



Hudsonville

United Church of Christ
Open & Affirming

March 30, 2025

Rev. Dr. Daniel Furman, Senior Pastor (he, him)

Mr. Rae Mieskowski, Student Pastor (he, him)

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!***

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Our musician this morning is Linda Missad (she/her). Thank you for sharing your music ministry with us!

SPECIAL GUEST

This morning we welcome the Reverend Kate Van Valkenburg (she/her) to our pulpit. She is ordained in the Lutheran church and she is the Campus Minister for United Campus Christian Fellowship.

FEEDING THE MANY

Today is Noisy Sunday! We will be collecting spare change to fund a meal to be served to college students through UCCF. Thank you for your donations!

POTLUCK

Please join us for fellowship time after worship as we celebrate March birthdays with a potluck luncheon. All are welcome to attend.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

Monday is Transgender Day of Visibility when we celebrate with our transgender siblings their journey of transformation. Please be thinking about the transgender community on Monday.

TAIZE SERVICE

This Wednesday is our Taize worship service at 7pm. Join us for the contemplative time of song and prayer at the end of the day.

EASTER FLOWERS

It's time to order flowers for Easter Sunday, April 20. There are tulip, hyacinth, daffodil, mum, or lilies available for \$20 each. You may purchase them in honor or memory of someone, or just because. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

THANKS!

Polly Lowing thanks everyone for all of the cards and the love sent her way.

PRAYERS

Remember our elderly and home bound, anyone facing illness this morning, the families of Palestine, and all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

The Dykstra Family, the family of Polly Lowing, Paul Lidgard, Sandy Lyon, Kendra Simon, Al Wooton, Sonny Bailey, Ada UCC, and UCCF.

The flowers this morning are to celebrate the wedding anniversaries of:

Mike and Sue Dykstra
Russ and Ruth Broderick

PRELUDE....."Original Composition"

WELCOME AND SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: A new day has dawned. God's gifts to us are our to enjoy.

All: We are a new creation in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: The old has passed and the new has come.

All: This is a day of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Pastor: Let us celebrate God's love for the lost have been found.

All: We will be glad and join the dance of life.

OPENING SONG....."O for a World"
Hymn #575 (black)

O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared
equality achieved.

We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more
and all but love will cease.

OUR CHILDREN'S MOMENT.....Pastor Dan Furman (he/him)

PASSING THE PEACE

UNISON PRAYER

Welcoming God, we have gathered together so that you may teach us the way we should go. In our times of distress and need, you have provided for us. From our days of wandering, you rescued us and restored us to our true identity. Meet us now as we worship together to listen for your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Jeremiah 1:4-10
Jim Thompson (he/him)

4 Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
5 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I
consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'
6 Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.'
7 But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom
I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you.
8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'
9 Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,
'Now I have put my words in your mouth.
10 See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull
down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

SERMON....."Not Despite, But Because"
Reverend Kate Van Valkenburg (she/her)

PRAYER SONG....."Now in the Days of Youth"
Hymn #350 (black)

Now in the days of youth,
when life is filled with choice,
When hope and doubt touch every hour,
when all thoughts find a voice,
We turn, O God, to you,
for guidance and for grace,
In all our days, in all our ways,
help us to seek your face.

Teach us to use our lives
with purpose and with power
For visions of a better world
and for decision's hour;
To choose the way of life,
reject the way of death,
Until the radiant force of God
fills mind and strength and breath.

Teach us to love in truth,
to give and to receive,
With joyful and with open hearts,
with all that we believe,
To seek another's good,
to honor what is right,
To let our will and our desire
be held in holy light.

Teacher, Creator, God,
enfold us in your arms,
Be with us as we try our wings,
and keep us safe from harm.
All good and perfect gifts
come to us from your hand,
O help us use them carefully
and live by love's command.

PASTORAL PRAYER.....The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy
will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day 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 Thine, is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY....."Original Composition"

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CLOSING SONG....."God Reigns O'er All the Earth"
Hymn #21 (black)

God reigns o'er all the earth!
Green hills and valleys low,
the farms and towns in gold and browns
God's grace and beauty show.

God reigns o'er all the earth!
Stone banks and spreading plains,
in rainbow hues—reds, yellows, blues—
of streams and country lanes.

God reigns o'er human life!
Through youth and aging years,
in death, in birth, in grief, in mirth,
in all our hopes and fears.

God reigns o'er human life!
Our inspiration still.
Through all our schemes, in all our dreams,
we see God's reigning will.

God reigns o'er time and space!
In history's bygone days,
Christ's faithful folk in reverence
spoke to bring God earnest praise.

God reigns o'er time and space!
O'er galaxy and sun,
through timeless years the cosmos hears
the heavenly music run.

God reigns! Emmanuel!
God with us every day,
in all our past and to the last,
our comfort and our stay.

God reigns! Emmanuel!
Let praise to Christ be sung!
God's presence here makes all things dear.
Let joyful bells be rung!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE....."Original Composition"



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Open & Affirming Statement

Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming church. We celebrate our human family's diversity of race, age, cultural background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, family structure, education, faith history, economic status, marital status, spiritual journey, and life circumstances. Aided by this God-given gift of diversity, we strive to reflect God's unconditional love to all creation, and we affirm that all people are created in God's image. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ. We believe that God is still speaking and as Jesus prayed, one day we will all be one.

We recognize that the universal church has at times rejected difference and denied God's promises for itself and others. We believe we can love alike, even though we may not think alike. So, we boldly proclaim, "Welcome, ALL who seek God's life-giving grace. Come as you are, so together, we will make a world of difference."

Email	Contact Person	Usage
pastordan@hudsonvilleucc.org	Rev. Dr. Dan Furman (he/him)	pastoral inquiries, emergency pastoral care
pastorrae@hudsonvilleucc.org	Mr. Rae Mieskowski (he/him)	Student Pastor, group support, open and affirming
moderator@hudsonvilleucc.org	Christina Breen (she/her)	moderator inquiries, meeting questions, anything needing to be brought to Council
treasurer@hudsonvilleucc.org	Taliyn Merchant (she/her)	financial matters, giving, payments, bills
facility@hudsonvilleucc.org	Christina Breen (she/her)	building and grounds, maintenance, fixes, inspections, etc.
office@hudsonvilleucc.org	Taliyn Merchant (she/her)	general inquiries, bulletin/congregator articles, office matters
missions@hudsonvilleucc.org	Janet Overbeek (she/her)	missions matters, Hand2Hand and other program inquiries
huccevents@hudsonvilleucc.org	Angel Dannenberg (she/her) Taliyn Merchant (she/her)	Craft Show, Santa Paws
WIFI Name: HUCC Password: 6166691295		