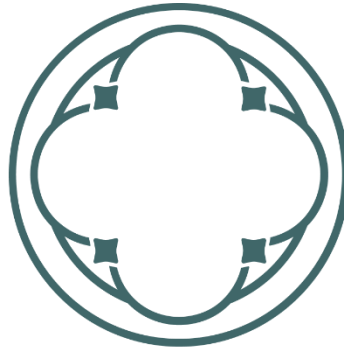




THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

■ UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN TRYON ■



Garden With Sunflower, by Gustav Klimt

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

18 October 2026 ❖ 10:00 in the morning

Welcome to this service of worship. Open your heart to the familiar and the new, and may your spirit relax into the peace of God's presence as we share this time together.

For those worshipping in-person: While masks are optional, for the safety of our community and congregation, we urge you to wear a mask if you may have been exposed to COVID-19 or are experiencing any symptoms, regardless of vaccination status. Please respect those who may wish to social distance.

Live Stream: Please be advised that our service is live streamed. You may appear on camera.

Worship Response Cards & Prayer Requests: Please complete the weekly Worship Response Card on our website or by using your phone to scan the QR code to the right. Paper copies may be found in the back of the sanctuary and placed in the offering plates. Submit prayer requests via the response card or to the Pastor.



Restrooms: Restrooms are located down the hallway, behind the sanctuary.

Children: Children are always welcome to join us in the sanctuary for worship. If you choose to use it, our family worship space is located in the front right of the sanctuary. Our Fellowship Hall and downstairs nursery is also available for parent use. See usher for directions.

Worship is at the center of the life of The Congregational Church, UCC. Please prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Whether you are a long time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to discuss matters of faith or learn more about our church, we invite you to contact our pastor at (828) 859-9414.

The people's responses are in **bold**.

All hymns are sung by the congregation and are found in the red "Hymns of Truth & Light" hymnal in your pew.

Kindly silence your devices upon entering the Sanctuary

†Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together to prepare our hearts to worship as the people of God.

MUSIC NOTES

MORNING MEDITATION

Katelyne Graham, *viola*

All Creatures of Our God and King - arranged by Bill Galliford

Please quietly recall the presence of God and prepare yourself for worship as you receive the gift of our prelude music.

WELCOME & GREETING

¶ *By introducing ourselves and sharing a warm greeting, we express the hospitality of our congregation. Please share a welcoming word with those around you.*

†HYMN #444

Lord of All Hopefulness

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Inspired by Philippians 4:8

In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth,
And God saw that it was good!

And so, my friends, whatever is good, whatever is true,

Whatever is honorable, whatever is just,

Whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,

If there is any excellence, anything worthy of praise,

In short, if there is anything beautiful,

Turn toward these things!

Live toward these things!

Come, let us worship God!

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Miriam Stermer, *liturgist*

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Because we live in this modern, tech-driven, twittering age, we often forget what you have done for us, God of every blessing. We pat ourselves on the back for our ability to learn new computer skills, but have forgotten that life is more than a machine. We have more than we could ever use yet, like squirrels, store up more and more. Our faith is often pushed to the back of the closet, to make room for all the fears we wear so easily.

Forgive us, Restorer of life. As you clothe us with your grace and mercy, may we share with those who have so little. As our hearts overflow with your love and wonder, may we offer them as gifts to everyone we meet. As you feed us with your joy and hope, may we welcome to the Table all those whose lives are filled with tears and pain. As we gather in community, may we continue to give thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence is kept.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news: as God dresses creation in wonder, so you will be clothed in grace; as God pours out abundance upon the earth, so you will be blessed with peace and joy. **We don't say it often enough, but thanks be to God for healing, for life, for wonder, for mercy. We are blessed, for we are forgiven. Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

¶ Passing of the Peace confers the blessing and peace of God as a spiritual act of unification. Please turn to your neighbors, in the pew next to you, and offer a sign of Christ's reconciling peace with the words "the peace of Christ be with you" and a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

SUNG RESPONSE #341

Peace I Leave with You

**Peace I leave with you, my friends, peace the world cannot give.
Peace I leave with you, my friends, so that your joy be ever full.**

Listening

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song as we listen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING

Matthew 6:19-24 (NRSVue)

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew:

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

¶ *The People stand as the Word is brought among the People to be heard and received.*

†SUNG ACCLAMATION, *see insert in pew*

Sing Alleluia To The Lord

†THE SECOND READING

Matthew 6:25-34 (NRSVue)

Let us listen for the Word of God.

Our ears are open.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew:

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

†SUNG ACCLAMATION, *see insert in pew*

Sing Alleluia To The Lord

¶ *The People sit following the acclamation.*

SERMON, *Beauty Everywhere You Look*

Rev. Meghan D. Young

Responding

We respond to the hearing of God’s word through prayer.

