

Prelude

Cindy Tassi

Choral Introit

Eugene Butler

***Unison Prayer of Invocation**

A word of encouragement came from the prophet to the people; Live a life that is full: build, plant, eat, love, multiply. Pray for your communities and keep God in the center of all that is. We enter into worship today and hope in our hearts for something that happens here to remind us that we can live as God desires. God has made a promise of faithfulness to us and we can trust the promise.

Scripture

Jeremiah 29:11-15

¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Jesus Blesses the Children

Mark 10:13-16

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

***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.

Message

Anthem

If You Love Me

Joel Raney

Announcements

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of God be with you

All: And also with you

Leader: As Jesus did, so let us share the symbols of love and peace with each other.

Order for Baptism

NCH pg. 31

***Baptismal Hymn**

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

NCH #351

Introduction of the Graduates

Linda Cook & Fred Erickson

Caroline Harwood

Jackson Newell

***Blessing for the Graduates**

**May God's blessing rest on both of you.
May God's light shine on you, and make your path clear.
May hope carry you through the challenging times,
and gratitude be your response when life is good.**

**May your days be filled with curiosity and adventure,
and may you discover the incomparable joy
of living lives that bring honor and glory to God. Amen.**

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Communion and Thanksgiving

Prayer Response:

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.***

Offertory

For those attending in person, there are freewill offering plates at the back of the sanctuary. Offerings are also welcomed at and can be sent to:

St. Paul's UCC, Attn: Julie Mathes, 115 South Cedar St., Madrid, IA 50156

Offertory Invitation

Giving is not a casual act, it relates God's work to our work. Peter writes: "as each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace, that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." Let us give as people whose work is forever linked to God's great works of creation, redemption and empowerment.

***Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen***

***Offertory Prayer**

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. Accept us and our offerings as we say the words that your son has taught us...

***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.

***Closing Hymn**

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Red Hymnal #298

***Commission**

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

***Choral Benediction**

May the Lord Bless You and Keep You

Lloyd Larson

***Blessing**

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude

Cindy Tassi