

WORSHIP OF GOD
FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2023 Eleven o'clock in the Morning

Website: 1stucc.org Facebook: First United Church of Christ-Salisbury

Office Telephone: 704-633-2723

*Whoever YOU are and wherever YOU are on life's journey,
YOU are welcome here!*

Prelude
Guide Me Thou, O Great Jehovah
arr. Stephen Burtonwood

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Shout out! Do not hold back

ALL: Lift up your voice like a trumpet

One: Rejoice in this day, rejoice in this moment

ALL: Sing praises to God, give thanks and give glory

One: For this is the acceptable day, this is the acceptable hour to
gather, to listen, to pray, to learn, to give thanks and glorify our
God

†Hymn: *God of Freedom, God of Justice*



1. God of free-dom, God of jus - tice, you whose love is strong as death,
2. Rid the earth from tor-ture's ter - ror, you whose hands were nailed to wood;
3. Make in us a cap-tive con-science quick to hear, to act, to plead;

7



you who saw the dark of pris - on, you who knew the price of faith
hear the cries of pain and pro - test, you who shed the tears and blood
make us tru - ly sis - ters, broth - ers of what - ev - er race or creed

13



touch our world of sad o - pres - sion with your Spir - it's heal - ing breath.
move in us the power of pit - ty rest - less for the com - mon good.
teach us to be ful - ly hu - man, o - pen to each oth - er's need.

†Prayer of Confession

All: O tender God have mercy on us. We are broken people. And because we are broken we do hurtful things. We cause pain to others through our words, our actions and our deeds. You call us to do justice, to care for the hungry, to protect the vulnerable. You tell us that we are light for the world. Yet we are afraid. Afraid of what others might think. What others might say. What others might do. If we actually lived as You would have us live, or walk on the paths You would have us walk. Forgive our recalcitrant hearts. Help us to open them to Your love and to share that love with others who are broken too. Amen.

†Silent Confession

(30 seconds of silence is observed for silent confession)

†Kyrie: *O Tender God Have Mercy*

O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us,
O liv - ing Christ, have mer - cy, for you will heal us.
O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us,
for you are for us.

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†Our Assurance of God's Pardon

†The Gloria Patri

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dore you! My
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

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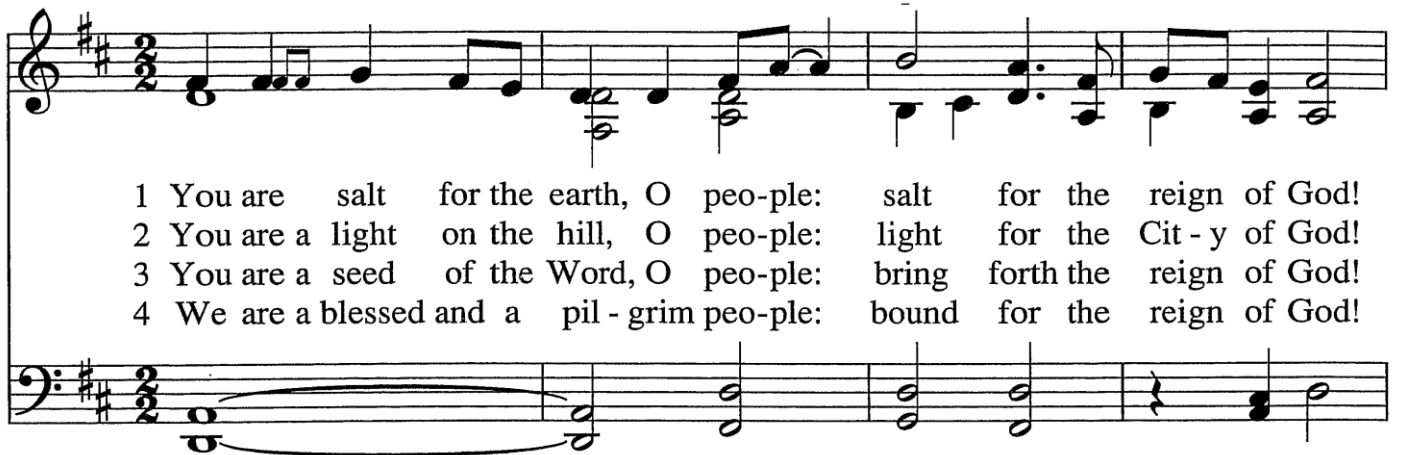
Hebrew Lesson

