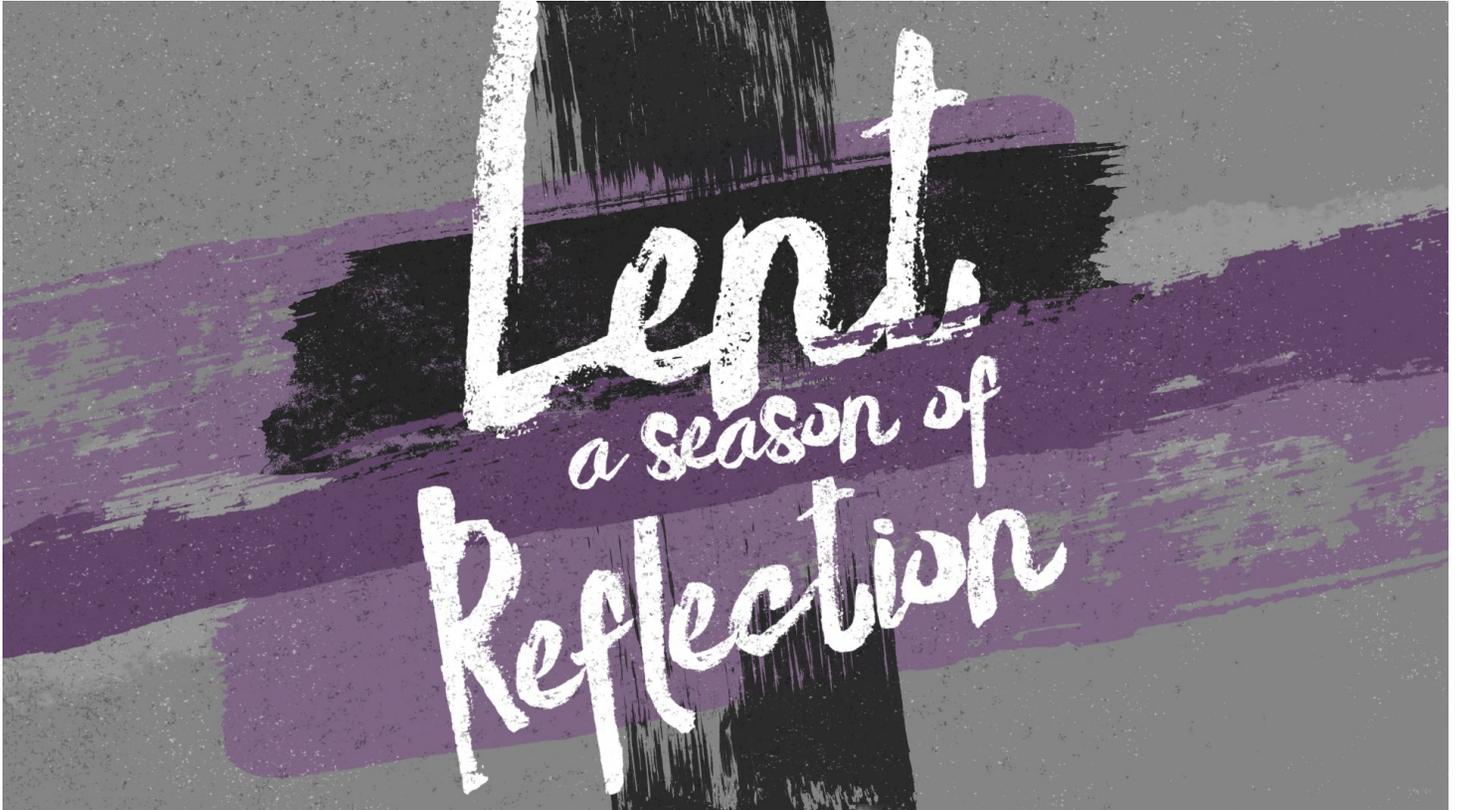


Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ

1213 Dutch Lane Rd, Newark, Ohio 43055 740-745-1281
highwaterchurch1213@gmail.com <http://www.highwaterchurch.org>

February 21st, 2021 10:30a

"Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ, will be an active family of faith in North Central Licking County, dedicated to building awareness of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit through meaningful worship, diverse service, and genuine fellowship." - Mission Statement



"In wild, desolate places God's people have been shaped by their struggles, and have found that rocks have yielded water, and manna has appeared on the ground...

