

Let us come
before his presence
with
Thanksgiving





Glade

United Church of Christ

WE CENTER OURSELVES ON GOD

Welcome to a time of Sabbath, rest, and renewal

November 19, 2023

Thank Offering Sunday

Glade Matters

Shared moments of information and inspiration about our church family

Prelude “*All People That on Earth and Simple Gifts*”

Douglas E. Wagner
Glade Tower Handbell Choir

*Opening Hymn “*Morning Has Broken*”

Insert

*Call to Worship

L: People of God, when we gather for worship we bring everything with us:

P: Our joys and worries; our skepticism and hopes; our frustrations and thanks givings.

L: God is a God of transformation. When we bring everything we are to God our blessings increase and our difficulties diminish.

P: We come today in search of a power greater than our own, a power to change lives, to heal suffering, to transform us into more than we are now.

L: Beloved people of God, the Spirit of Christ flows among us. May the glory of his love give us hope and strength as we worship God together!

*Opening Prayer (Offered by all)

Your goodness to us, O God, is endless. As we worship, reframe our sight and thoughts so that we may discover the tracings of your Spirit. We pray that you would surprise into recognition of how you work blessings out of hardship. Astonish us with how you have held us through seasons of difficulty. By something that happens within this sacred time, may we grow in gratitude and mindfulness. Work within us so that our songs and stories and prayers may echo with your goodness, and we may be proclaimers of your praise. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

L: The Word of God, for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God!

Anthem “*Lights of the City*”

Murphy/Gutfreund

Message

Rev. Rebecca Hoover

*Hymn "What Gift Can We Bring"

#370

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray...

Prayer

Stewardship moment

Shannon Jordre

Invitation to the Offering

In response to God's caring power working among us, we are asked to offer ourselves and the gifts from our lives to Christ's service. May God take what we give and transform it into hope and strength for a world in need.

Offertory "A Gaelic Improvisation"

Charles Callahan

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Holy and gracious God, we give back to you the gifts from our lives. They represent our work, our passion, our commitment, and our hopes. We give trusting you can take our resources, bless them, and use them to show your continuing love for all creation. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "For the Fruit of All Creation"

#425

*Benediction

Postlude "The People Respond-Amen!"

(from Rubrics) Dan Locklair

*Please stand as able in body or spirit

Worship Participants

Pastor:	Chad Weddle
Guest Pastor:	Rev. Rebecca Hoover
Music Director:	Dr. William Powell, III
Lay Reader:	Patty Green & Cathy Widder



The flowers on the altar are to honor my late wife Patricia Weddle's Birthday of November 25th.

Given by her loving husband James Weddle



Welcome Home to Glade and Thank you to Rev. Rebecca Hoover for providing our Thank-Offering worship service for us today. Rev. Becky Hoover serves as the Pastor of One UCC in Reading, Pennsylvania. She is originally from Walkersville and currently lives in the Reading area with her husband, daughter, and cat. When she's not doing churchy things, Pastor Becky teaches elementary school full-time. She is a graduate of

Heidelberg College (now University) in Ohio, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and Kutztown University. The red thread connecting her two vocations of Elementary School Teacher and Ordained Minister is a passion for education and helping people grow into the fullness of who they are made to be. When not at church or school, Pastor Becky loves kayaking, hiking, traveling, reading, and learning languages. Her favorite activity, though, is spending time with friends and family, and she is particularly excited to lead worship today with her big brother, Bill Powell! Additionally, she is thrilled to return to her home church, Glade UCC, and is thankful for the love of this congregation over the years!

The Second Mile Giving for November **Strengthen the Church**

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.



**JOIN US FOR A
MEMBER APPRECIATION
POTLUCK LUNCH TODAY
FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

Community Table Formerly Soup Kitchen TODAY

We will be supporting the Community Table formerly the Soup Kitchen on **TODAY**. We will be preparing our usual ham, mac & cheese, salad and desert.

We will need your support as always for donations and to prepare and serve the food. Please consider donating your time **TODAY**.



As we anticipate the joyous season of Advent, we invite you to join us in preparing our sanctuary for the celebration of Christmas. Next Sunday, November 26th, immediately following worship, we will come together to deck the halls and adorn our church with the warmth and beauty of Christmas. Whether you're a decorating pro or just enjoy the holiday spirit, every pair of hands makes a difference. We hope to see you there.

Mitten Tree



We will be collecting for the GVCS Holiday Toy Shoppe again this year. The mittens are displayed in the back of the sanctuary. The items will need to be unwrapped and returned to Glade UCC no later than **NEXT** Sunday, November 26th.

