



JULY 23, 2023 10:30 A.M.
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(Optional) Tune to 96.1 FM for the service

The service can also be listened to on any radio on church property.
For those that wish to stay in your cars for the service, you can listen to
the station listed above.

PRELUDE

CARRYING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

GATHERING HYMN* *Faith of Our Fathers* No. 279

GREETINGS, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Beaver UCC!

*If you are new or would like more information, please fill out a
welcome card, located in the holder on the back of each pew,
and place it in the offering plate.*

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*All who are comfortable, please stand.

BEAVER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Organized 1809 www.beaverucc.org 937-426-5602
1960 Dayton-Xenia Road, Beaver Creek, Ohio 45434

Rev. Brian Eastman, Pastor

Pastor's Phone: 937-469-1383 pastorbrian@beaverucc.org

Office Hours: Tues. 1-6 p.m.
Wed 10 a.m. -12 p.m. & 5-7 p.m.
Thu 10 a.m. -12 p.m.
Other times available by appointment

Choir Director: Karen Barger Organist: Alex Ignatiou
Children's Sunday School Teachers:
Brittany King, Sarah Hogan, Hayden Rauls

- Handicapped restrooms are on the main and lower levels.
- Hearing assistance devices are available on the blue table near the altar by the back entrance.
- Children's Sunday School is available year-round during the service for children who are toddler age through 5th grade. Children depart to go to Sunday School after the Children's Moment.

Lay Reader: Shirley Nelson
Fellowship Meal: Pastor Brian

Today's altar flowers are donated by the Baumbarger family in honor of Brian Baumbarger's birthday.

- Please consider donating new non-perishable food items to our food pantry collection box in the comfort room.
- All are invited to enjoy lunch and conversation in the downstairs Fellowship room following the service. Donations of snacks are always welcome. Lunch is provided by volunteers with the help of your donations. The first Sunday of the month is always a church potluck.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: If you know of someone who would appreciate a prayer shawl, please talk to Pastor Brian.
- Card Ministry: Please sign the cards on the table at the front of the sanctuary. Let Shirley or Gretchen know about those with physical or emotional needs who would appreciate a card. Your prayers for these people are much appreciated

† Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession provided by the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways publication.

July 30th, 2023

1 Kings 3:5-12 and Matthew 13:1-33, 44-52

Fellowship Meal: TBD

Lay Reader: Patti King

CALL TO WORSHIP[†]

Leader: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us.
People: Surely God is in this place!
 Leader: We come to open ourselves to God's love.
People: Surely God is in this place!
 Leader: We come to see God's presence in our lives.
People: Surely God is in this place!
 Leader: We come to see God in this community of seekers.
People: Surely God is in this place!
 Leader: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God.
All: Surely God is in this place! Let us worship!

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION[†]

All: Gracious God, in the fields of our lives, we strive to be fruitful, but we fall short. We get so comfortable that we sleep when we need to be vigilant about the errors in our own lives and the injustices around us. We are so casual about wrongdoing that it creeps into our lives and threatens to overwhelm the good we do. Forgive us. Keep us awake so that we can produce the lives you call us to live. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS[†]

Leader: You are not God's tenants or employees; you are God's precious family. In the words of the apostle Paul, "You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption." As God's children, in God's embrace, you are forgiven and free.
All: Thanks be to God.

TIME OF PRAYER (You may remain seated)

Call to Prayer Hymn *Holy, Holy, Holy* No. 262
Joys and Concerns

All: Dear Lord, hear our prayers.

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Organ Response

OFFERING OF GIFTS & SELVES TO GOD

Offertory

Presentation of Gifts*

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. Amen

Prayer of Blessing

SPECIAL MUSIC

LESSONS Genesis 28:10-19 OT pg. 31
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 NT pg. 19

SERMON "Wheat"

CLOSING HYMN* *Lead On, O King Eternal* No. 483

PARTING SONG* *Lord of Life*

Lord of Life, Lord of Love, walk forever beside us.

Day by day show the way, be Thou our vision to guide us.

**Striving to follow Thy noble plan, nothing can divide us. Lord
of Life, Lord of Love, walk forever beside us.**

BENEDICTION, POSTLUDE, & CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE
WORLD

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

July Meetings:

July 25th, Consistory, 7:00 pm

Wed., July 26th; **Book Study: Forgotten God, 7:00pm**

Our new book will start on Wednesday July 26th, and will continue on Wednesday nights at 7PM for three weeks, ending on Wednesday August 9th. The book we are reading is *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit* by Francis Chan and Danae Yankoski. We will meet online each Wednesday via Zoom, and the Zoom link will be sent out each Wednesday via the all-church email list. Pastor Brian has several copies of the book, and if those run out, it can be ordered on Amazon.

July 26th – Introduction, About the Cover, Chapters 1 & 2

August 2nd – Chapters 3, 4, & 5

August 9th – Chapters 6 & 7, Afterword

Wed., Aug. 8th; **Trinity Birthday Party, 1:30 pm**

Beaver Church will once again be hosting the birthday party at Trinity Nursing Home on Tuesday, August 9th. Setup is at 1:30pm, and the event starts at 2:00pm. We need volunteers to help with setting things up and handing out cookies and presents. We are also asking for donations of cookies and punch. The residents are especially fond of children serving. Hope to see you there!

Aug. 17th – 19th; **Garage Sale**

Make sure to place it on your calendars. We will be having our garage sale again on August 17th through the 19th. Feel free to bring boxed items between now and the 13th of August. We will be setting up the sale on the 13th of August and taking it down on the 20th. There are volunteer signup sheets under the clock at the back of the sanctuary.