Isaiah 58:1-12

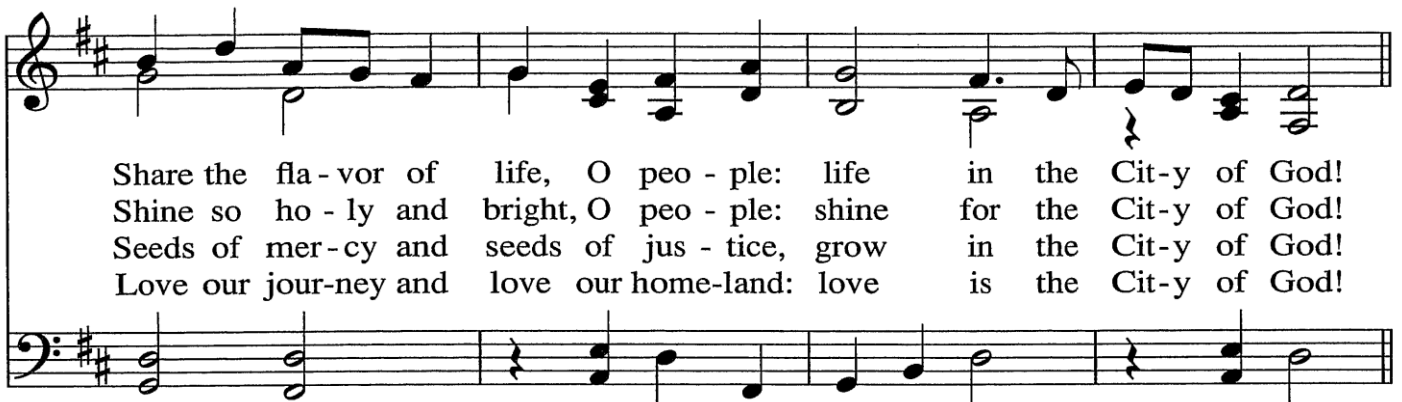
Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

†Hymn: *You Are Salt for the Earth, O People*



1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
4 We are a blessed and a pil - grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

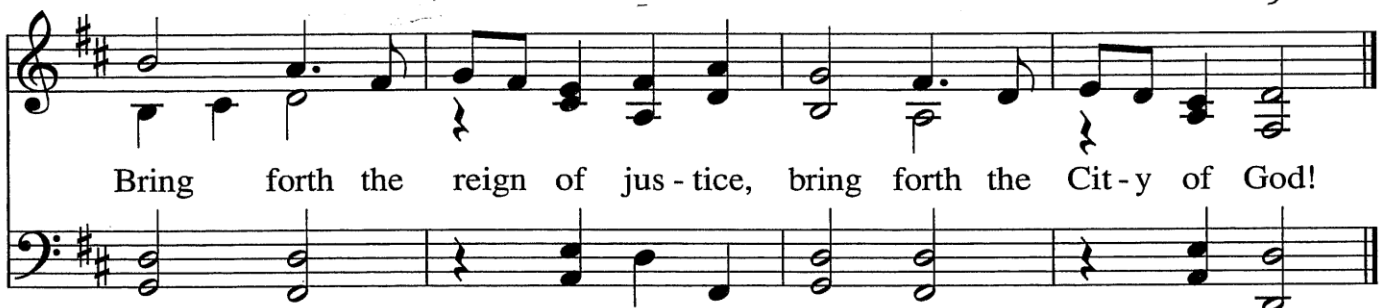


Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
Seeds of mer - cy and seeds of jus - tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
Love our jour - ney and love our home - land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the reign of mer - cy, bring forth the reign of peace;



Bring forth the reign of jus - tice, bring forth the Cit - y of God!

Leader: This is a word of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon
“On Being Salt & Light”

Rev. Carol Hallman

†An Affirmation of Faith The UCC Statement of Faith

All: We believe in You, O God, the Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to Your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in Your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by Your righteous will, declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death, and reconciling the world to Yourself.

You bestow upon us Your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into Your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be Your servant in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world, and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at His table, to join Him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust You forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, Your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in Your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto You.
Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: May the Spirit of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Prayer Response: *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

pp Devoutly

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;

Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. A-MEN.