GIFT OF MUSIC

Katelyne Graham, *viola*

Amazing Grace - arranged by Ethan Neuburg

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: JOYS & CONCERNS

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

†HYMN #443

Seek Ye First

CALL TO COMMUNITY

60 SECONDS FOR BEAUTY

THE OFFERTORY

Leslie Lewis

To contribute, you may put your gift in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary, click on the "Give" tab at ucctryon.org, scan the QR code, or mail in your pledge. Reflect on the blessings you been given, and how you are called to bless others.



†SONG OF GRATITUDE #44

Doxology (OLD HUNDREDTH)

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 COMMITMENT

Sending

God blesses us and sends us out into the world to love God and our neighbors.

†HYMN #454

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

†BLESSING

†BLESSING SONG #109

Fairest Lord Jesus

POSTLUDE

Exultate - Roger C. Wilson

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Thank you to those assisting in today's service.

Worship Leaders:
Dr. Susan Lyle
Rev. Meghan D. Young

Ushers:
Sign up online or in the Narthex

Liturgist:
Miriam Stermer

Music:
Katelyne Graham

Community Hour:
Dianne Poague

Livestream & Sound:
Lisa Owens

Flowers:
Given by Ginny Rostick in memory of Ed Rostick

Some liturgy elements adapted from resources by Thom M. Shuman.

Next week's scripture lessons:
Psalm 27
Acts 2:42-47

Pastor Meghan's door is always open, so please email or call if you would like to schedule a time to meet. Friday is her sabbath day, but she can be reached by cell (860-966-2432) in case of pastoral emergencies.

There will be no community hours this week.

UPCOMING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check eblasts for more information about upcoming gatherings, volunteer opportunities, and ways to participate in community care. Get involved, connect, and enrich your spiritual life and your relationships in the church community.

Let's Make Something Beautiful - Sunday, October 11-25

Join us for our annual giving campaign as we participate in the beauty and goodness at the heart of God's mission. Celebrate and invest in what's most beautiful about our church community, from worship to mission to transforming lives. God knows the world needs more beauty and goodness these days!

Strategic Planning Small Group Sessions

As the Strategic Planning committee prepares to write its report and make recommendations to the Governing Board and congregation, we need your input in finalizing our recommendations. Each discussion will last approximately 90 minutes. You only need to attend one. Sign up today.

Luncheon & Cornhole Tournament—Sunday, October 25

Join us following worship for a brunch/lunch followed by an all church cornhole tournament.

Interested in Joining the Church?

New members are always welcome. Contact Pastor Meghan if you are interested in joining the church or learning more about our church values and what membership means.

Church Office Hours - Monday - Thursday, 9:30 AM - 4 PM.

Check e-news for week's schedule. To drop something off at the church outside of set office hours, or discuss a church matter, contact Pastor Meghan at 860-966-2432.

Breeze. Contact the church office for information about connecting through church management program.

WEEKLY & MONTHLY GATHERINGS

All Church Read: Liturgies For Resisting Empire

September-May, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-7:30 PM
October focus: Chapter 2 - Rejecting Lies, Embracing Reality. Join us in the parlor as we discuss and learn together.

Beloved Community Night

3rd Wednesday of the month, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
Join us as for dinner, conversation, and learning. Open to all, always!

Campfire: A Monthly Storytelling Gathering

1st Wednesday of the month, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
Join us for a simple supper and storytelling.
Open to all, always!

Church Fun Contract Bridge

Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30 PM, 4th floor of the church



Looking Ahead This Week

October 18 - October 25, 2026

Events listed in italics are hosted by non-church affiliated organizations.

Sunday, October 18

11:00 am ~ Community Time

Monday, October 19

9:30 am ~ Qigong

WISE Book Club ~ 2:00 pm

Cub Scouts ~ 6:00 pm

Governing Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm

Boy Scouts ~ 7:00 PM

Tuesday, October 20

12:30 pm ~ *Duplicate Bridge*

3:00 pm ~ *Weekly Scripture Discussion*

Wednesday, October 21

12:00 pm ~ Online Prayer Group, Zoom

1:15 pm ~ Church Contract Bridge Group

4:30 pm ~ White Chapel Ringers

5:30 pm ~ Beloved Community Night

6:15 pm ~ Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 22

9:00 am & 12:30 pm ~ *Duplicate Bridge*

11:00 am ~ Tryon Estates Worship

Friday, October 23 - Office Closed

9:00 am & 12:30 pm ~ *Duplicate Bridge*

10:00 am ~ American Mah Jongg Group

Saturday, October 24 - Office Closed

9:00 am ~ Tryon Thrift UCC

9:00 am ~ Community Yoga

1:00 pm ~ Marilyn Muller Burial

Sunday, October 25

8:45 am ~ Chancel Choir rehearsal

10:00 am ~ Worship

11:00 am ~ All Church Luncheon, Giving

Campaign Celebration & Cornhole Tournament

Full calendar listings in our weekly "Be The Church" email and on our website.

Social bridge group. No fee, just fun. Open to all. Contact Miles Southworth to RSVP.

