purpose in life (*coherence*), the ability to act (*agency*), *blessing*, and *hope*. Yes, we have suffering, but we also have dreams, and in God, we always have blessing and hope.

HYMN

Out of Chaos

tune: Chaos

"The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2



Out of cha-os you have fash-ioned In - fi - nite de - sign____
Here we face a wealth of chal-lenge as we seek our way;____
Hear our howl-ing in - ner strug-gles, tend each wound ed soul.____
You bring heal-ing to the mar - row, Spir - it, blood and bone;____
In our cha-os you have plant - ed Wis - dom from a - bove.____



Sent us here in hu - man rai - ment Mean - ing to de - fine.____
Some-times we are lost and fright-ened, shel - ter us we pray.____
Send your heal-ing Ho - ly Spir - it soom to make us whole.____
And you send a sear - ing mes-sage, "You are not a - lone."____
You give strength to ev - ery crea - ture. Help us live your love.____

Sometimes family life is trying and troubling. We have children who have health concerns or other challenges in each of their lives. We face job losses, moves, transitions.

Too often, it seems, we also have conflicts with others – among friends and family, and among nations. At times it feels like chaos!

Yet the God who called forth life from chaos is able to help us find a way through our own unsettled lives to places of purpose and meaning. God is able to guide us through to places of healing and hope, yes, even tranquility!

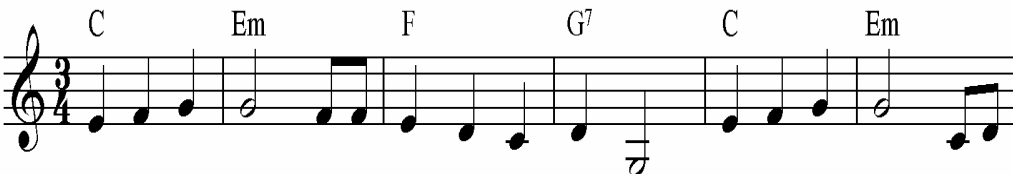


HYMN

What is the Name of the Stranger

tune: Fatima

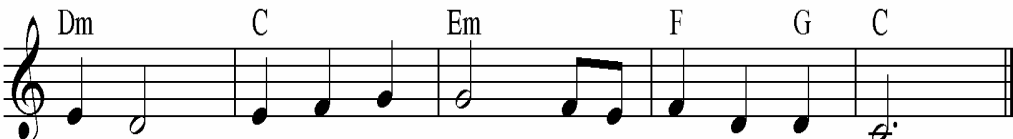
"And the Lord will answer then, 'Truly, I say to you, whatever you did to the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:40



What is the name of the wan - der - ing strang - er? What is the name of the
What is the name of the hard-scrab-ble moth - er? What is the name of the
What is the name of your ret - i - cent neigh - bor? What is the name of that



run - a - way child? What is the name of the ref - u - gee
fath - er who cries? What is the name of the el - der - ly
man who's so odd? What is your name when you're fright-ened of



in - fant? Could it be Je - sus, so meek and so mild?
wi - dow? Is it you, Je - sus, so gen - tle and wise?
lone - ly? Yes, it is Je - sus, a true Child of God.

In these days of high unemployment, the "least of these" might be those who are seeking in vain for paid work. In all time we face the vagaries of nature: "the least of these" might be those who are struggling to rebuild their lives after a devastating tsunami or earthquake.

It turns out that "the least of these," is, at some time or another, each one of us. And the words of Jesus tells us that whoever has cared for someone who is hungry, or sick, or naked, or alone, has cared for God.



The tune, *Fatima*, is named for a beloved acquaintance in Russia.

When serving as pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Smithton, Illinois, a congregation of about 200 people in southern Illinois, Deb found herself ministering, at one time, to five people living with various forms of cancer. One of these was a woman whose breast cancer had highly metastasized and was living her final days with us. She was married, but had no children, and was totally dependent upon her husband for help and support. Suddenly, unexpectedly, without any warning, her husband dropped dead of a heart attack. This hymn was written to assure her that we are NEVER alone – that we are always sheltered by God's loving spirit.