The musical score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Invitation

Offertory Anthem *Breaking the Bread*

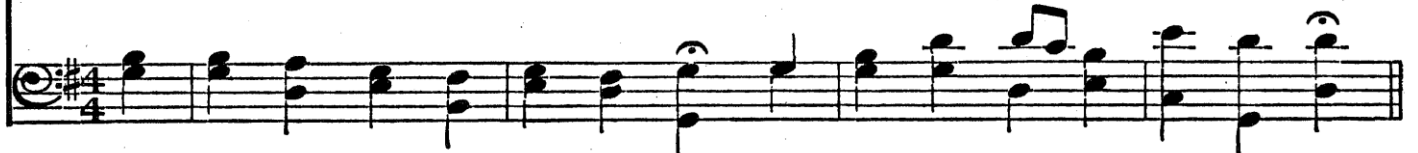
Allen Pote

†Doxology

Red Hymnal No. 551



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be - low;



Praise Him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-MEN.



Blessing

†Communion Hymn: *Jesus Took the Bread*

1 Je - sus took the bread, dai - ly gift of God,
2 Je - sus blessed the bread, thanked the God of grace,
3 Je - sus broke the bread; then he poured the wine.
4 Je - sus gives the bread at our ta - ble still,

Musical notation for the Communion Hymn, featuring a treble and bass clef, 4/4 time, and key of D major. The lyrics are printed below the notes.



formed of wheat and sweat and toil, sun, rain, and sod.
 thanked the One who made all worlds, all time, all space.
 Bro - ken bod - y, life poured out, God gives as sign.
 gives the cup to those who seek God's lov - ing will.

In our hands we take gifts of bread and wine,
 Bless - ing, hon - or, praise, all to God be - long.
 Weak, a - fraid, and lost: that is when we're healed.
 Let us go in peace; let us free - ly give,

gath - ered from the fields of earth, signs of love di - vine.
 Let us lift our hearts to God in a thank - ful song.
 In our hu - man bro - ken - ness: there God is re - vealed.
 shar - ing love with all the world dai - ly as we live.

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The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation to the Table

The Communion Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Call to Supper

Sung Response: *The Gifts of God*

Richard Bruxvourt-Colligan



The gifts of God for the peop-le of God! Come now, for all is pre-pared. The



gifts of God for the peop-le of God! The Gos - pel is a - mong us!

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Sharing the Elements

All are invited to come forward for communion this morning. There are gluten free crackers or bread offered. Please dispose of your cup before returning to your pew.