Community Yoga Class - Saturdays, 9-10 AM, Fellowship Hall

Join instructor Anna Maphis for a Vinyasa flow style yoga class. Anyone is welcome to attend. No experience required. BYO mat if you have one. Love offering of \$5-\$10 per person is suggested but not required.

American Mah Jongg Group - Fridays, 10 am, 4th floor of the church

Join us to learn and play American Mah Jongg. All experience levels welcome! Call office for more information.

Prayer Group - Wednesdays at 12 PM on Zoom (link in weekly eblast)

Join us as we pray for the congregation, the community, and the world.

Weekly Scripture Discussion - Tuesdays, 3-4 PM, 4th Floor Conf. Room, (see eblast for schedule changes)

Scripture needs to be encountered—and we can do that best in community with others. Join us as we gather around a shared scripture text and encounter God anew together.

Tryon Thrift at UCC - Saturdays, 9 AM–3 PM, enter through the back parking lot

A youth run thrift store to benefit the ministries of the church and area non-profits. Donations of clothing, shoes, accessories (jewelry, bags, hats, etc.), books, CD's, & records are always being accepted.

White Chapel Ringers - Practices are Wednesdays at 4:30 PM

Bell choir is open to all. Please contact Dr. Lyle if you are interested in joining.

WISE Book Club - 1st & 3rd Mondays at 2 PM in the Church Parlor

All interested women are welcome. Reading and discussing, "Living Buddha, Living Christ" by Thich Nhat Hanh.

OUTSIDE GROUPS - These groups have space sharing agreements with the church and are open to all

Qi Gong Class - Mondays, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall, call church office for contact information

Indivisible Polk Foothills - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the Month at 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall,

www.indivisiblepolkfoothills.org

Duplicate Bridge - Thursdays & Fridays in the Fellowship Hall, call church office for contact information

***We are a church that believes life is worth living,
people are worth loving, and God is worth trusting.***

Prayer List

Prayer requests are submitted by filling out the Worship Response Card with a prayer request and placing it in the offering plate, or notifying the Pastor.

Joys: October birthdays and anniversaries.

Ongoing Concerns: Chris, Jane Patterson, Alice (Katelyne Graham's mother), Matt Brown (Lori Gedding's brother), Cora Laurens and family, Sinéad Bradley, Ellen White, Michael Lewan, Sharon, Ed Rostick, Joshua Dudley, Patty Budai, Ann Franklin, Ginger Leavitt. All the CAREGIVERS among us who affect and touch so many lives.

Grieving: The family of Ed Rostick, Erik Holcomb, Jack Phillips (Lisa Owen's uncle).

United Church of Christ: The ongoing work of the United Church of Christ, including our General Minister & President The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, our Southern Conference minister The Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, our Western North Carolina Association Associate Conference Minister, The Rev. Dr. Tom Warren, and of our partner churches in the Western North Carolina Association, Eastern North Carolina Association, and Eastern Virginia Association.

Global Ministries: The work of our partners in Global Ministries Mission serving in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Those Who Serve: For teachers, health care workers, first responders, poll workers, essential workers and all who sacrifice and serve. For those who serve, our military, deployed personnel and their families. For veterans and their families, who have given and sacrificed so much.

Our Neighbors: Immigrants & refugees. Those who live in the middle east, in the midst of wars - we pray for a just peace. All communities terrorized by the evils of violence, especially gun violence. The people of the Ukraine. For those impacted by climate disasters. All seeking refuge, peace, and justice. Those lacking adequate shelter, food, safety, and assistance in Polk County and beyond.



An Open and Affirming Community

Founded in 1891

The Congregational Church of Tryon welcomes persons of all ages, races, social and economic circumstances, sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, abilities and church backgrounds to participate in the life and ministry of our church.



“WHOEVER you are and
WHEREVER you are on life’s journey,
you are **WELCOME** here.”

The Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

210 Melrose Ave, Tryon, NC 28782 ❖ 828.859.9414 ❖ www.ucctryon.org

Ministers, The Members of The Congregational Church, UCC in Tryon

Learn more about our life of faith together on our website or on Facebook.

Pastor, The Rev. Meghan D. Young ~ pastor@ucctryon.org

Minister of Music, Dr. Susan Lyle ~ music@ucctryon.org

Church Administrator & Accountant, Lisa Owens ~ accounts@ucctryon.org

Custodian, Brittany Plumley ~ custodian@ucctryon.org

Sing Alleluia to the Lord

Descant

(Lord!) 1. Sing al - le - lu - ia to the

Melody

1. Sing al - le - lu - ia to the Lord!

Lord! (All stanzas) Sing al - le - lu - ia,

Sing al - le - lu - ia to the Lord!

al - le - lu - ia!

(All stanzas)

Sing al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia!

Final ending

(1.) Sing al - le - lu - ia to the Lord.

Final ending

(1.) Sing al - le - lu - ia to the Lord!

2. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord ...

4. His resurrection sets us free ...

3. In Christ the world has been redeemed ...

5. ~~Therefore we celebrate the feast~~

6. Sing alleluia to the Lord ...