

United Presbyterian Church 1701 E. Second Street Bloomington, IN 47401

November 19, 2023

The Reverend Cheryl Montgomery 812-332-1850 www.upcbloomington.org

United Presbyterian Church

November 19, 2023 25th Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

PRELUDE Spirit of the Living God

Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 123)

Elder Stephanie Worden, liturgist

Liturgist: To you we lift up my eyes, 0 you who are enthroned in the heavens!

People: As the eyes of a maid look to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you,

Giver of every good gift.

Liturgist: Have mercy upon us, 0 Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Look with favor upon us, 0 Lord, and be pleased with our praise and

thanksgiving.

*Opening Hymn Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #464



PASSING OF THE PEACE (liturgist & congregation)
Liturgist: Called to live as children of light, let us build one
another up as we share signs of peace, and words of love. Let us
share signs of Christ's peace: The Peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

MUSIC for MEDITATION "Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us Sadie O'Conor, soprano

Call to Confession

We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that you can lift that weight from us and transform our lives. So we lift our prayer of confession to you:

PRAYER of CONFESSION (In Unison with Liturgist))

We are not always awake, O God. We are not always aware. We do not always pay attention— to others, even to you. We do not always treasure your blessings— the gifts you give to us, the time you spend with us, the people you offer us, the work you entrust to us. We take it for granted, God. We take you for granted. We wander away. Help us wake up, Holy One. Remind us to be aware. Show us the way back to you. And help us find meaning in you once more. Amen.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Liturgist: Paul reminds us: "Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" Therein lies our assurance of pardon.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.



Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18 (Pew Bible p.720; Large Print p.1463) – Liturgist 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (Pew Bible p.900; Large Print p.1820) – Liturgist Matthew 25:14-30 (Pew Bible p.759; Large Print p.1529) – Pastor Pastor: The word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON *Keep Awake* Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH— The Apostle's Creed (traditional) led by Rev. Montgomery I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri. #579

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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 forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Offertory As the Deer Sadie O'Conor, soprano *Doxology #592 Prayer of Dedication – Rev. Cheryl Montgomery

*Closing Hymn We Give Thee but Thine Own #428

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

POSTLUDE Arise, Your Light Is Come! Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

Mission Discernment Process.

Immediately after worship, lunch will be served as UPC has its first gathering of the Mission Discernment Process. This meeting is an important part of our journey to an installed pastor. Please be a part of it.

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.Shea Henry Olivia McKenzie Kathleen Olds Rev. David Rosen Anita Steverson Roby Lorimer Patty Lucas

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by the Colby's

Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

Our military men and women around the world

The people of Ukraine The people of the Middle East

Our military men and women stationed around the world

The faculty and staff of Monroe County United Ministries

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley Staff

Administrative Associate for Office Support, Rhonda Seymour lives in Bloomington with her husband, Ken. They have two adult sons, Roman and Donovan, who both live nearby. She appreciates prayers for all who are coping with long term health challenges.

Administrative Associate for IT Support, Stephanie Worden lives near Ellettsville with her husband, Bill, their children, Logan and Caroline, and their dogs, Storm and Molly. She appreciates your prayers for continued health, peace, and happiness.

Treasurer, Jean and her husband, Larry, moved to the Dallas area in late July. She requests prayer for all impacted by that move—Jean and Larry as they navigate the many things to be done and changed with a move to a new state; their son Eric and his wife, Katy, who stayed behind in Bloomington; their son Greg and family (Lanett and grandsons Maxton and Preston), who now become the primary caregivers if needed; and the presbytery adjusting to a long-distance treasurer and trying to discern the way forward relative to the treasurer position.

Stated Clerk, Joe Kimmel lives near Paoli Indiana with his wife Nancy, 1 dog, 2 cats, and 11 bee hives. Their three sons, three daughters-in-law, and 11 grandchildren (one in heaven) celebrate family. Prayers are appreciated for each of them in their varied missions with people of all races, disabilities, and religions.

Susan McGhee has served as **Executive Presbyter** since 2009. She lives in Bloomington with her new kitty, Abby Cadabby. This year she had to say goodbye to her Calicos Kate and Allie, though she trusts that they are chasing mice in fields of glory! Susan welcomes your prayers for her family and friends, for the congregations and pastors in our presbytery, and for a spirit of civility in government and society.

United Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor – Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
(317) 260-7378 – pastor.upcbloomington@gmail.com

Secretary – Allen Pease – office (812) 332-1850; cell (812) 325-7849

Treasurer–Andy Hill andy@andyhill.us

Music Director – Benjamin Watkins – (864) 980-7731

benjamintaylorwatkins@gmail.com

Christian Education – Melanie Mathis-McBride – susieq_msm@yahoo.com



United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 3 — 10 a.m.

First Sunday in Advent
Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Peace — Gerrit & Vera Heitink
The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Wednesday, December 6 — 6 P.m. UPC Music Program in Concert

Conducted & Directed by Dr. Benjamin Taylor Watkins

Sunday, December 10 — 10 a.m.

Second Sunday in Advent
Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
Liturgists & Lighting of Candle of Peace — John & Colleen Swanson
The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Wednesday, December 13 — 6 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner & Dessert Auction

Celebrity Chefs: Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride, Benjamin Watkins Celebrity Auctioneers: Fadi Haddad, Souheil Haddad

Sunday, December 17—10 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent
Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Joy — Fadi & Aline Haddad
Members of the UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Sunday, December 24 — 10 a.m.



Fourth Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
Liturgists & Lighting of Candle of Peace & Christ Candle
Nyarko Family
Receiving of the Joy Offering

Holy Communion officiated by Rev. Cheryl Montgomery, prepared by UPC Deacons, Served by Elders Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride Sharing the Light



UPC Youth Dessert Auction

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Enjoy your dinner and bid on your dessert Purchase one to share and one for your holiday affair All proceeds will support the music program this year So grab a bid paddle and let the fun begin