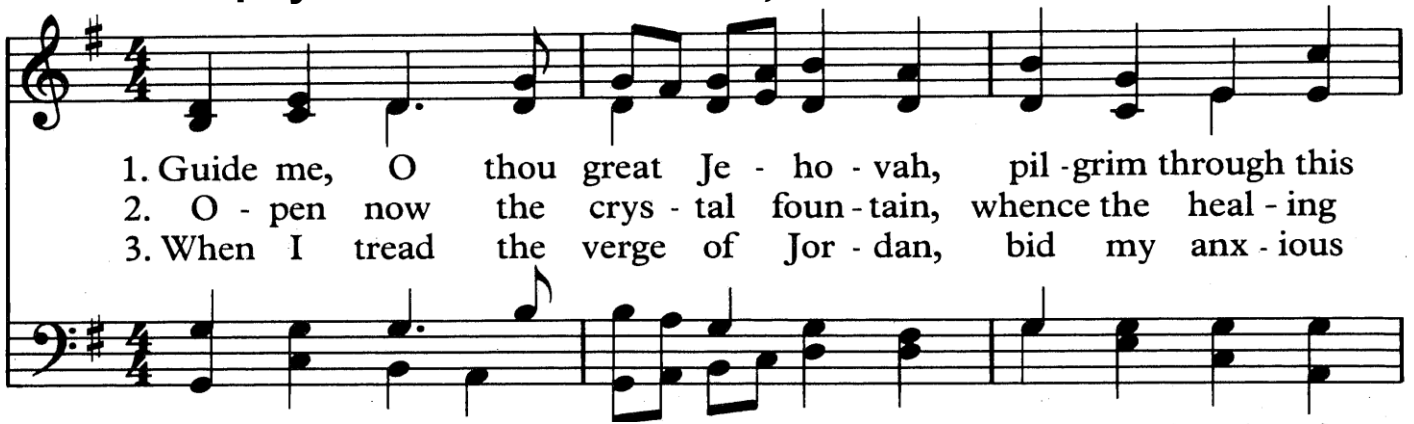
Special Music *Communion Song*

Charles Gounod

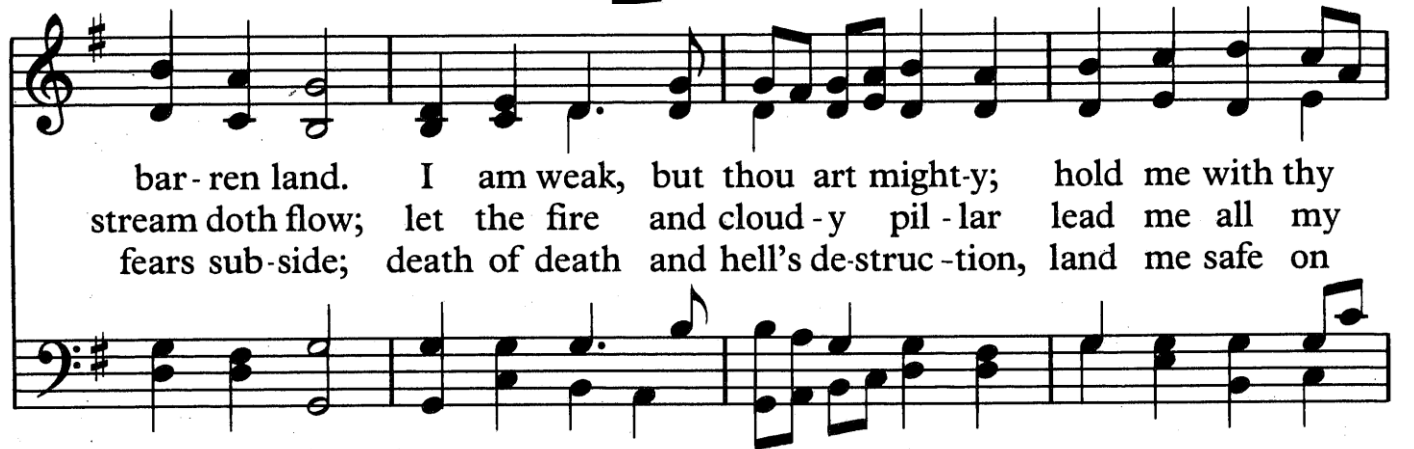
Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

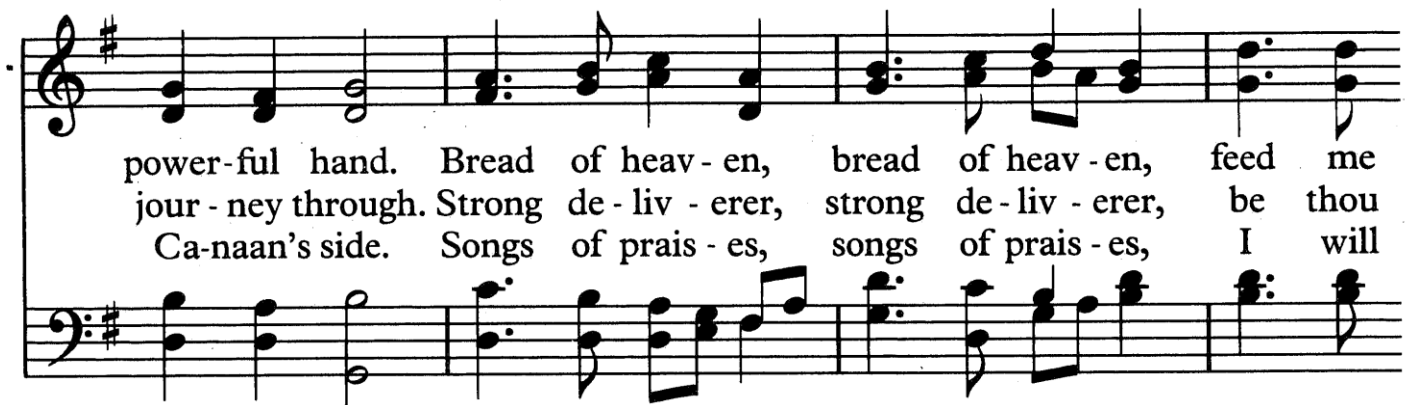
†Hymn: *Guide Me Thou, O Great Jehovah*




1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on



power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en, feed me
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer, be thou
Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es, I will



till I want no more; (want no more) feed me till I want no more.
still my strength and shield; (strength and shield) be thou still my strength and shield.
ev - er give to thee; (give to thee) I will ev - er give to thee.

