

Parents -Please escort your children to the restrooms.

Thank you.

Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew.

If you are visiting, we welcome you and ask that you leave information so that we might be in contact with you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude Prelude and Fugue in E Flat Major ~ *J.S. Bach*

§ Call to Worship

Leader: Gather us in, Mysterious Maker God.

People: That being close to you we will understand your intention for creation.

Leader: Weave us into one, Sweet Savior of All.

People: That living your ways we will create communities of faith and peace.

Leader: Gather us in, Powerful Spirit of Renewal.

People: That treasuring the past we will boldly shape the future.

Leader: Weave us into one, Holy One in Three.

People: That women and men together may be the signs of your presence, the weavers of your communities, and the witnesses to your coming. Gather us in this day so that we might gather strength from You. Amen.

§ Opening Hymn UMH #131 “We Gather Together”

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

Reading from the Psalter UMH #775 Psalm 40:4-11

Hymn (FWS) #2129 “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Children’s Message *Nate Merchant*

Hymn (FWS) #2026 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Parents: 1st-5th grades may go to the Chapel with Nate; younger than 2nd grade may go to the nursery with Ms. Ryanne.

§ Second Scripture Lesson Mark 1:14-20

Leader: This is the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Sermon

Louissett M. Ness, M.Med., ORSCC

WE RESPOND to GOD’S WORD

Anthem - Chancel Choir “Here I Am, Lord”

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves
Offertory

§ Doxology #94 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #664 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

§ Benediction

Grant, O Lord, that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. *(John Hunter, Scotland, 19th Cent., Alt.)*

Postlude O Sanctissima

Fellowship Time in the Narthex

We welcome and thank Lou Ness,
Executive Director of Shelter Care Ministries,
for sharing her gifts with us today.

Thanks to ALL of you for your financial support, for purchasing and wrapping gifts for the children and for your prayers. Because of your generosity, gifts were purchased for 50 children from 22 families in our church neighborhood and in the nearby area. Each child received two gifts on behalf of the incarcerated parent. In addition extra funds were left over to provide \$20 in grocery gift cards to each family. Thanks also to those of you who helped organize and deliver the gifts to the families. May God bless you all, for it is in giving that we are richly blessed. We ask that you continue to pray for the incarcerated parents and their families. *Barb & Gene Ferry*



We welcome you, member or visitor, as we join in worshipping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

Today we will celebrate **Human Relations Day** by hearing Lou Ness, Executive Director of Shelter Care Ministries, and by taking a special offering. The offering will support persons working in racial- and ethnic-minority communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program which gives teenagers a chance to succeed. Please make your check out to Court Street UMC with “Human Relations” on the memo line.

Church is closed Monday, Jan. 19, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

**Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! - January 21
5:30 - 6:15 p.m.**

• Ministry

*Join us as we venture into Rick Warren’s ‘The Daniel Plan,’ a group study where we will help encourage everyone to make lasting and healthy lifestyle changes while growing in Christ. If you wish to have the book, ‘The Daniel Plan,’ they are available for \$10. **Read Chapters 1-3 in preparation for tonight.** Nate Merchant & Teresa Field will co-lead the sessions.*

- Kids’ Choir in the Choir Room - ages 4-13
- Rev. Rhoads’ class in the Library - Adults
- Mats for the Homeless in Room 4 across from the Dining Room

6:15 - 6:45 p.m.

- Dinner by Diane in the Dining Room \$3/person; \$10 max/family

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

- Men’s Fellowship Group in the Parlor
- **Chapel Prayer Service in the spirit of Taizé**
Join us this Wednesday as we gather in the Chapel to pray and sing to our God so that He may come into our hearts with His calming spirit.

Reserve Sunday, March 1 ~ Come and experience Rich Rubietta during our 10 am worship service! A graduate of Northwestern University, Evanston, with a BA in Music, and a graduate of Trinity Divinity School, Deerfield, with a Masters in Divinity, he is a Worship Leader, Composer and Producer who uses Guitar, Sequencer (keyboard) and acoustic instruments to lead worship. Rich criss-crosses Northern Illinois each week introducing creative ways to use music in worship, leading workshops, Youth events, Camps and Retreats. He is a “Musician-ary”, helping congregations redevelop and rediscover their voice in worship. *Abounding Ministries is part of the Rainbow Covenant and its mission is to help persons experience the life-changing love of God in Christ, thru Music, Writing, Speaking and Retreats.*

Please check out the enclosed card for another opportunity to give!

Please note the calendar on the reverse side for more events.