"Father, give us courage to change what must be altered, serenity to accept what cannot be helped, and the insight to know the one from the other."
Reinhold Niebuhr

Recently, *The New York Times* reported on new evidence that seems to indicate that the Rev. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971) did, indeed, write the "Serenity Prayer." However, as he originally wrote it, it seems to be more of a "Courage Prayer," and that is what one of his biographers, June Bingham, believe he intended.

Regardless of whether one focuses on the courage or serenity one needs, it is critical that one remembers the "insight" or wisdom part of this prayer, for we are always called to make choices, and sometimes, we make the right ones. Other times, we make choices that cause us and/or others pain, and for those choices, and from those choices, we need the healing, forgiving love of God.



HYMN Sheltered by God's Loving Spirit: Beecher
"God will make a shelter and shade from the heat of the day,
and a refuge and hiding place from the storm and rain." Isaiah 4:6

**Sheltered by God's loving Spirit,
Gathered here we share our grief.
Seeking solace, seeking courage –
Knowing God does bring relief.
We are free to name our sorrows,
Speak our anger, weep our loss,
For our God did suffer also
When Christ died upon a cross.**

**Given breath by God's own purpose
Back to God our breath does go.
Life eternal in our present
Here we only partly know.
But forgiveness, love, and courage
Show us God's amazing grace,
Strengthen us to face the journey
Till we know God face to face.**

MISSION MOMENT

Wellness Initiative

***HYMN** There are Choices tune: St. Reinhold
"Father, give us courage to change what must be altered, serenity to accept what cannot be helped, and the insight to know the one from the other."



1. There are choic - es all of us have made,
2. When it dawns that we have strayed from you,
3. Let the heal - ing wa - ters of your love
4. Grant us joy, the wis - dom of your love,



Paths not ta - ken, bridg - es crossed.
And the mer - cies of your care,
Calm and tend each trou - bled breast.
And your bless - ing on our way.



Grant us cour - age to ad - mit our need
Help us turn, to change our hearts of pain,
Let the hope we hear with - in your voice
Keep our jour - neys ev - er safe from harm



For the peace that we have lost.
And each in - jur - y re - pair.
Be our source of strength and rest.
As we dwell with you, we pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer,
After each expression, the worship leader will say: Lord in your Mercy.
And the people may respond: **Hear our prayer.**

TABLE PRAYER AND PROCESSION TO THE TABLE INVITATION, REMEMBRANCE AND BLESSING

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst
indeed, in one another. Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

*The Congregation is invited to come forward by the center aisle...
partaking of the bread and cup, lighting a candle in prayer, and placing
an offering in the plates beside the table.*

*LORD'S PRAYER (sung during processional)

source: David Haas

REFRAIN

Our_ Fa-ther who art in heav-en, oh___ hal-low-ed be thy
name. Our_ Moth-er who art in heav-en, oh___
hal-low-ed be thy name.

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**
(refrain)

**Give us this day, our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive,
as we forgive, those who trespass against us.**
(refrain)

**And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil; for the kingdom, the pow'r
and the glory are yours forever.**
(refrain)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Accept our offerings, Living God, as reflections of our commitment
to hear and respond to your voice, speaking, still.

Many: **God is still speaking...**

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be
afraid or terrified, for the LORD your
God goes with you; God will never leave
you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy
31:6*

Well-known as the final chorus of
Ludwig von Beethoven's (1770-1827)
9th Symphony, this tune is most com-
monly sung with the words of the
hymn text, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore
Thee." It is a joyous sounding melody,
indeed, yet when Beethoven's 9th Sym-
phony was performed in 1824 in Vi-
enna, the composer was totally deaf
and had to be turned around to see the
audience's joyful reaction to his new
work.



Beethoven persevered with his life's
calling, even to the end, through pov-
erty and physical infirmity. We, too,
are encouraged by God to persevere in
our own lives, through that which
brings us pain and loss to that which
brings beauty, and purpose, and
meaning.

God will not leave us or forsake us –
that is a promise!

*Unless otherwise noted, all hymn
texts, tunes and notes are written
by Deborah L. Patterson from her
forthcoming book, **Balm in
Gilead: Hymns of Healing and
Wholeness**, copyright 2010.*

Adult Education this Spring

Sunday Mornings at
9:45am
212 Building

Bible Study Returns:

9:45 in the 212 building, we will view the first of twenty-four 30 minute video lectures on the Old Testament presented by Amy-Jill Levine, renowned OT scholar. We'll view eight of them this spring and the rest in the fall and winter Adult Ed sessions.