Benediction

Postlude ***Jubilation*** James Denton

Assisting in Worship

Rev. Carol Hallman, Resident Pastor
Brian Sevison, Organist/Choir Director
Susan Ward, Lay Reader

Choral Music Scholars

Teresa Greene, Alto
Ali Abbey, Alto
Evan Moreno, Tenor
Pavel Gabulle, Baritone



Scan the QR Code with your camera to donate to First UCC.

Remember in Your Prayers

Brenda Bernhardt, Tyler Bernhardt, Steve Bowles and family, Rev. Warren Casiday, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Betty Diehl, Stacy Erb, Nancy Hipp, Anne Kennedy, Jasmine Kirby and son Noah (Don Whitfield's niece and great-nephew), Rick Lockhart (Radell Lockhart's uncle), Jim Lyerly, John Marion, Shirley McNeil, Eddie Meeker, Megan Meredith, Dan Morgan, Pat Norris, Patsy Paxton, Glenda Shrewsbury, Mark Shuping and family, Romas & Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Clyde Taylor (Linda Hauze's uncle), Bobbie Troutman, family of David Waller, Waylon Ward, the people of Ukraine, the people of Peru. ***If you know of anyone who should be added or removed from our prayer list, let the office know. If you have prayer concerns, please text, call or email Pastor Carol.***

This Afternoon

3:00 p.m.ONA Town Hall Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 6

6:30 p.m. Circle 7 Meeting

Tuesday, February 7

6:30 p.m. Circle 6 Meeting

Wednesday, February 8

6:00 p.m. ONA Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 9

11:30 a.m. Primetimers

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting

Please join us this afternoon for the town hall meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 3:00 p.m. The ONA Committee Notes regarding the meeting are on the next page.

Thanks to all who participated in the Drive Through Food Collection yesterday to benefit Rowan Helping Ministries Food Pantry and Food for Thought Program.

February Primetimers Meeting: Primetimers will meet this Thursday, February 9 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall with a Valentine Theme for our friendship and fellowship in Christ Jesus. Please invite a friend to share in this time of fellowship together as we celebrate friendship. The meal will be catered from Mykonos: grilled chicken and salad plate with iced tea for \$12/plate. **Please call the church office by Tuesday, February 7 to reserve your meal.** To celebrate February as Heart Month, a program on heart health and senior health will be presented by a local health educator. As an offering for the day, participants are invited to bring canned foods for the Rowan Helping Ministry Food Drive, sponsored by the Mission Committee.

The Mission Committee continues to support its ongoing Little Red Wagon collection for Rowan Helping Ministries Food Pantry and Food For Thought Program. You may bring your items to Church on Sunday or leave them at the Church during Office hours.

The Five-Alive fund needs your donations to help those in need within our Church and community

ONA Committee Notes

In response to a question from one of our members regarding what ONA actually is and means, ONA stands for open and affirming and is an official designation of congregations and other settings in the United Church of Christ affirming the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and non-binary persons (LGBTQ) persons in the church's life and ministry. Over a year ago some members of our church brought this to the council and that is what has led to the **first town hall which will be held this afternoon at 3PM in the fellowship hall.** There will be cookies and beverages. An invitation was extended to Rev. Elizabeth Horton and she and some members of her church will be here to share their journey through the process of becoming ONA. This is an opportunity for all here to come and ask questions about the ONA. The ONA Committee hopes that you will all come and ask questions and listen with an open heart. ***If you have any questions that you would like to ask you are invited to write them down, place them in the box at the back of the sanctuary or ask them that day.*** The ONA Committee will report back with questions that were asked and answers. The ONA Committee consists of Leslie Dent and Donna Odrosky, co-chairs. Members include Ann Teague, Mark Schiemann, Bobbie Troutman, and Don Whitfield.

A reminder that just because we are having these conversations does not mean that we will automatically become Open and Affirming or even vote on becoming open and affirming. All it means currently is that we are having conversations and are open to the possibility. All members are encouraged and invited to come with an open spirit and an open heart to listen, bring questions and concerns.