



# THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

■ UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN TRYON ■



*Awake My Soul, Mike Moyers*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Seventh Sunday of Easter

12 May 2024 ❖ 10:00 in the morning

**W**elcome 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**.

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.*

### MORNING MEDITATION

*Out of the Depth, I Cry Unto You - Robert Lau*

*¶ 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 # 102

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in the presence of the One who abandons no one.

**Come Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter.**

All are welcome in this sacred place,  
made holy through your presence with us.

**Open our hearts and minds this day,  
guide us into a loving relationship with all your children.**

We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

**Spark us with a word of life and radical belonging—  
a message that we share with others as we seek to live out Christ's love.**

We call on the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Maryneal Jones, *Liturgist*

**We do not notice, Holy God, but you give us: time, so we can think about your Word; silence, so it may fill our emptiness; wisdom, so we may know the path to walk. We do not notice, Risen Christ, how you have not given just a piece of yourself, or a portion of your grace, but all of who you are: for us - and yet, you regard US as God's amazing gift to you! We do not notice, Nourishing Spirit, how you remove our fears, simply by sitting with us and holding our hearts; or how you swirl around us, pulling us deeper and deeper into love, grace and peace, until we find ourselves rooted forever in the One who watches over us forever. God in Community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus name. Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

We are no longer blown about in the winds of the world, we are grounded, yesterday, today, tomorrow in God's forgiveness, hope and love.

**Today, tomorrow, forever: we can bear fresh fruit, sharing God's peace and joy with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God, 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

A reading from the book of Acts:

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Brothers and sisters, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."

"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed

and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 (NRSVue)

The 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 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, #209, vs 1

*Alleluia! The Strife is O'er*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!**

†THE GOSPEL

Let us listen for the Word of God.  
**Our ears are open.**

A reading from the Gospel according to John:

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

John 17:6-19 (NRSVue)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Meghan D. Young

## Responding

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

### GIFT OF MUSIC

The Chancel Choir

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* - Sebastian Temple, arr. Mark Barnard

### 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 #373

*We Are Your People*

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

POLK COUNTY SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM (FEED A KID) APPEAL

### THE OFFERTORY

*If giving to support Feed A Kid please mark your offering as such.*

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](http://ucctryon.org), scan the QR code, or mail in your pledge. Reflect on the blessings you have been given, and how you are called to bless others.



†SONG OF GRATITUDE #49

*Easter Doxology (OLD HUNDREDTH)*

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord.  
The life laid down, the life restored; Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

†PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

## Sending

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

†HYMN #427

*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

†BLESSING

†SENDING SONG, #291

*Danish Amen*

**Amen, amen, amen.**

### POSTLUDE

*Come Away to the Skies* - Patricia Lou Harris

**OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.**

*Thank you to those assisting in today's service.*

Worship Leaders:  
Dr. Susan Lyle  
Rev. Meghan Young

Ushers:  
Pat Gass  
Kelle Roper

Liturgists:  
Maryneal Jones

Music:  
The Chancel Choir

Sound & Video:  
*Sign-up online or in the Narthex.*

Community Hour:  
Christel Walter

Flowers:  
*Sign-up for worship leadership positions or to donate flowers, online or in the Narthex.*

**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.

Join Pastor Meghan for Community Hours this week on Wednesday, from 2-3 PM, at All Good Things Bakery.

## 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.

### May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Join us throughout the month of May for worship and faith formation programming as we focus on Mental Health and how we can raise awareness and care for one another. As part of Mental Health Awareness month we recognize that sharing our stories strengthens our community and network of support. We are in this together. If you would like to share a story during worship related to this month's focus, please contact Pastor Meghan.

### Summer Feeding Program (Feed A Kid) Appeal TODAY, May 12, 2024

Participate in our annual offering to support this amazing summer feeding ministry that feeds kids and families in Polk County all summer long. The cost of providing fresh produce and vegetables, along with other food for children in our community is \$2000 per week. Any contribution helps.

### Vacation Coverage

Pastor Meghan will be on vacation, May 17-21, 2024. For pastoral emergencies, please call Rev. Lynnette Sills at 828-980-3133. For building or grounds questions please contact, Lisa Owens at [accounts@ucctryon.org](mailto:accounts@ucctryon.org).