Studded with genres ranging from myth and saga to law and proverb, from military history to love poetry, informed by world-views radically different from yet still fundamental to our own, the Old Testament tells a people's sacred story. It is a narrative of divine action in history that is holy writ to Jews, Christians, and Muslims alike. As Professor Levine observes: "The Old Testament is endlessly fascinating because it offers everything to explore: myth, saga, and history; tragedy, comedy, and farce; economics and politics; literature and poetry of surpassing beauty; court intrigue and prophetic morality; heavenly miracles and sometimes heavenly silence; questions of theodicy; answers that satisfy and answers that may not; destruction and rebuilding; despair and hope."

Parent Group: Exploring Children's spirituality begins in this Sunday in the 212 Building

Presentation: "Worldwide Fistula Fund" on May 9 as Lewis Wall shares an update on his work in Niger

*HYMN

God of Healing and of Promise

tune: Hymn to Joy

God of healing and of promise
Source of myst'ry, wondrous care,
Genesis of living purpose
For your people everywhere.
Heal our hearts of shame and sorrow;
Bind our brokenness and pain.
Lend us strength to seek the morrow
As we rise and love again.

God of solitude and silence,
God of rich community,
You call order out of chaos,
Music from cacophony.
Mend the wounds that long have grieved us,
Set our minds at liberty.
Seeking and embracing stillness,
We find truth that sets us free.

God of wisdom for the future,
God of knowledge of the past,
Help us act with loving kindness
As your goodness holds us fast.
Overtake the sin that haunts us.
Stir our souls that we may see
You bring forth the reign of justice
Blessing all eternity.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Bulletin recycling: Though we invite you to take your bulletin home to review the prayers and opportunities throughout the week, if you choose to leave your bulletin after the 8:30am service place it in the blue box and we will use it again!

The Circle of Healing present...

OASIS DAY OF REFRESHMENT

A half day retreat for body, mind, and spirit

TODAY AT EVANGELICAL

1:00pm-5:00pm

Experience group and individual practices that refresh and renew your person. The afternoon will offer: yoga, centering prayer, bread baking, shibashi, healing touch, lectio divina, labyrinth walking, sacred drumming, water meditation, music meditation, and plenty of space for you to breathe. Come for an hour or stay all afternoon. Additional information available in the brochures located on the table in the Narthex.

Contemporary Christian Writings

You're invited to an organizational meeting for a newly forming discussion group THIS SUNDAY morning, April 18 at NOON. Our gathering will be BRIEF for purposes of discerning best meeting time. The group will select books by contemporary Christian writers, such as John Shelby Spong, Gretta Vosper, Robin Meyers, and Martin Borg. Interested persons are encouraged to bring suggestions for books to discuss. For more information, contact Bob Karr (karr.bob@gmail.com) or Al Schon.

Justice Harvard Study Group

Recently while doing a web search on the topic of morality and justice, EUCC member David M found an exciting website through Harvard University: www.justiceharvard.org. David is wondering if there might be others who would join him in such a learning and sharing project. He invites interested friends to go to the site and explore its content. Look at some of the video sessions, examine some of the supplemental reading material and other resources. If you have questions, would like to discuss your observations, or would like to indicate interest in joining such a study, please contact David (dmiersensor@gmail.com or 314-395-7873)

Cookies for The Bridge/Youth Service Project

The April service project for the youth group service circle is to take cookies to The Bridge and serve them with the evening meal on Sunday, April 25th. The Bridge provides services for people who currently do not have a home. We are asking members of the congregation to help provide baked cookies for this project. We are in need of 25 dozen cookies to help serve the 200 people who eat supper at The Bridge. No cookies with nuts please. If you are interested in helping provide baked cookies please sign the clipboard on the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions please contact Carolyn Held or Darcy Swanson at 729-0251. Thank you for your help!!



SALAD SUPPER FOR EUCC WOMEN

We have a wonderful opportunity to share a salad supper on Tuesday, April 20, beginning at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. I am hosting it and will bring the greens, dressings, bread, and will provide beverages and table service if each of you will bring something to add -- veggies, fruit, meats, nuts, cheese, etc.

