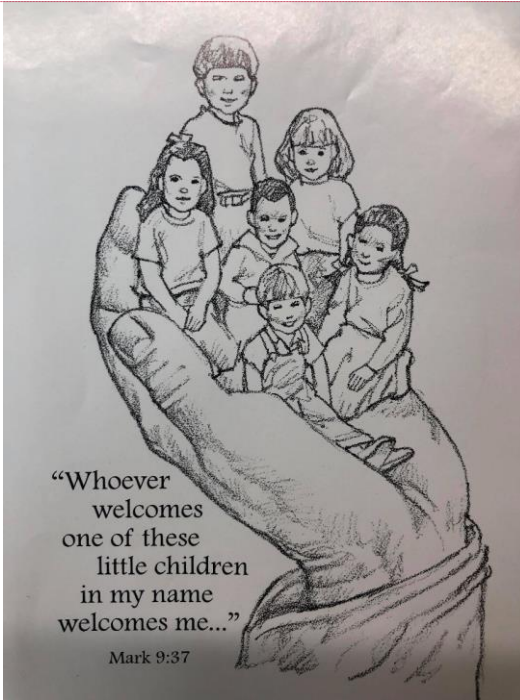


# United Church of Clinton

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*September 9, 2018*  
Pastor Rev. Lee Atherton

*Worship - 10:00 am*  
Musician, Ilana Cody

**Ministers, The People of God**

## **RINGING of the BOWL / TIME of CENTERING**

*Please use this time during the prelude in silent prayer and preparation for worship.*

### **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*CALL to WORSHIP** *(please stand as you are able)*

Leader: Where are the teachers in our midst who will guide us as we learn?

**People: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

Leader: Where are Jesus' disciples, who thirst to know God's ways?

**People: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

Leader: Our church school is this sacred space and our classroom is the world.

**People: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

Leader: Thanks be to God for new beginnings, for new opportunities to learn together!

**People: We follow Christ's example, and learn from one another!**

#### **\*HYMN of PRAISE SUPPORTING HUMAN JUSTICE** "This is the Day" #286

*You are invited to bring your gifts to support our outreach and mission opportunities.*

### **PRAYER of the DAY**

Guided by Love, secured by Hope, and made courageous by Faith, we gather together at a moment of beginning: both learning and teaching. Welcoming the injured and the healing, Ever Justice-Seeking we bless this church with our love. With Pilgrims and seekers, growing children and cherished seniors. Guided by pillars and by leaders, We bless this church with our Hope. Praying and resolving, trusting and involving, some settled, some evolving, we bless this church with our Faith. Let us receive our ingathering as a gift. May it inspire renewed commitment to our great covenant of Love, Hope, and Faith. May our eyes be opened to opportunities for broad ministry within, throughout, and beyond. And may the blessings we come to know through that vision be a blessing to the world. God in Community, Holy in one, surround us in these moments and in all the ones to come, with your grace and love, as we pray together the disciples' prayer.

#### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen. Amen.

*(you may be seated)*

### **PRAYERS of CONFESSION and RESTORATION**

Leader: Rabbi, Teacher Jesus, You who taught thousands and yet were willing to learn from the least of these we confess that we pretend to know when in truth we still wonder.

**People: Forgive our pretense, that we may open ourselves to unexpected teachers, to fresh ideas, to one another, to you. Vulnerable Christ, you who lived in generous love, we confess that we have closed ourselves off, that we have seen so much suffering that we stop looking rather than see and respond to those in need forgive our neglect that we may care for one another and follow in the example you set for us. In your name we pray. Amen**

**PASSING the PEACE**

In the spirit of worship, and abiding in Christ's love, let us turn to one another singing "Peace Be with You". Please be seated when the music ends.

**SCRIPTURE** Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23.

**\*HYMN** "All Gods Creatures Got a Place in the Choir" insert

**SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, and GLIMPSES of GOD**

*You are invited to share your concern or celebration briefly so that all who wish will have time to share. Please consider the privacy of other's information.*

**PRESENTING OUR GIFTS to GOD**

**HYMN of DEDICATION** "Tell me the Stories of Jesus" #190

**\*SONG of PRAISE** (#46 in Hymnal)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER of DEDICATION**

**Generous God, you have made rich and poor, powerful and vulnerable alike in your image. Bless the gifts we have gathered today that we may use them to protect the afflicted and bring greater justice to your world. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE** Mark 7:24-37

***Our worship has ended ~ Let our service begin!***

**New Joys and Concerns, Ongoing Prayers**

- ✝ Marge and Art Lamey
- Bill Yacopucci Rachael and Kevin III Gloria Nillson
- Bob Wheeler Carol and Steve Granger Larry Gilman, Jr
- Tyler Bauman & Family Bill Cummins Dolly Duca Cathy Darazio
- Scott Maynard

**The Week (and month) Ahead**

- Wednesday, September 12** 6:15pm Deacons, Worship Planning
- 7:00pm Social Justice
- 7:30pm Council
- Sunday, September 16** 9:00am Transformation Sunday
- After Worship Confirmand Orientation
- Friday, September 21** World Peace Day
- Sunday, September 23** 10:00 Am Outdoor Worship

**Happenings at United Church**

(Please notify the church office with any events or meetings.)

**Our Spare Change Collection** will support The Item Appeal, for community members in need. One hundred percent of its proceeds are delivered directly to neighbors who have trouble making ends meet. For more info, or to help, please visit [www.itemappeal.org](http://www.itemappeal.org).

**As we welcome returning and new visitors to our Community, it is very important for all of us to wear name tags** – not only to worship, but to coffee hour as well. Help our newcomers feel welcome by letting them know who you are. If you need a name tag,

please add your name to the sign up sheet in Marquart Hall (to the right as you enter the hall).

**Mark Your Calendars!! A spaghetti supper and raffle will be held on October 6, 5-6:30** pm in Marquardt Hall sponsored by the Vitality Team and Servants in Faith. The proceeds of this event will support "Churches Alive," a process of discovery, discipline, and community involvement through which United Church will continue our revitalization.

**Sunday, September 23 is Peace Sunday - worship will be outdoors.** Bring your chairs and blankets, and maybe a snack or two and join in celebrating and praying for peace!

**Why is there a place setting in the Sanctuary sometimes?** On Communion Sundays it's a reminder that we all get hungry and we all need to eat. For some, having 3 square meals a day isn't easy or even doable. The Community Café helps by offering free dinner and dessert. We take an extra collection on Communion Sundays to cover the cost of our Church's monthly donation of pizza, salad, and ice cream that we provide for 60 or more. Our delivery on the 4th Monday of every month costs about \$147.00.

#### [The Vision Statement of the United Church of Clinton](#)

[God's people loving and serving God.](#)

#### [The Mission Statement of the United Church of Clinton](#)

[At the United Church of Clinton we seek to:](#)

- † [Spread the word of God;](#)
- † [Love God and our neighbors passionately;](#)
- † [Provide Christian education to people of all ages;](#)
- † [Work together in the local community and beyond by using our spiritual gifts in faithful service to those in need;](#)
- † [Live and bear testimony to our faith by being an example of Christian living;](#)
- † [Reach out to friends, families, and neighbors and invite them to join with us for reverent worship, heartfelt prayer, joyful music, and devoted celebration of the sacraments;](#)
- † [Encourage and create a sense of love and belonging to God's family.](#) **We celebrate the Confirmation of 4 young men this year. Please congratulate Drew Dobeck, Zachary Newton, Ryan George**