### Kudzu Clean-Up Workday - Saturday, May 18, 9-11 AM, Back parking lot

Join us as we remove invasives and restore our native woodlands. Bring work gloves and dress appropriately.

### Monthly Game Night & Dinner- Saturday, May 18, 5-7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite game! Free will offering for dinner. Sign-up appreciated.

### Memorial Service for Libby Boone

Sunday, May 25, 2 PM in the Sanctuary

Join us as we remember and celebrate Libby's life. Contact Christel Walter or Karen Killough if you are able to assist with or provide food for the reception. Contact Pastor Meghan if you can assist with ushering or running livestream.

### Church Office Hours - Monday & Thursday, 9:30 AM - 2 PM. Tuesday & Wednesday, hours vary.

If you want to drop something off at the church outside of set office hours, or discuss a church matter, please contact Pastor Meghan at 860-966-2432.



## Looking Ahead This Week

May 12 - May 19, 2024

### Sunday, May 12

11:00 am ~ Community Hour

### Wednesday, May 15

12:00 pm ~ Online Prayer Group  
1:15 pm ~ Church Contract Bridge  
4:00 pm ~ Choir  
5:00 pm ~ White Chapel Ringers  
6:00 pm ~ Governing Board Mtg.

### Thursday, May 16

9:00 am & 12:30 pm ~ Bridge

### Friday, May 17 - Office Closed

9:00 am ~ Bridge

### Saturday, May 18 - Office Closed

9:00 am ~ Tryon Thrift UCC  
9:00 am ~ Kudzu Clean-up  
5:00 pm ~ Game Night & Dinner

### Sunday, May 19

10:00 am ~ Worship  
11:00 am ~ Community Hour

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

**Get help with Breeze.** Contact the church office for help registering or getting set up on your phone. Breeze will better connect you with the congregation and our ministries.

## WEEKLY & MONTHLY GATHERINGS

**Church Fun Contract Bridge**—Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30 PM, 4th floor of the church

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

### Connect Groups

Connect groups are small groups that gather monthly, from September to May. Connect groups create space to connect, share, and learn together. Contact Pastor Meghan 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.

### Support Group for LGBTQIA2S+ Youth and their Parents

Meets every last Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall & Parlor. Parents meet from 7-8 PM, Youth from 7:30-8:30 PM with time to socialize beforehand. A therapist will be present.

**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.

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

Any and all interested women are welcome. The group is currently reading and discussing, "Learning To Walk In The Darkness" by Barbara Brown Taylor.

***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:** May birthdays and anniversaries.

**Ongoing Concerns:** Mary Alice Fox (recovering from hip surgery), Rev. Christopher Huff (recovering from Pancreatic Cancer), Carol Jean Vosburgh (recovering from back surgery), Barney Eiserloh, Sarah Gibson (cancer), Ann Franklin, Gratitude for the warmth and light of spring, Adam Gumble, Witt, John Short (cancer), Madeleine Crolla, Kory Hemenway (cancer), Brett Surret, Bob Brueckner, Tom Rounds, The Mullin Family, Eloise, Marge Short, Ginger Leavitt, Ruth Foy. All the CAREGIVERS among us who affect and touch so many lives.

**Grieving:** The Family & Friends of: Marty Morgan, Linda Eiserloh, Barbara Paulk, and Bob Reynolds.

**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 Interim Western North Carolina Association Associate Conference Minister, The Rev. Warren Casiday, 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 Palestine.

**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:** The people of Israel and Palestine - we pray for a just peace. Those suffering from climate change. Those impacted by the evils of 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](http://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](mailto:pastor@ucctryon.org)

Minister of Music, *Dr. Susan Lyle* ~ [music@ucctryon.org](mailto:music@ucctryon.org)

Interim Church Administrator & Accountant, *Lisa Owens* ~ [accounts@ucctryon.org](mailto:accounts@ucctryon.org)

Custodian, *Brittany Plumley* ~ [custodian@ucctryon.org](mailto:custodian@ucctryon.org)

Community Gatherings Coordinator, *Lindsay Lewis* ~ [faithformation@ucctryon.org](mailto:faithformation@ucctryon.org)