This gathering provides an opportunity for us to hear a personal story from Alexandra Douglas, daughter of my teaching assistant at Eden, who works with the Friends Women's Association (FWA) founded by and for women of Burundi who face incredible challenges following 12 years of civil war. Alex is program manager for FWA, a grassroots clinic focused on HIV/AIDS, sexual violence and post-genocide trauma. She has done research for sex workers and trafficked persons in Boliva, San Francisco, and Minneapolis. Her work and passion are concentrated on the intersections between gender equality, community development, health access, and conflict. It had been her hope to have a Burundi doctor here with her to meet with Eden students and some interested women at EUCC. Unfortunately, the doctor was denied a visa, but Alexandra has a wonderful story to tell.

Please come -- and bring some friends. it is a busy night at EUCC with LaLeche league, the Building Committee, and the Governing Body already meeting that evening. But however many of us might be available, let's gather for fellowship and learning from 5:30 to about 7:30 or 8 PM. No reservations required. Just come -- with a cuppa something to add to the salad.

Marilyn Stavenger, Pastoral Associate

THIS WEEK AT EUCC

Sunday, April 18th

8:30am—Worship
9:45am—Church School
9:45am—Adult Ed: Video Series, Parent Group
9:45am—Coffee Fellowship
11:00am—Worship
12:00pm—Servant Team Meeting (212 Bldg)
12:00pm—Youth in Worship Band Practice (Choir Room)
1:00pm—Oasis Day of Refreshment

Monday, April 19th

9:15am—Job Jar
12:15pm—Staff Meeting

Tuesday, April 20th

10:00am—Orchard House Bible Study
12:15pm—Al-Anon Meeting (Fireside Room)
6:30pm—GB Meeting (212 Bldg)
7:00pm—LaLeche League (Fireside Rm)
7:00pm—Phase 1 Building Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 21th

5:30pm—Sts C&F Weekday Mass
6:00pm—Children's Choir
6:30pm—Wellness Advisory Group (212 Bldg)

Thursday, April 22nd

7:30pm—Chancel Choir

Friday, April 23rd

10:00am—La Leche League Meeting (Fireside Rm)

Saturday, April 24th

7:30am—Yoga Class (Narthex)
6:00pm—Sts C&F Potluck (Fireside Rm)

Sunday Morning

Shared Ministry Opportunities — Signups are in the Narthex

Ministry		Today	Next Week
Liturgists	Read the Morning Scripture and Prayers	David Miers (11:00)	Lucy Allen (11:00)
Shepherds	Help Carolyn play with our preschoolers	Stacey and Jeff Morris	Laura and Steve Bardelmeier
Crib Room Assistants	Help Carole play with our babies (two shifts)	Sandy Bowe	Ray Mulligan
Ushers	Greet worshipers and (at 11:00am) collect offering	Teri Hillen Sarah Webster Linda Kolley Jan Ittner Steve Bardelmeier Sean Bryant	Bob and Bobbie Pahmeier Bob and Jean Karr Bob Risk Ray Mulligan
Coffee Hour	Provide finger foods and greet community between services	OPEN	Bryant Family
Money Counters	Count the weekly offerings and enter into database	Bob and Gigi Hill	Nick Gilham and Jeremy Meyer
Welcome Table	Greet visitors and members		

Pastoral Team
Katherine Hawker,
Marilyn Stavenger, Al Schon
Pastoral Assistant, Sue Schindel

Music Team
Donita Bauer,
Jill Thompson, Darcy Swanson

Field Ed Student, Deborah McBride
Sunday AM, Carolyn Held
Nursery, Carole Janssen
Campus Minister at Webster, Laurel Hayes

President, Laura Bardelmeier
Secretariat, Paul Mack
Financial, Ken Ulmer
Facilities, Wynn Miller
People, Debbie Gregg
Community, Patty Pelikan, Janet Rundquist
Servant, Lori Winter, Laura Evans
Learning, Ruth Panhorst
Worship, Lil Lau

Endeavoring to maintain the unity of the Holy Spirit in the bond of peace, we are open to and affirming of each child of God, recognizing that we are called to be as one reconciled Body with members of every race, gender identity, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, class, age and physical or mental health and ability.

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