We will need someone to deliver the gifts to St. Timothy's on Tuesday, November 28th between the hours of 3:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Annual Walkersville Christkindlmarket Christmas Parade

We are currently looking for participants for our Annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 2nd. For more information or to sign up contact Chris Torbeck at chrisuebel@hotmail.com

Glade UCC Lottery Raffle



We will be having our 4th Annual MD Lottery Raffle again in February. The raffle will be held the entire month of February 2024. The daily winner will be determined by the MD Evening Pick 3 Straight Lottery Number. Winners will be notified by Phone. \$10 per ticket there will only be 1000 tickets sold.

Contact Ron Rough, 301-639-3834 if you would like to help sell tickets or if you are interested in purchasing tickets.

Bill Powell will be playing as guest organist at a Organ & Hymns Concert of Celebration **TODAY, November 19th at 3:00 p.m.** at Oakdale Church 3425 Emory Church Road, Olney, MD 20832

They will be welcoming the Thanksgiving & Advent holidays with beautiful classics to bring on the richness of the season, Following stay for a time of fellowship & refreshments.

The concert is free, with a love offering being received at the event. All contributions are dedicated to Oakdale's All-In Funding Campaign.



"We kindly ask for your thoughts and prayers for the health of three beloved members of our church family:

****Ruth Ann Engel:**** Ruth Ann has been moved to Autumn Lake at Glade Valley to receive rehabilitation. She is doing well and is currently in room 221A, her phone number is: 240-575-7749 & her address is: 41 Hampton Place, Walkersville, MD 21793

****Becky Duncan.**** Becky had hip replacement surgery earlier this week and is recovering at home. Her phone number is: 301-845-6774 & her address is: 10926 Bennie Duncan Rd, Frederick, MD 21701

****Nancy Sweet:**** Nancy is currently at home, diligently working on her recovery from health issues. She will be homebound for the next month. Her phone number is 240-357-2361 & address is: 2501 Catoctin Court, #2B, Frederick, MD 21702

If you would like to brighten these ladies days with a heartfelt card or a phone call, your kind words can make a meaningful difference during their time of healing.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Jim Ball, health issues *Marlene Turner, Lorigean Turner's aunt, health issues *Wayne Duncan, Leo Duncan's brother, health issues *Roxie Underwood, Frances Cecil's sister, brain surgery *Rod Baumert, Bill Powell's father-in-law, health issues *Ruth Ann Engel, health issues *Sandy Miller, friend of Bonnie Ogg, cancer *Lynn Stevenson, Marsha Bruchey's cousin, neurological health issues *Lisa Andercyk, Lorigean Turner's college roommate, neurological issues *Becky Duncan, recovery from hip replacement surgery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Charles Snow, health issues *David O'Planick, health issues *Beverly Shoemaker, health issues *Ralph Whitmore, health issues *Nancy Sweet, health issues *Bonnie Ogg, recovering from fall |
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This Week at Glade

Sun., November 19	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service/Thank Offering Sunday
	11:30 a.m.	Member Appreciation Luncheon
	3:30 p.m.	LDM, sanctuary, classrooms, nursery
Mon., November 20	7:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Leader Meeting (SH)
Thur., November 23	HAPPY THANKSGIVING - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
Fri., November 24	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop Meeting (SH)
Sun., November 26	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:30 a.m.	Decorate the church for Christmas
	3:30 p.m.	LDM, sanctuary, classrooms, nursery

Stewardship for a Thriving Planet

by Dr. Carol Frances Johnston

At each stage of creating in Genesis 1, God “saw that it was good.” When human beings were created last, “God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.” There are two crucial aspects of this to notice here: First, not only that everything created is “good”, but also that it is the whole together that is “very good”. Second, it is crucial to consider the importance of God seeing that it is good. One of my students once asked about this, and together our class unpacked it. We soon realized that God “seeing” and so noticing (and knowing) God’s creatures, and how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts (“very good”) is a crucial element of life. Everyone needs to be seen and understood by others and learning that God “sees” and understands them as individuals and how they are connected to everything else can be transformative.

A few years ago, I interviewed about 75 faithful, creative, and generous church and community leaders across the U.S. Gradually I noticed that they shared an experience that comes before gratitude, generosity, and learning how to practice stewardship, and makes them possible. What I saw in those congregations was attention and care to helping people – often very wounded, anxious, and fearful people – to **receive** God’s love into their lives in a variety of tangible ways through the preaching, worship, teaching, and above all the sharing of that love in the practice of a form of hospitality that included seeing and accepting each person as a beloved child of God and valued member of God's family. This hospitality, grounded in the experience of God’s love through Christ, was far more than friendliness – it was intentional about affirming each person as one with needed gifts to bring as well as needs to be met, so that the life of the church became one of mutuality that extended far beyond into effective mission. I heard many stories about how the church leaders, especially the pastors, saw potential in each person that they themselves had not realized they had, and invited them to bring it to share with others: the very kind of stewardship we have seen in the Genesis accounts.

This way of inviting people in and grounding them has proven to be transformative and frees up potential that exists in every person and every community in remarkable ways.