Our journey may be into an inner desert: a place where motivation and desire is purified, and we find ourselves refined and strengthened in spirit."

-Ann Siddall, "Words About Wilderness"

Rev. Scott Schieber, Pastor
Jackie Parrill, Moderator
Debbie Smetts, Office Administrator / Newsletter Editor
Congregation, Ministers All
Piano: Cathy Bero
Liturgist: Debbie Smetts
Special Music: Mary Miller





February 14th, 2021 10:30a
First Sunday in Lent

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Prelude

I Come to the Cross

Somma/Batstone

Call to worship

Leader: As darkness gives way to light and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,

People: We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.

Leader: Like the green shoots of renewed life, stirring beneath the snow,

People: We welcome an awakening of God's wonder in our lives.

Leader: In this time of reflection and repentance,

People: We affirm our identity, we claim our security, as children of God.

Prayer of Invocation

Old Testament Text

Psalm 25:1-10 (NRSV)

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. ³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. ⁴Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. ⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. ⁶Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. ⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! ⁸Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. ¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
Let It Be

Stead
Lennon/McCartney

New Testament Text

Romans 4:13-25 (NRSV)

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Morning Prayers

Candle Dedication: *Happy Birthday to David Keener, Austin Campbell, Mike Shipley, Larry Baughman and Shelby Kerr*

Sharing of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Oh, How He Loves You and Me

Kaiser/Inman

Offertory Prayer

Gospel Text

Mark 1:9-15 (NRSV)

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” ¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Old Testament Text

Genesis 9:8-17 (NRSV)

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹² God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³ I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷ God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Sermon

Rev. Scott Schieber

Postlude

Lamb of God

Paris/Tornquist

Blessing

Announcements and Information

Current Worship Schedule

February 21—Worship streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube AND in-person in the Legg Center, with Cathy Bero playing, at 10:30 am.

February 28—Worship streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube with Laura Laughlin playing at 8:30a AND in-person in the Legg Center, with no music at 10:30 am.

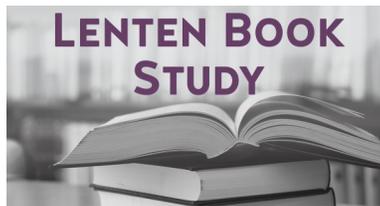
We still start back with Sunday school ZOOM on Feb 21. Teachers will be

Youngest kids - Janine

Middle group - Abby

Older group - Ashley

Please be following Facebook to get your links.



Join us for our Lent Book Study

Mondays, beginning February 22nd at noon and 7p

This year, our Lent book study will be on the book *Words of Life:*

Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today by Adam Hamilton.

Hamilton's work is informative, and his theological themes always strike a cord with members of our congregation. Each class will be offered via Zoom

You will need to purchase the book in order to participate; it's widely available for purchase in hardcopy or download versions.

Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ Prayer List

Prayer Concerns within our Family of Faith:

Betty Nash Bob Tucker Dave Nash Tom Siegel Becky Wright Marcie Williams
Donna Shipley Laurie Garno Jim Farmer Dick & Gayle Gibson Carol Hoar Mae and Fred
Pound Lindsey Hoskinson Joy Smith Nancy Schmidt

Prayers for Our Greater Church Family: *(This list to start over every month)*

John Stout	Stewart Krulikowski & Family
Sharon Mummey	Theresa Gonda
Mark Frick	Jesse Buchanan
Marsha King	Christine Schmidt
Judy Schmoll	Doug Snyder and Family
Chrissy King	Jason Hover and Family



For all those who have been there on the front lines during this uncertain time and who will continue to be there through this pandemic.

Continued prayers for all the troops that protect and serve this country and prayers of comfort for their families as they wait for their safe return. Chase Lasko, Jared Grace, Nate Comer